

Marines Storm Iwo Island's 2nd Airfield in Bloodiest of Battles

Scots Capture Goch As Yanks Near Saarburg

Patton's Forces Surge Through Eifel Mountains On 50 Mile Front

Paris, Feb. 21 (AP)—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army, advancing three miles at some points on a 55-mile front, captured 16 towns and entered four more including the important one of Saarburg.

Paris, Feb. 21 (AP)—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., hurled an armored division today through a hole gouged in the central German front in the Moselle-Saar triangle and the tanks smashed five and a half miles forward toward Trier through disorganized resistance.

Goch, strongly fortified road center between the Rhine and Meuse (Maas) rivers in the north, finally was captured by Scots of the Canadian first army which gathered momentum in its offensive toward the Ruhr valley, 16 miles away.

South of Patton's third army, the U. S. 7th army advanced to within plain sight of Saarbrücken, less than three miles away. Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's shock troops invading the Saar again captured half a dozen border towns and broke into Forbach, large French rail center which is almost a suburb of devastated Saarbrücken. The Americans seized heights overlooking historic Spicheren and the Siegfried line fortifications.

Tanks Storm Ahead

Patton, swiftly capitalizing on the breach in German defenses carved laboriously by Maj. Gen. Harry J. Maloney's 94th division, sent his tanks clanking to within seven miles of Trier and two of Saarburg, both keystones of the German defense system in the Moselle valley leading to Coblenz and Mainz on the Rhine. Dispirited Germans surrendered by the hundreds.

All along a 55-mile assault front, the third army was slamming the Germans back on their heels. The onslaught was in the Eifel mountains from the Pruem area to below Moselle. Van-guarders were within a mile of the northern fringe of the rich (Continued on page 7, column 4)

Nuernberg Is Bomb Target

London, Feb. 21 (AP)—More than 1200 American bombers escorted by 650 fighters today attacked rail and industrial targets at Nuernberg for the second consecutive day.

More than 900 U. S. Flying Fortresses blasted the Nuernberg yards yesterday. These yards are filled with trains, possibly loaded with the records and effects of the German government ministries believed moving out of Berlin.

The strike by the British-based American sky fleet today dovetailed with an attack by Italy-based 12th air force planes against similar targets in and near Adolf Hitler's mountain hideout at Berchtesgaden yesterday.

Nazi broadcasts reported spearheads of two American formations were over Thuringia and Franconia, indicating another deep penetration of the reich, possibly in support of the Russian armies.

Today's assault, carrying into daylight the ninth successive day of the fierce aerial punishment of Germany, followed a 1200-plane strike by the RAF against important targets. The main force of this attack, possibly 750 heavies, pummeled Dortmund, key communications center for the western front. Refugee-crammed Berlin was struck twice. Other formations broke off in several directions, striking the much-bombed rail center of Mannheim, two oil refineries south of Duesseldorf on the Rhine, and other targets.

The glow of large fires from the attack on Dortmund could be seen through thin clouds and smoke rose to a great height, the air ministry said.

The Weather
Released by the United States Weather Bureau:
Forecast for Salem and vicinity:
Light rain tonight. Partly cloudy Thursday morning. Clearing warmer in afternoon. Min. will be near 40. Max. yesterday 52. Min. today 38. Mean temperature yesterday 43, which is the same as normal. Total 24-hour precipitation for 11:30 a.m. today .00. Total precipitation for the month 5.76, which is .23 inches above normal. Willamette river height 3.6 ft.

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Red Armies Encircling Frankfurt On Oder Slash Life Lines to Berlin, Seize Czersk in Polish Corridor

London, Feb. 21 (AP)—Marshal Gregory Zhukov's troops, fighting to encircle Frankfurt on the Oder 38 miles east of Berlin, have "temporarily" slashed the city's lifelines to the capital, a German military commentator said today.

The fortress town on the west bank of the Oder is under siege and the constant hammering of Russian artillery and bombers, said the report from inside the city by Transocean war reporter Hans Arntz.

His broadcast coincided with a military review in the Moscow newspaper Pravda which said the red army was 34 miles from Berlin.

This report, the closest the Russian press has yet placed the Russian troops to Berlin, did not give the point of penetration, but indicated it was in Zhukov's sector and possibly west of the Oder.

"The purchasers of stolen property in Frankfurt on the Oder have fled to Berlin and no longer know where to go," said the review.

Arntz made the disclosure that the trunk railroad and autobahn to Berlin had been cut temporarily with the statement, "All roads leading westward from Frankfurt are now open."

He said the Germans were fighting defensively "between Berlin and the Frankfurt-Kuesten front" on the Oder.

Frankfurt Assailed
The assault upon Frankfurt, he added, is being directed from bridgeheads south of the city and the "Russians have repeatedly assailed the town, attempting encirclement."

The bulk of Frankfurt's 76,000 population has fled and the city has been stripped of a deathstand defense as a bastion of Berlin, the German broadcast said.

"Grenades are exploding in its streets and Russian planes are flying over the rooftops rattling their machine guns," he added. "Frankfurt has become a town without air raid sirens as the occupants are constantly on the jump."

Streets Deserted

"Many streets are lonely and dead. Buildings are deserted and their occupants have fled to the west. Only vital enterprises are still open. The electricity supply has been cut down and street cars have ceased running. Street cars have been converted into anti-tank barricades."

Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's Second White Russian army has captured the Polish corridor town of Czersk, 17 miles northeast of Choinice and 45 miles southwest of Danzig, Premier Marshal Stalin announced in an order of the day.

Czersk, on the main Danzig-Berlin railroad, was described as "an important communications center and a powerful German defense stronghold in northwestern Poland."

Meanwhile, the trapped German garrison in the East Prussian capital of Koenigsberg was attempting to break through Russian lines and reach the fortress port of Pillau, at the mouth of the Frisches Haff lagoon, a Moscow dispatch said.

Part of the German navy now is fighting in Danzig bay in close support of troops ashore.

Yanks Seize Monte Belvedere And Several Villages in Italy

Rome, Feb. 21 (AP)—American troops, striking over Italian mountain terrain so forbidding that at times they used ropes to scramble up the steep slopes, have captured Monte Belvedere and several villages on the peaks west of the Pistoia-Bologna highway. The Germans fought back viciously, but all counterattacks were repulsed and the fighting for the dominant heights continues, an allied communique said today.

Once before allied troops had held the commanding 3,500-foot peak of Monte Belvedere, but the Nazis recaptured it last November 29 and had held it since.

Patrols continued to be very active on the rest of the Italian front, with no changes of position reported. The Germans still were peppering allied positions with propaganda leaflets.

The attack in the Belvedere area was launched Monday night. The mountain villages

Stop Drafting Farm Labor

Washington, Feb. 21 (AP)—The senate military affairs committee today wrote into its new manpower bill a provision designed to stop the drafting of essential farm workers.

The committee approved a new Tydings farm labor deferment amendment. Offered by Sen. Millard E. Tydings (D., Md.), it would forbid local draft boards to consider the armed forces' manpower needs in gauging the essentiality of a farm worker.

It was offered in protest against a selective service ruling last month which farm state senators said violated the existing Tydings amendment to the selective service act. The original amendment provides for deferment of irreplaceable farm labor engaged in fulltime production of essential crops.

Under the new amendment local boards in considering farm labor cases would have to base their determinations solely on whether the worker is producing essential farm crops and whether a suitable replacement can be found.

Meanwhile, Sen. Harley M. Kilgore (D., W. Va.), asserted that the committee's substitute is superior to the house-approved work-or-fight bill because it would cover all manpower while the house measure would apply only to men 18 to 45.

600 Yank Fliers Rescued by Yugoslavs

Washington, Feb. 21 (AP)—Constantin Fotitch, former Yugoslav ambassador to the United States, said today that Gen. Draja Mihailovich's Chetniks had rescued more than 600 American aviators forced to bail out over Yugoslavia.

Mihailovich's forces built a special airfield with "their bare hands and primitive equipment" so that American planes could land to evacuate the 600 Americans and "scores" of other allied fliers, Fotitch said in a letter to the United Press.

Striking Welders Barred Other Work

Seattle, Feb. 21 (AP)—Independent welders, striking over a jurisdictional dispute, cannot be employed anywhere within the next two months except back at the jobs they left at two Seattle shipyards, the war manpower commission ruled today.

A. F. Hardy, regional WMC director, said strikers would not receive authorized referrals for other jobs from the U. S. employment service.



Leathernecks Charge Ahead at Iwo (AP)—Marines charge over a rise on the beach at Iwo Jima where Japanese defenders are giving the leathernecks their toughest fight in 168 years. This picture, by Joe Rosenthal, Associated Press photographer with the still picture pool, was radioed from Guam to San Francisco by the navy.

Hitler's Hide-out at Berchtesgaden Bombed

Rome, Feb. 21 (AP)—Rocket-firing Thunderbolts of the U. S. 12th airforce made the first attack of the war yesterday on Hitler's private city of Berchtesgaden, the mountain hideout high in the snow-capped Bavarian Alps, it was announced today. The planes, sweeping in from Italian bases,

pumped rockets into rail yards at low levels, ripping rail tracks, cars and locomotives and smashed at other targets in and near Berchtesgaden, which may be the most heavily fortified spot in all the reich. They ran into intense flak and small arms fire.

While there was no official comment on the attack, it was speculated that the surprise strike was directed against the movement of top priority personnel, supplies and Nazi files from Berlin.

"It is supposed to be Hitler's hideout," an air force officer said, adding that if the raiders found railway cars there, "one guess is as good as another as to what they might contain."

The assault fit into a pattern with two attacks yesterday and today from British and French bases by the U. S. Eighth airforce on the packed rail yards and locomotive repair shops at Nuernberg, 90 miles north of Munich, the center of former Nazi propaganda spectacles and an important rail junction. The extraordinary heavy concentration of traffic at Nuernberg led to speculation that it might be a movement of government offices from Berlin, or a buildup for the defenses of Vienna.

Hitler's retreat is at Obersalzberg (upper Salt mountain) on the edge of Berchtesgaden. The only previous attack on the immediate vicinity (other top Nazi leaders have homes in the area, too) occurred several months ago when a force of American heavies hit Salzburg, Austrian border town just across from Berchtesgaden.

The Thunderbolts knocked out a locomotive and eight rail cars in the attack. At towns nearby they set fire to two passenger trains, destroyed a troop train estimated to have 150 soldiers aboard, and destroyed or damaged nearly 50 rail cars, some loaded with tanks.

(There was no indication that Hitler's retreat on Obersalzberg itself was attacked. Presumably Hitler himself is at Obersalzberg, although there have been no authoritative reports recently of the whereabouts of the fuhrer.)

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Willamette Left \$200,000 Bequest

Willamette university stands to realize approximately \$200,000 from the estate of the late Alfred L. Sequest estate. Dr. G. Herbert Smith, said today in announcing that the money has been earmarked for the endowment fund. Sequest, a resident of Portland, died February 15 and his will revealed that Willamette is to receive the bulk of his estate. None of the money is to be used in connection with the university's building program. President Smith explained. However, the interest from the \$200,000 is to be used as the trustees of Willamette see fit.

The Sequest will, filed for probate in Multnomah county bequeathed the pioneer Sequest homestead at Silver Lake, Wash., to the state of Washington for park purposes, with the proviso that no liquor be left on the premises. He left minor bequests to a church and to friends.

Farragut to be Receiving Station

Washington, Feb. 21 (AP)—Farragut naval training station in northern Idaho will be converted to a receiving ship station maintaining only part of its present training facilities, the navy department today advised Rep. Compton White (D., Idaho).

White said funds previously applied to training will be used to conduct the receiving station. It will include a bureau of medicine and surgery as well as yards and docks maintenance.

"The navy anticipates a heavy influx to the receiving station with the end of the war in Europe," White said.

25 Jap Ships Sunk by Subs

Washington, Feb. 21 (AP)—Twenty-five more Japanese vessels, including three combatant ships have been sunk in far eastern waters by United States submarines.

A navy announcement today said the fighting ships included an escort aircraft carrier, a destroyer, and a large converted cruiser.

Non-combatant vessels included a medium transport, 14 medium cargo vessels, three small cargo vessels, a large cargo transport, two medium cargo transports and a small transport.

The announcement raised to 1,045 the total of Japanese ships sunk by American submarines since the start of the war. These include 110 combatant and 935 non-combatant craft.

Sinkings announced by the navy since January 1 have totaled 121 ships.

While not confirmed by the navy, the converted cruiser listed in today's communique was believed to be one of the enemy's pre-war 8,000-ton luxury merchant vessels.

Salem Corregidor Prisoner Freed

Salem soldier to whom the taking of Manila by General MacArthur brought freedom was Pvt. Raymond G. Reeves, whose mother, Mrs. Clara Strimling of 1964 Hazel avenue, this morning received a telegram from the war department stating that he had been rescued from the Japanese.

Reeves, taken prisoner with the fall of Corregidor, had been in the coast artillery for about a year at the time that he was captured by the Japanese. Monday Mrs. Strimling received a card from him written April 24, 1944, at Japanese prison camp No. 3.

Medieval Siege Tactics Used Against Trapped Manila Japs

Manila, Feb. 21 (AP)—Medieval siege tactics in modern guise were employed against trapped Japanese garrisons in Manila's thick-walled Intramuros and on Corregidor today as Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced the past week's fighting has cost the Japanese 24,000 casualties.

Cannon and howitzers gnawed steadily at the 40-foot-thick outer wall of the Intramuros to cut an entrance way for tanks and infantry seeking to eliminate the cornered enemy and liberate an estimated 7,000 civilians.

The Yanks could pulverize the Intramuros and everybody inside with air power, but they are trying to save the civilians. Arthur Feldman of the Blue network termed this a possibly futile gesture. He was of the opinion the Japanese already have killed most of the civilians.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said in his communique today that the enemy garrison in South Manila, now compressed into an area only 1,200 yards by 800, "is acting with the

American Casualties Total 3650 Killed, Wounded or Missing First 48 Hours of Fighting

Toughest Battle in Marine Corps History—Invaders Make Gains on All Drives in Yard by Yard Advance Against Suicidal Enemy

Admiral Nimitz' Headquarters, Guam, Feb. 21 (AP)—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 3650 casualties—killed, wounded, or missing—up to 8 a.m. today. One hundred fifty of the casualties were officers.

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.

Maj. Gen. Keller E. Rockey's Fifth division hammered up 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 air field, made a general advance toward the island's central airfield today, the communique said.

"Gains were made along the whole line, and generally were about 500 to 1000 yards in extent."

At the south end of Iwo, where part of the Japanese garrison was cut off by the marine drive across the island, American forces were driving slowly up the slopes of Mt. Suribachi, from which the enemy was plastering the marines.

Wounded Evacuated
This morning the forces pushing up Mt. Suribachi gained more than 100 yards in the face of a murderous fire sweeping the slopes.

Nimitz said that of the 3650 casualties by 8 a.m. today, 3063 had been evacuated.

In the dry language of the communique, "the numerous strong points which confront our forces in all areas thus far penetrated are being reduced by individual troop action."

That meant that the marines were charging the Japanese strong points and dugouts with flame throwers, small arms, and bayonets, in bloody hand-to-hand struggles.

Warships Supporting
The Japanese were relatively quiet last night. A local counterattack on the American left flank, supported by several tanks and artillery fire, was beaten off, and attempts at infiltration were thwarted.

U. S. warships and guns supported the marines throughout the night, rocking the Japanese-held part of Iwo with a ceaseless barrage which continued this morning.

Carrier-borne planes swarmed back into the battle of Iwo today, carrying out heavy bombing and strafing attacks.

Making it plain that the marines had come to stay, the unloading of supplies and rations on the beaches went on all last night.

17 Die from Flu
Point Barrow, Alaska, Feb. 21 (AP)—A wave of flu today had taken 17 lives in this northernmost village on the rim of the Arctic circle.

These views, he said, he will state frankly either in a speech or in a written statement.

He said he was surprised by his appointment by the president as a delegate to the conference, but that he thought that "politically" the appointment would prove a liability to him in 1948. Stassen has been mentioned as a republican presidential contender four years hence.

Atlantic Charter Guide Says Winnie

London, Feb. 21 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill told critics of Russian annexation of eastern Poland and the Baltic states today that the Atlantic charter was "a guide, not a rule."

He was replying to questions in commonsense whether decisions on the future of the Baltic states and Poland at this time did not contradict article two of the Atlantic charter.

Churchill refused resolutely to elaborate in any way on the question period. He is scheduled to make a statement on the conference at the opening of a two-day debate in the house next week.

\$88,000,000 Goes For New Carriers

Washington, Feb. 21 (AP)—Award of a contract for construction of eight aircraft escort carriers to Henry Kaiser, Inc., Vancouver, Wash., was announced by the navy yesterday. The carriers will cost approximately \$88,000,000. No other details were disclosed.

U. S. Landing In China Near

London, Feb. 21 (AP)—Axis broadcasts said today that an army of 30,000 American troops and 90 Chinese divisions has been massed in southwestern China to support an American landing on the east coast of China.

The German Transocean news agency, quoting dispatches from Tokyo, said the allied expeditionary force awaited a signal to start an overland offensive in coordination with the amphibious assault on the coast.

The Chinese were said to be concentrated in Yunnan province, including troops transferred from the Burma front.

The location of the reported American army was not specified, but Transocean said the Yanks were equipped with tanks and heavy artillery.

In western military terms the 90 Chinese divisions would represent well over 1,000,000 men, but Transocean indicated the divisions were believed to be considerably smaller than those used in European or American armies.

Stassen Will See Dewey

Washington, Feb. 21 (AP)—Comdr. Harold E. Stassen, former governor of Minnesota, said Tuesday he would confer with Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York and other republican leaders before attending the United Nations conference at San Francisco.

Stassen now is flag secretary of the staff of Adm. William F. Halsey, Jr. He returned to the capital with Halsey.

Stassen told a press conference he intends to make his views known on world organization before the conference, perhaps some time in March, while he will be on military leave. The conference starts April 25.

These views, he said, he will state frankly either in a speech or in a written statement.

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