

MARINES STORM INLAND ON IWO

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire
Thirty ninth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1945 NO. 280.

Scotch Troops Clearing Opening to Ruhr

LAWMAKERS FACE LONG PERIOD OF PAYLESS EFFORT

Eight Days More on Salary Basis; Many Measures Yet to Be Acted Upon

By Eric W. Allen, Jr.
United Press Correspondent
Salem, Ore., Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—Only eight days of pay remain for members of the 43rd legislative session but veteran lawmakers sizing up the backlog of important measures today predicted it will more likely be three weeks before the Oregon legislature adjourns.

About the only measure of real importance yet sent to the governor was the war-time extension of two years for the use of big trucks on Oregon highways, passed over the weekend by the house unanimously. Such other major subjects as the budget, taxation, veterans affairs, education, unemployment insurance, and salary raises were confined mostly to the house of origin bottled up in committees.

Long House Loom
While 614 bills have been introduced in the first 41 days, as compared to 611 at the same date two years ago, only 108 have gone to the governor, as compared with 185 in 1943. Members have chafed at the triviality of floor action so far but long hours are in prospect when the major bills—many compromised in committee to please all factions—hit the floor.

Lawmakers are paid \$8 per day for 50 days so an additional three weeks in Salem will mean at least a dozen days of free service.

The proposed veterans administration, headed by a \$5000 director and advisory committee of seven chosen chiefly from veterans groups, finally reached the house floor with prospects of being a special order of business Wednesday.

The joint ways and means committee was making good progress on the budget while senate members mulled over house-approved bills raising pay of most top state officials.

This week may bring action on related education bills, including a 10-year financing plan for buildings in the higher educational institutions, which if passed probably would require approval of the voters this year; and a tax equalization measure for uniform financing of rural schools (H. B. 80, French). The house taxation and revenue committee is not believed friendly to a plan to appropriate another \$5,000,000 to schools from income tax funds.

Eye Jobless Benefits
With labor and employers fairly well agreed on most matters, the senate labor and industries committee is considering labor's proposals to increase jobless benefits from \$15 to \$25 and increase the payment period from 16 to 26 weeks.

The senate may be asked today to reconsider defeat Saturday of a bill restoring penalties eliminated by a previous legislature in connection with the payment of delinquent and valorem taxes covering 1931 and several subsequent years. The taxpayer had 40 years in which to pay the delinquent taxes if he paid his current taxes, but Sen. Frank Hilton said the new bill's penalties were too severe, with interest ranging from 80 to 100 per cent.

POSTPONE STRIKE
Washington, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—Spokesmen for packinghouse workers announced today they had postponed until tomorrow night action to strike the meat packing industry.

No Paper Thursday
In order to conserve newsprint the Mail Tribune will not publish on Washington's birthday, Thursday, Feb. 22.

Dog Friends Try To Save Beast That Killed Tot

Los Angeles, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—The Los Angeles city council today refused to intervene to save Wolf, the baby killer, from a death in a lethal gas chamber. The council by a 7 to 5 vote, refused to listen to a proposed appeal for Wolf's life by Cafe Owner Grady C. Terry, self-described "friend of all dogs."

Terry and his attorney said they would next carry their fight "right up to the governor" and ask that Gov. Earl Warren find some way of giving Wolf a reprieve.

The council also declined to hear a protest from Mrs. Verna Hayward, president of the California federation for the protection of children and animals.

HUGE FORCE OF B-29S ATTACKS JAPAN CAPITAL

21st Bomber Hq., Guam, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—The largest force of Superfortresses ever assigned to the Japan run bombed Tokyo and its industrial neighborhood today in a follow-up raid to Vice Admiral Mitscher's two-day carrier strikes.

A second force of B-29s thundered out from bases in India today and bombed military and communications targets on the Malay peninsula.

The Japanese capital, third city in the world, still was smoldering from the weekend deluge of navy bombs when a "large" task force of Superforts based in the Marianas dropped their explosives on industrial targets in Tokyo.

This B-29 raid came one day after the carrier force broke off an attack which destroyed or damaged at least 36 Japanese ships and 659 aircraft.

It was believed that the number of B-29s participating in today's strike from Saipan and Tinian was larger by 20 or more aircraft than any force which has hit Honshu in seven previous Marianas-based strikes.

The largest previous force was that which bombed Nagoya Thursday—the day before Mitscher's carriers opened their attack.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Oliver King, volunteer fireman, celebrating his third birthday anniversary since Jan. 1, 1945.

Maud Brault falling heir to a stray cat without benefit of points, after said cat had knocked on the door of the Ration Board.

Franklin H. George acting as carrier pigeon on a return trip from Yreka.

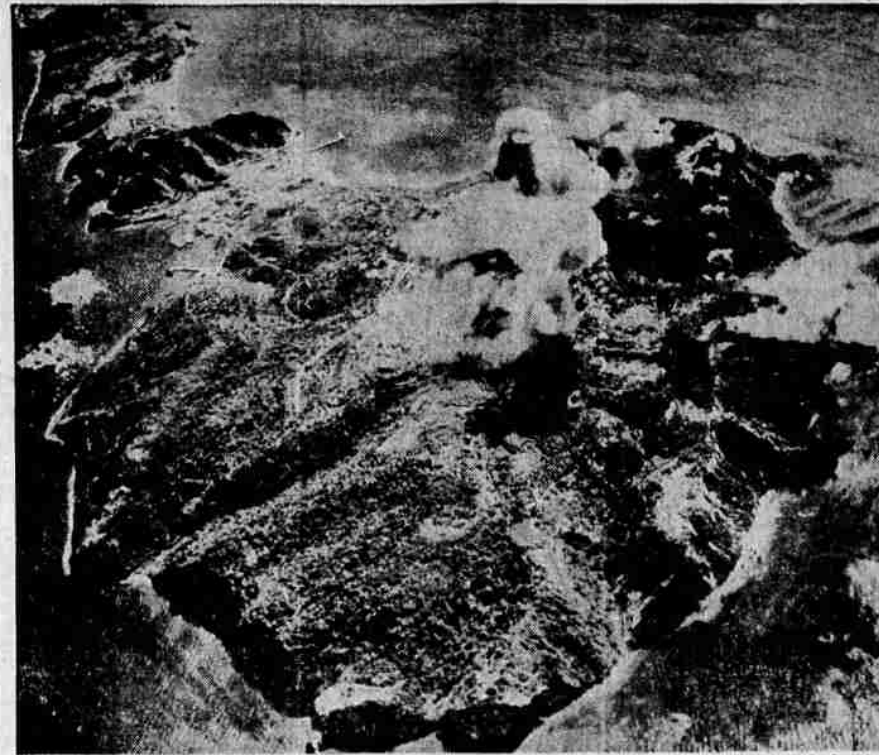
Thrice Bayoneted Priest Relates Mass Slaying By Japs in Manila

Manila, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—A thrice-bayoneted priest, who feigned death to escape, told from a hospital cot today how Japanese soldiers slaughtered civilians at La Salle university Feb. 12 and tried to violate wounded women in the group.

The story of Father Francis Cosgrave, superior of the Redemptorist order in Manila, was one of many reported instances of mass slaying of civilians caught in Manila no-man's land in the last ten days.

Father Cosgrave, several members of his order, and a number of prominent Spanish residents of Manila had sought refuge at the university when they suddenly were visited by a Japanese officer and 20 soldiers.

He said the soldiers wantonly began bayoneting the group. He survived despite three wounds, including one made by a bayonet plunged into the left side of his chest and out his back.



Corregidor, guardian of Manila harbor entrance, is bombed by Seventh AAF Liberators. Bombs send pillars of smoke hundreds of feet into the sky (center) while a stick of thousand-pounders (right) blast gun emplacements along the cliff tops. Tokyo reports that American forces have already landed on the historic island fortress. AAF Pacific photo.

Tremendous Floating Naval Base Supplies Task Forces Striking Japanese Homeland

By E. G. Valens
United Press Correspondent

A Floating Naval Base Somewhere in the Pacific, Feb. 5.—(U.P.)—All warships participating in the navy's double-barreled amphibious-air assault on Iwo Jima and the Honshu coast were supplied with provisions, fuel and ammunition without the benefit of an island naval base or docking facilities.

All naval installations in this advanced area are floating—everything from drydocks to Quonset huts.

Logistics Answer
This and other similar mobile bases, the American answer to the most gigantic logistics problem in naval history, were described by Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz as his secret weapon.

ARMY AND NAVY MAY SHARE TOKYO TAKING

Washington, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—Admiral William F. Halsey, who might know, said today that the army and the navy would go to Tokyo together.

He was asked at a press conference if there was any "danger" that Gen. Douglas MacArthur's fleet would get into Tokyo before Halsey's did.

"No, we'll get in together," he said. "He's a very fine man. We've worked together for more than two years and I have the greatest respect and admiration for him."

YANKS FERRET OUT CORREGIDOR JAPS

Manila, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—American paratroopers and infantry men joined today in the arduous job of cleaning out hundreds of die-hard Japanese from the tunnels and crevices of Corregidor fortress.

Both sides of the rocky fortress, guarding the entrance to Manila bay, were secured by the two American contingents which invaded Corregidor from the air and sea. Their sole task was to dig out the Japanese—probably man by man—from the recesses where the enemy was expected to make a last-ditch stand.

While units of the 503rd parachute regiment and the 34th infantry regiment joined in securing the upper and lower parts of Corregidor, observers said the battle for the fortress was just beginning.

The mopping up of Manila still continued slowly.

which was upsetting completely all Japanese strategy.

This base is located as far from San Francisco as San Francisco is from London. It is operated by squadron 10 of the Pacific fleet service forces.

Installations include floating cranes, hotels, repair units, bakeries, offices, refrigerated warehouses, wells, drydocks and repair ships. The base "employs" over 12,000 workers, many of whom live in the floating hotel "Ritz Carlton."

The maze of ships is so confusing that we had to stop three separate warships to ask where our objective was.

For the current operation, enough food was loaded on the task force vessels to feed Columbus, O., for 30 days; enough spare clothing to clad 1,500,000 persons and enough candy, shaving cream, tooth paste and miscellaneous items to stock fully 6,000 drug stores. In addition, the force carried, 100,000,000 cigarettes.

Vast Operation
No naval base anywhere ever was required to service in such limited time so many ships as were handled here before this operation, which reportedly involved the largest concentration of warships in naval history.

More than 400 pieces of floating equipment included electrical equipment repair ships, tugboats, three fresh water tankers, an evaporation vessel capable of making 120 gallons of water daily and a ship which does nothing but supply bakery goods.

Typical of the astronomical figures involved in operations here, the amount of fuel oil consumed in a task force strike would fill a 238-mile long train of tank cars. The gasoline would provide 700 automobiles with a year's supply. It would take 480 freight cars to carry the ammunition.

Seven miles to the northeast, other Scottish troops fighting under the banner of the Canadian first army fought their way down the Kleeve-Calcar highway into the town of Moyland, barely two miles northwest of Calcar.

Strong German defenses staled the main Scottish thrust inside Moyland, but a flanking column swung around the town to the south and west to reach a point less than two miles west of Calcar by nightfall.

Field dispatches indicated that the fall of the town, one of the main German bastions in the Maas-Rhine bottleneck, was imminent.

London, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—A German military spokesman said today that the Red army cracked into Guben, key fortress city 57 miles southeast of Berlin, but was thrown out after a violent battle.

Moscow reported that Soviet forces pushing westward from the Breslau area had unlimbered their big guns on Goerlitz, gateway to Dresden and Prague.

Soviet dispatches said German resistance was stiffening all along the front, but Russian assault forces were battering forward within reach of a number of anchor bases in the defenses before Berlin.

Cross Oder
Nazi broadcasts said the Russians smashed across the Oder south of Crossen and struck westward for Guben, 17 miles distant. A Berlin military commentator later said that the thrust from the Crossen area had carried to Guben. There the Germans braced, the spokesman said, and shoved back the spearhead which had probed into the city.

A Berlin broadcast said strong troop concentrations were seen at various points behind the Russian lines, and predicted a "great offensive effort" at any time.

NAZIS CLAIM REDS FORCED TO LEAVE CAPTURED GUBEN

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FIERCE FIGHTING RAGES IN RUINS OF MAJOR BASE

Two-Thirds of Goch Cleared—Scots Closing in On Companion Hub, Calcar

Paris, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—Scottish troops cleared two-thirds of the west wall fortress of Goch today and closed in from two sides on the companion stronghold of Calcar barring the road to Germany's industrial Ruhr valley.

Fierce, close-in fighting raged through the ruins of Goch tonight as the Scots battled with knife, grenade and flame-throwers to wipe out the remaining pockets of German resistance in the southern and southeastern end of the town.

Few Snipers Left
A few Nazi snipers and machine-guns were reported holed up on both sides of the Niers river in the center of Goch but they were completely surrounded and were being mopped up rapidly.

Field dispatches indicated that the fall of the town, one of the main German bastions in the Maas-Rhine bottleneck, was imminent.

Seven miles to the northeast, other Scottish troops fighting under the banner of the Canadian first army fought their way down the Kleeve-Calcar highway into the town of Moyland, barely two miles northwest of Calcar.

Strong German defenses staled the main Scottish thrust inside Moyland, but a flanking column swung around the town to the south and west to reach a point less than two miles west of Calcar by nightfall.

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Casualties Moderate In Landing on Island 750 Miles From Tokyo

By Frank Tremaine
United Press War Correspondent

Admiral Nimitz's Headquarters, Guam, Feb. 19.—(U.P.)—Two divisions of U. S. marines—30,000 men—stormed Iwo Island from an 800-ship armada today and within the first two hours of bitter fighting had established a 4,500-yard long beachhead, extending inland 500 yards to the edge of Suribachi Yama airfield.

Casualties are moderate and the operation is proceeding satisfactorily, Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said in his fourth communique of the day.

RESISTANCE INCREASING
Resistance from the trapped enemy forces was increasing as the veteran marines pushed inland on the tiny eight-square-mile island 750 miles from Tokyo, the communique said.

A pooled dispatch from the invasion flagship said hidden Japanese artillery and mortars were pouring a deadly crossfire in the attacking marines and that American casualties were "considerable."

The dispatch said, however, that the marines slowly were rooting out the concealed enemy gunners and that the overall progress of the invasion was satisfactory.

Two hours after the initial landing, the marine veterans had pushed inland an average of 500 yards. The defenses of Suribachi Yama airstrip were penetrated east of the field, the communique added.

The marine beachhead extended northward along the southeastern coast from the 546-foot high volcano that forms the southern tip of the island.

Radio Tokyo conceded that the Americans had won footholds on the southwest, south, and east coasts.

As the marines fought their way inland, Japanese artillery and mortar fire increased. The communique reported "our casualties are moderate," but this cannot be taken as an indication that the fighting will not increase in bitterness or that the cost of taking this strategic air base on the road to Tokyo will be cheap.

Troops of the 4th and 5th marines—the latter in combat as a division for the first time—pushed their way inland in an attempt to knock out the positions from which enemy garrison forces are pouring artillery and mortar fire on the beachhead and to take the island's airfields.

CARRIER PLANES BLAST DEFENSE
Meantime, carrier and land-based aircraft roared overhead, pinpointing defense positions with bombs and rockets.

The marines splashed ashore across the broad southeastern beach from barges launched from an amphibious force which is part of an 800-ship armada—one of the greatest yet assembled for a Pacific operation.

Thus far, damage has been reported only to two light units of the supporting fleet. These ships were hit during the pre-landing assault.

Tough Iwo Jima Set Ablaze From End to End By Attack

By William F. Tyree
United Press War Correspondent
Representing the Combined American Press

Aboard a Navy Liberator Bomber over Iwo Jima, Feb. 19 (U.P.)—(Via Navy Radio)—Tiny, tough Iwo Jima was ablaze from end to end today as our bomber dropped down into its battle smoke to watch wave after wave of marines plough ashore from an 800-ship invasion armada for a showdown fight in the enemy's front yard.

From 1,000 feet over the beachhead, it was obvious that the marines had a terrific battle on their hands.

Salvoes Crash Isle
Even as the mighty battleships, cruisers and destroyers circled endlessly, sending crashing salvoes into the volcanic slopes of the island, I could see marines dashing for cover on the rocky southeastern beach. Some were far inland toward the airstrip.

However, the Japanese certainly were fighting back from their underground defenses. Twice as we swung over Mount Suribachi's crater at the south end of the island and around the northern wooded section, the Japanese gave us bursts of anti-aircraft.

As we approached the island, hundreds of small craft moved toward the beach, unleashing a fierce barrage of thousands of rockets.

Waves of marines followed within 45 minutes. Smoke and dust covered the entire island. Iwo itself looked like a fat pork chop sizzling on the skillet as carrier planes swept in under us, strafing and bombing every installation they could find.

One fighter crashed in flames just inland from where the marines struggled to consolidate their beachhead. In the calm waters off the island, hundreds of ships maneuvered endlessly while old pre-war battleships—New York, Texas, Nevada, Arkansas, Idaho and Tennessee—belched shells from their squat gun platforms.

There wasn't a single Japanese plane in the sky. Two island appropriately was named "hot rock" for the occasion of this attack. Our aircraft personnel chattered furiously over the command frequency as they took stations for continuing the fight.

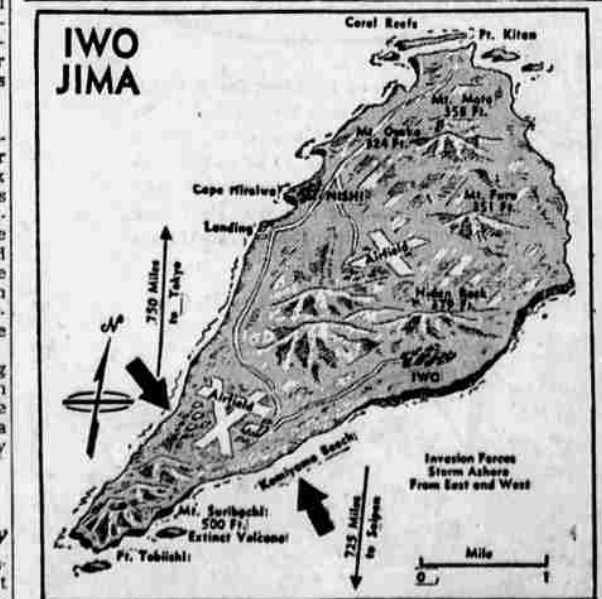
Co-Pilot Ens. John Q. Schell, Jr., Asheville, N. C., gave me headphones and we heard the marines calling for fire support from the fleet. Bursts of orange flames sprang from the muzzles of the battleships and cruisers' big guns and huge columns of smoke and fire rose skyward from the island seconds later.

It was a systematic murder and destruction. Suribachi's crater steamed from successive hits along its ridges overlooking the beach. I could see many formidable pillboxes along the beaches as well as a few rusty ship hulls, already put out of action.

May Take Week
None of our surface forces had been disturbed by enemy counteraction by mid-afternoon, although the water literally was alive with Yanks either going ashore or carrying supplies to the beach.

The invasion armada had spread out for scores of miles around the island. There was no mistaking the fact that the Americans arrived to stay on Tokyo's doorstep, but the fight looked like it would require a week or more before the finish and as if an awful lot of blood would be spilled before it was over.

To Archytas is attributed the invention, about 400 B. C., of a wooden pigeon capable of flight.



American troops streamed ashore from both east and west sides of Iwo Jima, only 750 miles from Tokyo, according to Japanese reports. Occupation of island would give Americans valuable airfields to further campaign to reduce Japanese military machine.