

B-29S HIT NIPS FROM NEW BASE

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Reds Cross Neisse in Major Break-Through

YANK AIR POWER RENEWS SUPPORT OF STALINITES

Konev Laying Open Nazi Defense Flanks; One Column 45 Miles From Dresden.

London, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Marshal Ivan S. Konev's First Ukrainian army, directly supported for the second straight day by American bombers, plunged into Berlin's home province of Brandenburg from the southeast today and captured the big transport centers of Sorau and Sommerfeld.

London, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Marshal Stalin announced tonight that the Russians had captured Gruenberg, 87 miles southeast of Berlin, and a number of other towns in that area.

London, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Berlin said today that Russian forces supported by American and British Bomber Fleets had broken across the Neisse river on both sides of Forst, strategic rail hub 62 miles southeast of Berlin and the same distance northeast of Dresden.

More than 1,550 American war planes renewed direct support of the Red army today, smashing again at Dresden and Cottbus, strategic transport center just 12 miles west of the Red army spearheads at Forst. It was the closest support action yet given to the Red army by the U. S. strategic air forces.

Both Nazi and Soviet reports indicated that Marshal Ivan S. Konev's army was laying open the flanks of the German defenses before Berlin and Dresden, the Saxony capital which has been besieged by Anglo-American aerial onslaughts. A German military spokesman reported that the Russians had advanced to points northwest and southwest of Forst, on the west bank of the Neisse. The admission indicated a major break-through the Neisse line and the planting of Soviet spearheads about 60 miles from both Berlin and Dresden in that sector.

Nearing Dresden Moscow advices said that south of Forst the Russians were storming the Neisse river line before Saxony, and that one column pushed within 45 miles of Dresden in an apparent break across the Neisse.

The Nazi spokesman, quoted in a broadcast from Berlin, said Konev's army and that of Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov had made a junction southeast of Berlin.

Zhukov's First White Russian army has been checked along the Oder before Berlin for several days while Konev was developing his sweep through lower Silesia. Observers took the Berlin report to mean that they now were joining forces for a possible assault on the capital from the east and south.

DENY ROOSEVELT GOING TO FRANCE

Paris, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—An unimpeachable authority said today that reports President Roosevelt is planning to visit France are untrue.

The authority refused to be quoted by name. For reasons of military security it is not possible to disclose Mr. Roosevelt's itinerary or to confirm the reports of Parisian newspapers that the president stopped there en route back to the United States.

However, it was stated by the high authority that the president is not visiting Paris, the western front or any other point in France.

Much Married



(Acme Telephoto) Mrs. Vilma Suberly, arrested in Eugene, Ore., for collecting too many servicemen's allowances. According to the FBI, Mrs. Suberly married eight and possibly nine times since 1930. Five of her husbands are Navy men and she will be returned to Sacramento, Calif., where she was indicted on charges of using the mails to defraud.

Marriage All Right With Right Man, Is Much-Wed's View

Portland, Ore., Feb. 15—(U.P.)—In the heart and mind of taffy-haired Vilma Suberly—who the FBI says married eight or nine men—marriage is all right, "if you get the right one."

The 25-year-old former nurse was in jail here today awaiting a hearing for removal to California, brought here from Eugene, Ore., where she was arrested. The FBI charges she married eight men and possibly nine, without divorce from any of them. She is charged specifically with accepting \$4,600 in government allotment checks from six navy husbands.

But the girl of many husbands now finds she gets along best with women. With a tone of "you men are all alike," she has this to say of men and matrimony: "Oh, marriage is all right, I guess, if you ever get the right one."

"I didn't," she added, with tacit reference to her reputed polyandry.

"I suppose men are all right, but I get along with women better."

DONALD CHEADLE DIES OF WOUNDS

A wire from the war department yesterday stated that Pfc. Donald H. Cheadle, a son of Mrs. Ruby Ellen Cheadle, 448 North Front street, died January 18 as the result of being wounded in action on Luzon Island. The young man had been in the army since the Oregon National Guard was called up for duty in the fall of 1940, having left Medford with Company A. He served in the South Pacific with the 41st Infantry Division and was then transferred to another division for the Philippine campaign.

Survivors are Mrs. Cheadle, a brother, Pvt. William E. Cheadle, now in New Guinea, and a half-brother, William Stanley Howard of Oakland, Calif. An aunt, Mrs. C. F. Reichstein, and two uncles, Walter and Frank Longwill, also reside in Medford.

Pfc. Cheadle attended the Medford schools before entering the service.

TO BERLIN

The nearest distances to Berlin from advanced Allied lines today: Eastern Front—31 miles (from Zaackereck). Western Front—294 miles (from Rhine opposite Emmerich). Italy—530 miles (from north of Ravenna).

CANADIANS SEIZE WESTERN END OF FERRY CROSSING

Capture Gives Springboard Over Rhine River, Cuts off Path of Nazi Evacuation.

Paris, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Canadian First army troops seized the western terminus of a Rhine river ferry crossing from Emmerich today and to the southwest captured Kessel, key outpost of the Goch transport center at the north end of the Siesfeld line.

The capture of the Emmerich Ferry Terminal broke up traffic over the Rhine at a crossing where the Germans had been evacuating forces falling back before Gen. H. D. G. Crear's offensive toward the Ruhr.

Advance Two Miles Canadian units slogged up the Kieve-Emmerich road to the bank of the Rhine in an advance of nearly two miles from the hamlet of Warbey, three miles north of Kieve. The ferry installations were taken easily.

Capture of the crossing terminus gave the Canadians a springboard for a Rhine crossing that would open up the gates of the Ruhr and flank the main fortifications of the westwall to the south.

Scots manning the south wing of Crear's offensive pushed out from Viller to overrun Kessel, three and a half miles northwest of Goch. They pushed on down the highway toward Goch several hundred yards, and apparently were in position for a direct assault on the big road junction.

Resistance Tough Other units expanded the easternmost of two bridgeheads over the Nier to a mile and three quarters. The two footholds across the river west of Goch were expected to be joined soon. German resistance still was tough. Additional reinforcements were believed to have moved in before Crear's front. Hazy weather held down air activity. The first tactical air force reported 121 Fighter-Bomber sorties by noon.

Sgt. Robert Buckles On Home Furlough

Staff Sgt. Robert J. Buckles, who holds the air medal with twelve oak leaf clusters and a Presidential unit citation, is in Medford to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Buckles, 424 South Newtown street, having recently returned from 16 months of service in England and France. Sgt. Buckles has also been recommended for the distinguished flying cross.

The sergeant completed his tour of missions as a gunner on a Marauder with the Ninth Army air force. After expiration of his furlough he will report at Santa Ana, Calif., for reassignment.

He graduated from Medford high school with the class of 1941.

More than 60,000 men have full or part-time jobs in the United States guarding against forest fires.

Washington, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—U. S. combat casualties announced here reached 782,180 today.

This was a jump of 17,348 from last week's compilation. Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said army casualties compiled through Feb. 7 totaled 693,342.

These casualties, reflecting losses through January, included 135,510 killed, 498,553 wounded, 58,556 prisoners of war, and 90,723 missing. Of the wounded, 202,813 have returned to duty.

To the army total was added

MASS CRASHES KILL EIGHT IN SAN DIEGO MANEUVERS

San Diego, Cal., Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Six marine corps fighter and torpedo planes crashed at various points in southern California early today when they flew into a rain storm and fog and ran out of gasoline, the eleventh naval district announced. Eight men were known to have been killed, three at sea. Two fighter pilots died in attempting a landing on one of the channel islands, and three others were killed when their plane crashed near Bakersfield, Calif. One plane is still missing, but the naval control center reported its occupants may have been sighted on a raft.

Eleven other planes in the maneuvers were directed to safety by radio. All available rescue equipment was sent to the area, the navy said.

Names of the dead were withheld pending notification of next of kin.

FIVE-EIGHTHS OF ARMY MANPOWER ON FOREIGN SOIL

Washington, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—The Senate Military Affairs Committee heard today that about five-eighths of the army's total manpower now is serving overseas. That would mean upwards of 5,000,000 men are overseas.

The testimony was given in closed session by Maj. Gen. Thomas T. Handy, assistant chief of staff, as a witness on the pending work-or-else bill. Committee Chairman Elbert D. Thomas, D., Utah, gave reporters a sketchy outline of Handy's testimony which he said was brought out largely in response to questions about army utilization of its manpower.

Handy told the committee, Thomas said, that the remaining three-eighths of the army's personnel is in the United States. Of these, he said, nearly one-half are assigned to operational duties such as supply lines. Two divisions were listed as regular defense troops. About 5 per cent of all army personnel was listed as hospitalized.

Thomas declined to say whether Handy's testimony showed any waste of military manpower. He added that because the committee desires to question Handy further, hearings on the bill will not be completed before next Monday.

LIEUTENANT HELD IN MURDER OF WIFE

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Sheriff T. Alex Hulse said a murder charge would be filed today against Lt. Samuel C. Epes, 27, who buried his small, blonde, school-teacher wife in a foxhole when she came here to say goodbye before he went overseas.

Mary Lee Epes, 26, a graduate of William and Mary College, was to have returned to her classroom at Jacksonville, Fla., today. Instead her body will be sent to Atlanta for burial.

S. P. PAYS 75 CENTS San Francisco, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Directors of the Southern Pacific company today declared a quarterly dividend of 75 cents per share on the outstanding capital stock, payable March 19 to stock of record Feb. 26.

Washington, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—88,838 navy, marine corps and coast guard casualties announced up to today. They included 33,536 dead, 40,607 wounded, 10,221 missing, and 4,474 prisoners of war.

Stimson said army ground forces alone have suffered 394,874 casualties on the western front from the June 6 D-day to Feb. 1. Of these 63,410 were killed, 273,997 wounded and 57,467 missing.

He said ground force casualties on the western front in January were 61,962, including 8,848 killed, 41,325 wounded and 11,789 missing.

He also reported that the output per worker was 30 to 35 per cent greater in April, 1944, than it had been in December, 1942.

Krug's letter was written in answer to a request from Ludlow for the WPB chairman's opinion on "labor's contribution toward winning the war in respect to the production of the implements of war."

BOSSSES, LABOR IN AGREEMENT UPON JOBLESS BENEFITS

Senate Bills May Change Whole Picture in Oregon; Two Groups in Statement

Salem, Ore., Feb. 15—(U.P.)—An agreement between Oregon labor and employer groups on a number of senate bills which may change the whole picture of unemployment compensation was before the Oregon legislature today, following a joint statement of policy made by the two groups to the Senate Labor and Industries committee.

In the house, a "do pass as amended" report was due on house bill 52, which would allow the Public Welfare Board to decide how much old age assistance should be paid in individual cases, with no limitations either on the top or bottom of the amount.

Four Points The labor-employer statement embodied four points regarding jobless benefits—an agreement which they have been unable to reach during past sessions, when often any legislation of this type has been dropped completely rather than bring it to a futile fight on the floor.

Only point upon which disagreement remained was over the proposal to increase the weekly benefit rate from a maximum of \$15 for 16 weeks to \$25 for 26 weeks, and extending the benefit period.

The four points of agreement, which cover senate bills 69, 74, 78, 82, 136, and 143, were that the waiting period should be reduced to one week from two; coverage should be extended to all employees of an employer whose payroll equals or exceeds \$100 for any quarter, disqualification provisions should be amended so that no benefits are paid when an employee leaves voluntarily without cause, and the retention of the minimum figures of the present law.

Postpone Action The House Public Welfare committee, in addition to reporting favorably on the unlimited pension bill, also indefinitely postponed action on the bill, introduced at the request of Gov. Snell, which would remove the old age assistance fund from dependency on liquor revenues, and place it on a general fund appropriation basis.

Another bill (HB57) which established a \$40 minimum and a \$60 top was discarded as being impractical, and tying the hands of the welfare commission in making decisions on individual cases.

He also reported that the output per worker was 30 to 35 per cent greater in April, 1944, than it had been in December, 1942.

Krug's letter was written in answer to a request from Ludlow for the WPB chairman's opinion on "labor's contribution toward winning the war in respect to the production of the implements of war."

DRUNK DRIVING BRINGS TERM IN COUNTY JAIL

Ronald G. Ross entered a plea of guilty to driving an auto while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, and was sentenced yesterday to 30 days in jail, fined \$100 and costs, and had his Oregon and Washington driving licenses turned over to the secretary of state. Ross was committed to the county jail by Justice of the Peace W. P. Tucker, in lieu of pay. Ross was arrested by state police while driving near Central Point yesterday. He was given the "walking test" to ascertain his sobriety by the arresting officer, and failed to pass, the evidence showed.

Superfortress Attacks Stepped Up By Opening Of Tinian Island Drome

Washington, Feb. 15—(U.P.)—Superfortress attacks on Japan have been stepped up by opening of B-29 bases on Tinian island in the Marianas, it was announced today.

The disclosure came a few hours after a 20th air force bulletin announced that a force of the huge bombers had struck the big Japanese aircraft center of Nagoya. Tokyo radio reported the raiding force was 60 strong. The war department gave no details of the raid.

B-29s ALSO SEEN OVER SINGAPORE Tokyo radio, heard by United Press in San Francisco, also reported that a small number of B-29s flew over Singapore today, but said they were engaged in reconnaissance and dropped no bombs.

The department disclosed that a new wing of the 21st bomber command—the 313th wing, under Brig. Gen. John H. Davies, Piedmont, Calif.—is the operating unit on Tinian.

Operations from the Marianas originally started from bases on Saipan. Subsequently headquarters of the 21st bomber command, under Maj. Gen. Curtis E. Lemay, were established on Guam. All three islands are in the Marianas.

By William F. Tyree United Press War Correspondent

21st Bomber Command Headquarters, Guam, Friday, Feb. 16—(U.P.)—A large task force of Superfortresses roared in on the Japanese aircraft center of Nagoya in midafternoon today, as it was officially disclosed that the three major islands in the Marianas have been linked together in an impressive center of B-29 operations. The big Superfortresses unloaded lethal loads on industrial targets, and Radio Tokyo admitted the sprawling factory area of Angoya was set afire.

The main strength of the Superfort formations dropped bombs and incendiaries in the heart of the war production area and "caused fires to break out and some damage," Tokyo said.

Bases Regained PREPARE MANILA BAY FOR LANDING

By United Press Big Guns of the U. S. navy hammered at Corregidor today, according to the Tokyo radio and a fleet of American minesweepers were reported clearing the entrance to Manila Bay in preparation for the assault on the fortress.

The minesweepers were said by the enemy report to be leading 10 transports jammed with fresh invasion troops for the landing on Corregidor and the battle to open Manila harbor.

Storm Lost Japs In Manila, American troops surrounded the burning waterfront and swung in from the south and east to storm the last big center of Japanese resistance in the old walled city.

Radio Tokyo said two battleships, four cruisers, and five destroyers took part in the preliminary bombardment of Corregidor and fought a furious duel with the Japanese batteries.

PRIORITIES ANALYST AT MEETING TONIGHT

To clear up problems regarding priorities which have arisen in the last few months, W. H. Marsh, priorities analyst, will conduct a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce building at 8 o'clock tonight. Representatives of the farm war labor board, city and county officials, building contractors and appliance merchants are to attend the meeting.

Hoosiers refer to the game of dominoes as "sniff."

Doa Kills Baby He Guarded Since Birth



(Acme Telephoto) Jealous of his mistress' affection for her 21-month-old daughter, Woff, a pet bulldog (right), turned on the child he had guarded since birth and killed her despite frantic efforts of the mother to rescue the child. The tiny victim, Marguerita Theresa Bergner, is pictured (left) in arms of her mother, Mrs. Drusilla Bergner, in their Los Angeles home before tragedy.