

AMERICAN DRIVE REACHES RHINE

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MAIL TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

Thirty ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1945

NO. 289.

Marines Crack Iwo's Main Defense Belt

FIGHT FOR ISLAND ON JAP DOORSTEP IN FINAL PHASES

End May Come in 3 or 4 Days Is View — Surviving Garrison Force Split.

Manila, March 2 — (U.P.) — American troops, in their second amphibious landing on the western Philippines in 24 hours, have seized Lubang island commanding the south-western passage to Manila Bay. It was disclosed today.

The swift capture of the island clinched the American hold on the western exit of Verde Passage, the main navigational route for supplies and reinforcements coming from the United States to Luzon.

By Frank Tremaine
United Press War Correspondent

Guam, March 2 — (U.P.) — U. S. Marines broke through the enemy's main defense belt in two in a hotly-contested advance to within 1,200 yards of the north coast today.

"The Iwo campaign is moving into its last phases," United Press War Correspondent Mac R. Johnson reported from the invasion flagship off Japan's tiny front doorstep island.

The end of the campaign may come within three to four days if the marine tempo of 400 to 600-yard daily average advance is maintained," he said.

The third marine division at the center of the front breached the enemy's main defense line in an 800-yard advance that carried across the western end of Iwo's third and last airfield.

The breakthrough at the center threatened to split the surviving garrison of probably fewer than 10,000 Japanese in two for piecemeal annihilation.

Attack Plans
Both the eastern and western flanks of the enemy line also were under attack, but the fourth and fifth marine divisions in these sectors still have as much as 2,500 yards to go to reach the northern beaches.

In the west, however, Maj. Gen. Keller E. Rockey's fifth division seized hill 362, one of the highest observation posts in the northern area.

Three Pay Penalty
In Lethal Chamber
San Quentin, Cal., March 2 — (U.P.) — Ernest Keeling and Hurschell Glenn, both 26, were executed side by side today in the San Quentin prison gas chamber for the murder of William E. Smith, a soldier, at Salinas, last May 20.

Diory Nagle, convicted of the thrill murder of a taxi cab driver in Alameda, Cal., followed Keeling and Glenn into the gas chamber.

Nagle, 34-year-old merchant seaman, shot and killed John Lucia, 50, San Francisco taxi cab driver in October, 1943, as two women companions watched, declaring "I get a thrill out of that."

SIDE GLANCES
By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Don Newbury sternly hustling son Kenneth into police court for a bicycle traffic violation only to find himself confronted with a couple of pink slips for overparking.

Its a small world thinks Bill Bauman, Navy V-12 at Williamette U. Bill, son of a Medford insurance man, started hitch hiking home. He rode to Eugene with an insurance man who said the only person he knew in Medford was Ray Wright, insurance man. Near home Bill was picked up by—that's right, Ray Wright.

Elwood Hussey, Cave Junction tycoon, over to visit Medford's maris and chuck hands with old friends.

New Blows



More than 3,000 American troops were reported by Tokyo to have landed on 276-mile-long Palawan island, westernmost of the Philippines. If enemy report is true, Palawan would be the 17th island in the Philippines invaded by American amphibious forces.

WILLIAMS DRAWS ADVERSE REPORT AS HEAD OF REA

Washington, March 2 — (U.P.) — The Senate Agriculture Committee today voted 12 to 8 against approving the nomination of Aubrey Williams to be head of the Rural Electrification Administration.

Committee chairman Elmer Thomas, D., Okla., said the nomination will be submitted to the Senate next week with an "adverse report." That was the way the Senate Commerce Committee submitted the nomination of Henry A. Wallace to be Secretary of Commerce in January.

Williams was opposed by a conservative group which contended that the one-time director of the National Youth Administration has Communist tendencies.

Only one Republican Agriculture Committee member—Sen. George D. Aiken of Vermont—voted in favor of Williams.

Guy Condon, R., Ore., was among those voting against Williams.

Row Over Bath Is Blamed in Murder

Ocean Springs, Miss., March 2 — (U.P.) — Edward S. Borsage, 22, Biloxi, Miss., merchant seaman who police said hammered a young divorcee to death because she wouldn't let him take a bath before her, was held for murder today.

Police quoted Borsage as saying he met dark-haired Mrs. Lillian Pierce, 22, in New Orleans Tuesday. He said she was a former waitress who told him she had come to New Orleans from Denver, Colo., to marry an army sergeant.

Liquor Investigation Shows 'Manipulation Of Accounts'

Salem, Ore., March 2 — (U.P.) — Oregon's legislative liquor investigating committee today contrasted conflicting testimony on the Washington-Oregon purchase of two Kentucky distilleries, including State Treasurer Leslie Scott's flat charge of "manipulation of accounts."

Scott said he always had been suspicious of the legality of the 1943 liquor purchase and contended the liquor commissions of the two states "showed lack of acumen" in dealing with Harry E. Collin of Toledo, O., who held options on the distilleries.

"It looks suspiciously like there has been a mysterious shrinkage of credits and what I consider a manipulation of accounts," Scott said. And referring to the investigations, he said the two legislatures should

STRIKE LEADERS TO EXPLAIN WHY WLB DISOBEYED

Appearance in Washington Ordered Saturday; Over 34,000 Idle in Detroit.

Detroit, March 2 — (U.P.) — The National War Labor Board today ordered leaders of striking Chrysler Corporation employees to show why they have not obeyed a directive to return to their jobs.

The WLB order was announced by the Regional War Labor Board here as strikes by Chrysler and Briggs Manufacturing Co., workers spread to three more Detroit warplants, and affected more than 34,000 employees.

To Appear Saturday
The WLB instructed leaders of the Chrysler UAW Local, management representatives and regional WLB members to appear at Washington tomorrow for a hearing.

The latest effort toward settlement came as the walkouts spread to three more Detroit war plants and brought to seven the number of factories shut by strikes in which 24,300 UAW members participated.

Two other plants were down because of a parts shortage caused by the strikes, and scattered layoffs through other Chrysler factories brought the total of workers off the job to more than 34,000.

Quit in Protest
Latest plants to strike were the DeSoto Warren unit, where 2,800 employees were protesting use of railroads to haul material formerly hauled by Dodge inter-plant drivers; Briggs eight-mile plant, where 850 were off in sympathy with Mack avenue strikers, and Briggs Meldrum, a storage plant employing 225.

Briggs spokesmen said they expected their Outer Drive and Hamtramck plants to close momentarily.

MacArthur Visits Corregidor Scene Of '42 Surrender

Corregidor, March 2 — (U.P.) — Gen. Douglas MacArthur today completed fulfillment of his famed "I shall return" pledge with a tour of the island fortress of Corregidor, where 30,000 ill and starving American troops surrendered to overwhelming Japanese forces May 6, 1942.

MacArthur's return to Corregidor came less than two weeks after U. S. paratroops spearheaded a landing on the island which guards the entrance to Manila bay.

MacArthur in ceremonies at the Corregidor parade ground paid tribute to the troops who wrestled the "rock" from its Japanese defenders.

"Well, we're home again," he said at the spot where his personal living quarters were located in 1942. "We're back again, but what a blasting it took."

2,200 WARPLANES BATTER GERMANY

London, March 2 — (U.P.) — More than 2,200 American and British heavy bombers swarmed into the battle of Germany today.

Massive fleets of Flying Fortresses, Liberators, Lancasters, and Halifaxes threaded the skies all across Germany. They spearheaded the Allied planes giving direct support to the Allied armies fighting into the Reich from the west and the east.

Scores of German fighters rose to challenge the American raiders. Early reports said that at least 67 German planes were shot down by American fighters and that 36 were destroyed on the ground.

EASTERN OREGON DISTRICT CHANGE IS BITTER ISSUE

Committee Releases Bill Without Recommendation After Stormy Hearing.

Salem, Ore., March 2 — (U.P.) — The bitterest issue of the 1943 legislature—reapportionment of eastern Oregon senatorial districts—was on the floor of the senate today.

The elections and privileges committee last night conducted a stormy hearing and agreed to release the bill (SB271) without recommendation. With adjournment near and a flock of major issues pending next week, all factions hoped to reach a show-down vote on Saturday.

Votes Near
Important measures neared votes in both houses as calendars expanded. Committees began winding up their affairs, and members grew restive contemplating the mountain of work and lack of pay since last Monday. Predictions for adjournment ranged from March 10 to 15.

Sent to the house floor was a memorial asking that the president's tenure be limited to two, four-year terms, while heated arguments were heard in committee on the senate-approved bill to limit PUD purchases outside its district.

The senate passed to the house two joint resolutions to strengthen the line of succession in event the governorship is vacant. Both would need voters' approval. One (SJ18) provides the line of succession shall be governor, senate president, house speaker, secretary of state and treasurer, while the other (SJ17) provides that terms of state legislators shall extend until the biennial legislature convenes and the successors qualify.

(See story on Page 7)

MacArthur Visits Corregidor Scene Of '42 Surrender

Corregidor, March 2 — (U.P.) — Gen. Douglas MacArthur today completed fulfillment of his famed "I shall return" pledge with a tour of the island fortress of Corregidor, where 30,000 ill and starving American troops surrendered to overwhelming Japanese forces May 6, 1942.

MacArthur's return to Corregidor came less than two weeks after U. S. paratroops spearheaded a landing on the island which guards the entrance to Manila bay.

MacArthur in ceremonies at the Corregidor parade ground paid tribute to the troops who wrestled the "rock" from its Japanese defenders.

"Well, we're home again," he said at the spot where his personal living quarters were located in 1942. "We're back again, but what a blasting it took."

2,200 WARPLANES BATTER GERMANY

London, March 2 — (U.P.) — More than 2,200 American and British heavy bombers swarmed into the battle of Germany today.

Massive fleets of Flying Fortresses, Liberators, Lancasters, and Halifaxes threaded the skies all across Germany. They spearheaded the Allied planes giving direct support to the Allied armies fighting into the Reich from the west and the east.

Scores of German fighters rose to challenge the American raiders. Early reports said that at least 67 German planes were shot down by American fighters and that 36 were destroyed on the ground.

FDR Reports to Congress on Yalta



Speaking from a sitting position in the well of the House chamber, President Roosevelt tells joint session of the House and Senate that the Crimea Conference achieved "a good start on the road to a world peace." It was his first personal appearance before Congress in more than two years.

Roosevelt Favors Use of Germans To Repair War Damage in Russia

Washington, March 2 — (U.P.) — President Roosevelt at his first news conference following his return from the Crimea agreed today with the idea that German ex-soldiers should be used to repair war damage in the Soviet Union.

The president also said there would be a number of treaties to be submitted to the Senate for ratification, in addition to the World Security Charter which will be drawn up at the April 23 San Francisco conference.

In his report to Congress yesterday, Mr. Roosevelt said that the United States does not intend slavery for the German people. A questioner today pointed out that the Russian point of view is that Germany should provide labor to rebuild war-torn parts of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Roosevelt said that he did not think it was a bad idea — after what he had seen of German destruction in the Crimea — to get German ex-soldiers and use them for rebuilding and repairs in the Soviet Union.

The president would not say whether the ceding of German territory to Poland would require a treaty such as the Versailles Treaty of the last war, but said that he supposed we would have a German treaty some day.

As to when and what the president said these were "if" questions and that he was no crystal gazer and preferred to win the war first.

Wallace Sworn In Starts Work On Postwar Problem

Washington, March 2 — (U.P.) — Henry A. Wallace became Secretary of Commerce today and immediately went to work on the problem of post-war jobs.

The former vice president, taking his third oath of office under the New Deal, stepped into a job divorced by Congress of the gigantic financial powers exercised by his predecessor, Jesse H. Jones of Houston, Tex.

In his first statement since the Senate confirmed his nomination yesterday, Wallace said he was appointing a committee to plan means for small business "to do its full share in furnishing maximum employment" after the war.

Hopkins Surveyed By Mayo Doctors
Rochester, Minn., March 2 — (U.P.) — Harry Hopkins, confidante and closest advisor to President Roosevelt, was undergoing "examination and observation" at the Mayo clinic today.

Hopkins arrived here by plane Tuesday on his return from the "Big Three" conference at Yalta.

Big Guns Thunder At Duesseldorf On River's East Bank

Paris, March 2. — (U.P.) — American armies drove to the Rhine at Duesseldorf today and in sweeping advances on a 150-mile front captured the German city of Krefeld, the historic town of Trier, and the Dutch strongholds of Venlo and Roermond.

American 8th army forces at the Rhine were storming Neuss, across from Duesseldorf, and by late afternoon had taken a majority of the town controlling the western end of three Rhine bridges, believed to be intact.

Front dispatches said German troops, armor and vehicles were streaming east across the Rhine bridges. One from Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's headquarters said events of the last 12 hours "are the most significant of the war in the west since D-day."

Paris, March 2. — (U.P.) — American 9th army forces crashed through to the Rhine today and opened a big-gun duel across the river with the German defenders of Duesseldorf, key Ruhr stronghold of more than 500,000 inhabitants.

The ancient city of Trier, citadel of the westernmost German bulge against Luxembourg, fell to the American 3rd army manning the right wing of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's grand offensive aimed at destroying all German forces west of the Rhine.

LEFT WING BLAZES INTO ACTION
The allied left wing blazed into action with the capture of the Dutch stronghold of Venlo. Nazi broadcasts said Eisenhower had sent the British 2nd army into the showdown battle of western Germany.

Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's U. S. 9th army was setting the pace for the big push. It broke through the last German defenses west of the Rhine, surged onto the bank of the river across from Duesseldorf, and dashed forward 16 miles under a security blackout to the outskirts of Krefeld.

Simpson's headquarters announced that his tanks and infantry rolled up substantial gains today in the payoff sweep toward the Rhine. Behind them, big guns loosed a shattering barrage on vital industrial targets beyond the Rhine.

BOMBS POURED INTO COLOGNE
About 1,000 British heavy bombers poured some 5,000 tons of bombs into Cologne. They leveled great patches of the Rhineland industrial capital as American 1st army shock troops fought to capture the city.

United Press Correspondent Clinton B. Conger accompanied the 83rd division of the 9th army in the drive to the Rhine. From a battalion command post on the bank of the river this afternoon he watched the developing of gun battles across the Rhine.

Yanks Reach Rhine
The Yanks boiled out on the Rhine just south of Neuss, directly across the river from Duesseldorf. There the vanguard of the new American watch on the Rhine—the first in the Rhineland since the army of occupation was there after the last war—dug in and opened fire on Duesseldorf.

Massed artillery of the 19th corps—everything from giant 240-millimeter field pieces down —were laying timed salvos on southern Duesseldorf. The gas works and neighboring freight yard there lay under a curtain of smoke.

Each salvo sounds "like the roll of thunder stretching over an entire minute," Conger reported.

Already the Americans were in position to put covering fire across the foot of the highway bridge across the Rhine into Duesseldorf. From Conger's command post a stone highway bridge and the tops of two steel rail bridges were visible. All appeared to be intact.

The capture of Trier, city of 76,000, birthplace of Karl Marx and once overrun by Caesar's legions, was less spectacular. The defenders left their fighting on the outskirts, collapsed after Patton's troops broke into the town, and surrendered several hundred strong.

United Press Correspondent Robert Richards drove through Trier in a jeep at noon and saw no sign of resistance. He said civilians waved and cheered as the Americans moved through Trier—one of the few cases of a opportunistic or actual welcome accorded the Americans in Germany.

ASHLANDER FINED FOR BROKEN JAW

Ashland, March 2 — C. E. Huffman, local realtor who had pleaded guilty to striking Nate Bates, barber, and who had been released pending outcome of Bates' condition, was fined \$15 and \$2.50 court costs by City Judge C. O. Presnell today.

Huffman was represented by Attorney Don Newbury of Medford, who said that a civil agreement, said to have been \$300, had been reached between Bates and Huffman, covering doctor's fees and other expenses incident to the injury suffered by Bates. Judge Presnell said that in view of the fact that such a settlement was satisfactory to Bates, he would access the minimum fine.

Bates suffered a broken jaw when struck by Huffman during an altercation at the local Elks club early last month.

AND IN THIS CORNER!
Pittsburgh, March 2 — (U.P.) — Kid Williams stepped into the ring here preparatory to his battle with Leon Jones.

The announcer walked to the center of the ring and was about to say "... and in the corner wearing black trunks..."

But suddenly the crowd roared.

The Kid wasn't wearing any trunks.