

YANKS 8 MILES FROM COLOGNE

MEDFORD

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Mitscher's Fliers Hit 233 Jap Planes, 31 Ships

FALLING PLANES FILL TOKYO'S SKY DURING BOLD RAID

Huge Koizumi Aircraft As- sembly Plant Near Capital Knocked Out by Bombs.

By Lloyd Tupling
United Press War Correspondent
Guam, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—American carrier pilots, battling against heavy aerial opposition in adverse weather, destroyed or damaged 233 aircraft and 31 vessels and small craft Sunday and Monday in a great strike against the Tokyo area that knocked out the huge Koizumi aircraft assembly plant, it was disclosed today.

Airmen from Vice Adm. Mark A. Mitscher's carrier task force destroyed Japanese planes at the rate of 25-to-1 in this third raid on the Japanese capital within nine days.

Stiff Opposition
E. G. Valens, United Press correspondent aboard Adm. Mitscher's flagship, reported our fighters met stiff air opposition east of Tokyo and south of Choshi. He quoted returning pilots as saying they fought through "a skyfull of falling planes."

Hundreds of tons of bombs were dropped into the center of the snow-covered Koizumi plant, which turned out a substantial percentage of the total production of Japanese combat planes. New reconnaissance evidence showed that 90 per cent of the nearby Ota assembly plant was rendered incapable of further production for the time being in the Feb. 17 attack.

Nine Planes Lost
Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz reported in a communique that 75 per cent of the Ota plant—40 miles northwest of Tokyo—has been destroyed by combination carrier and Fortress raids. Additional portions of the plant were damaged.

Nine fighter planes and four pilots were lost and two American light naval units were damaged during the strikes.

By E. G. Valens
United Press War Correspondent
Aboard Adm. Mitscher's Flagship off Tokyo, Feb. 25.—(U.P.)—A Hellcat division from this carrier, giving "the residents of Tokyo an exhibition of American aerial teamwork, barreled through dozens of enemy formations around the capital today, shooting down at least five Japanese planes.

Then the four pilots made a brazen sightseeing tour over East Tokyo, down the length of Tokyo bay and through heavy antiaircraft fire over the huge Yokosuka naval base.

The division was led by Lt. Cmdr. R. R. Hedrick, who shot down one Jap fighter and smashed through its trailing column of flames to knock two more out of the sky.

Poland To Get Upper Silesia Much Other Nazi Territory Churchill Informs Commons

London, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—Prime Minister Churchill said today that Poland will be given Upper Silesia, Danzig, the greater part of East Prussia, and a "long Baltic sea front."

To compensate for territory yielded to Russia in the east, Poland also will receive such additional German territory east of the Oder river as may be decided at the peace conference, Churchill told a packed Commons.

Part of East Prussia
He said Poland would be granted the "greater part of East Prussia to the west of Koenigsberg," indicating that Russia may retain the capital of the Junkers province.

In the important German industrial province of upper- and southern Silesia which Churchill said would go to Poland lie such manufacturing centers as Oppeln, Hindenburg, Gleiwitz, and Beuthen.

Poland's eastern frontier, he reaffirmed, would be the Curzon line as drawn by an Allied commission in 1919 and "including, of course, the exclusion of Lwow from Poland."

Churchill said he had received "perfect assurances" from both President Roosevelt and U. S. Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius that the United States had no objection or complaint to steps Britain has taken in Italy.

Defends Policy
"I am not prepared to accept

2,500 PLANES IN
WHACK AT REICH

London, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—More than 2,500 American and British warplanes carried the war deep into Germany for the 15th straight day today, unloading a great weight of bombs on the Nazi rail centers of Leipzig, Halle and Mainz.

Gen. James H. Doolittle's U. S. 8th air force set the daylight bombardment in motion before mid-day with a 2,000-plane strike into central Germany at Halle and Leipzig.

Japs Massacre Defenseless Filipinos



Here are the brutally butchered bodies of 80 to 100 Filipino civilians—men, women and children who were taken to a vacant lot in Manila and speared, bayoneted, hacked and shot to death by madly-savage Japanese. The Japs have been killing countless defenseless Filipinos and Manila has been turned into a "glorious funeral pyre," Signal Corps photo.

CURB ON WMC IS SOUGHT BY TAFT IN WORK MEASURE

Solon Would Limit Authority of Agency to Impose Ceiling on Number Employed

Washington, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—Amendments limiting the war manpower commission's authority to impose employment ceilings were offered today to the senate's manpower bill.

Two amendments were introduced by Sen. Robert A. Taft, (R., Ohio).

One would terminate WMC authority to impose ceilings Dec. 31, 1945, instead of at the end of 1946 as proposed by the senate military affairs committee.

The other would prohibit WMC from setting ceilings on newspapers and news gathering organizations below the number of workers employed during any month of 1944.

The senate delayed the second day of debate on its amended version of house-approved "work or else" legislation for three hours to consider and approve the conference report on a bill giving the insurance business a moratorium from the anti-trust laws.

Sen. Harold H. Burton (R., Ohio), said the house-approved bill is "dangerous in its present form." The house bill would force all men from 18 to 45 into either combat service or essential war jobs under penalty of \$10,000 fine and five years imprisonment.

Burton argued that it would impose work-or-fight rules on one-third of the nation's labor force—men from 18 to 45—but would not touch two-thirds comprising women and males outside those age limits.

CIVILIAN TIRE QUOTA
TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

Washington, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—The Office of Price Administration announced today that the civilian share of new tires and new cars for March would be the same as for February—1,600,000 tires and 2,000 cars.

Mac McCullough, rationing chief, said that stocks of tires on hand are "grossly inadequate and we face the coming winter with the knowledge that production will be unable to meet the demands."

Carson City, Nev., Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—Construction of a memorial to the late Senator Key Pittman of Nevada at a cost of \$100,000 was provided in a bill which Sen. William F. Dressler introduced by request in the upper house of the legislature today.

Jap Deportation Memorial
Discussed At House Hearing

Salem, Ore., Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—More than a dozen persons favoring a house memorial asking congress to deport Japanese aliens and disloyal citizens after the war appeared at a hearing before the house resolutions committee last night.

Chief dissatisfaction with the memorial was that it provided for no immediate action in keeping Japanese away from the west coast.

G. R. Fry, of the Hood River American Legion set the tenor of the discussion by saying that the Japanese should be "quarantined" to eliminate the causes of potential disorder.

"We should not have before us faces which incite us to violence," he said.

The memorial (H. J. R. 7) was introduced by Rep. Vernon Bull, La Grande, and he was eager to do so, he said, contrary to some reports which, he said, had stated he did it only because there was no one else.

Oregon Legislators Against Asking Congress For Limit On Federal Income Tax Levy

Salem, Ore., Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—The Oregon legislature today started on its first payless day after the defeat of a resolution favoring a 25 per cent limit on federal income tax.

The income tax resolution, which was killed yesterday, 48 to 10, with an indefinite postponement by the acceptance of a majority "do not pass" committee report, asked congress for repeal of the 16th (income tax) amendment and substitution of the "22d amendment" limiting income taxes to 25 per cent.

Curb on Spending Aim
John Hall, chief proponent of the resolution, said that it was a movement in the direction of stopping the "wild spending" of the present administration and that experience had showed that a lower tax with a broader base brought more revenue than did an unlimited tax.

Tax limitation would create the possibility of putting more money into "venture spending," Hall said.

Motives Questioned
Rep. E. R. C. Frisbie, Baker, questioned the motives of backers of the movement—saying that it was proposed by Publisher Frank R. Gannett and other wealthy men and promoters.

"The result of this movement would be economic chaos," Frisbie said. He asked where the money would come from to pay the costs of government, the interest on the national debt and the debt itself, and social security payments.

The benefits of the measure would be only in the upper income brackets, Frisbie said, a statement echoed by Rep. Joseph Harvey Portland, who said that it came "straight from Wall street."

RUSSIANS CRACK POMERANIA LINE, DRIVE 43 MILES

London, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—Marshal Stalin announced tonight that the red army had broken through the defenses of central Pomerania and smashed 43 miles westward into the heart of the German province.

Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's second White Russian army wheeled westward from the old Polish corridor and plunged within 20 miles of the Baltic coast in a drive to trap the German defenders of eastern Pomerania, northwestern Poland and the Danzig free state.

New Red Spurt
The red army offensive, quiet since the western onrush to the Oder, erupted in blitzkrieg pattern again with Rokossovsky's four-day spurt at a pace of more than 10 miles a day.

Six hours after the German high command acknowledged the Pomeranian breakthrough, Marshal Stalin issued a special order of the day confirming the Nazi report.

He said Rokossovsky's forces "broke enemy resistance" in the Pomeranian border area near the Polish corridor town of Konatzyn, and in four days swept through a number of German towns, keys to the defense of Pomerania.

The purest Spanish spoken in South America is said to be that of Bogota, Colombia.

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The measure, in its present state, calls for deportation of all

Disorganized Germans Race Across Rhine to Escape Danger in Rear

Paris, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—American tanks and troops stormed the Erfurt river line eight miles from Cologne today and field dispatches indicated the Germans were fleeing in disorder across the Rhine.

The entire German battle screen on the Rhineland plain was dissolving into a confused, chaotic mass before the scythe-like sweep of the American First and Ninth armies.

Armored and infantry forces of both armies were on the Erfurt and perhaps across it on a broad assault arc west and northwest of Cologne, and other Ninth army elements to the north swept forward 10 miles in as many hours to the rim of the Ruhr valley.

COMMUNICATIONS DISORGANIZED
Indicating that German communications on the battlefield had broken down completely, Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's Ninth army headquarters announced that a strict security blackout had been imposed on the army's forward units until further notice.

High-ranking officers with the First army on the Erfurt expressed the belief that the Germans were abandoning their entire line west of the Rhine in a race to escape the horde of American men and armor closing in on their rear.

Many officers predicted, however, that the Nazis would leave a doomed rear guard in Cologne to fight a suicidal delaying action in the ruins of what once was Germany's fourth city.

Cologne Under Fire
The First army's big guns already were lobbing shells into Cologne, and tank columns fanning out through the Rhineland were sweeping up hundreds of prisoners hourly. By late afternoon today's bag of captives on the Ninth army front alone had reached 1,500.

On the northern flank of the offensive line, armored and infantry units of the U. S. Ninth army outflanked and all but encircled the industrial city of Muenchen-Gladbach, westernmost of the Ruhr factory towns.

Panic and confusion were reported sweeping the German ranks and field dispatches said German civilians and police were fighting side by side with Nazi regulars in the front lines before Muenchen.

INFORMATION FOR KIN OF PRISONERS MEET'S PROMISE

Interesting and comforting information for relatives of prisoners of war or persons listed as missing will be given at a meeting sponsored by the Jackson County Red Cross chapter Thursday night at the courthouse auditorium, Red Cross officials stated today.

Mrs. Fred Rankin, chapter secretary, and Mrs. Marrs Gibbons, chairman of the Home Service corps, will report on a meeting held in Portland yesterday at which 12 repatriated prisoners of war spoke. In addition Mrs. Harry Holmes, chairman of the home service committee, will speak on the services of the Red Cross for prisoners of war and Mrs. O. A. Eden will give information on the French underground movement received at a meeting conducted by a leader of the movement who recently visited Oregon.

At the Portland meeting were Lt. Col. Joseph B. Kavanaugh of the American prisoner of war information bureau and Capt. Ragnar Barhaug, in charge of the group of repatriated men. Reports at the meeting here will present information on the functions of the prisoner of war office, on the finding of missing persons and on the general conditions which prevail in prisoner of war camps.

Mrs. Rankin reports that the Portland meeting, attended by thousands of people, was a thrilling affair with the men sometimes able to give relatives first-hand information of servicemen now prisoners in various parts of the world. The repatriated men are from both German and Japanese camps.

About 55 persons from Jackson county have been listed as prisoners at various times since the outbreak of the war and seven are officially known to have been liberated.

HALF OF TWO JAPS NOW BLOCKED OUT

Guam, Feb. 27.—(U.P.)—U. S. marines were reported today to have knocked out half the Japanese garrison of 20,000 in the nine-day battle of Iwo Jima, and their commander said the island would be captured "in a few more days."

The marines had battled across both Iwo's air fields and were within a little more than a mile and a half of the north coast. The drive toward the north coast threatened to split the Japanese defenses.

Lt. Gen. Holland M. Smith, commandant of marines in the Pacific, said after a visit to command posts on Iwo that the progress of the campaign had been "satisfactory." In high spirits after his tour, he said:

"We expect to take this island in a few more days."

Spent Bullet Lands On Floor Of Home In Victory Housing

A bullet fired from a .22 caliber gun through a window into an unoccupied room at the home of Mrs. Homer Stephenson, 612 Victory street, was found on the floor of the room yesterday according to police.

Officers investigating the call from Mrs. Stephenson declared the bullet must have been fired from over the top of the next row of houses. The bullet having spent itself entered the room at a downward curve and landed on the floor, they said. The room was that of Mrs. Stephenson's daughter; who was away at the time the bullet careened through the window.

Police were unable to locate the person who fired the shot.