

Yanks Enlarge Bridgehead, Big Guns Blast Ruhr Heart, New Army Joins Final Push

By UNITED PRESS

American forces steadily enlarged their bridgehead over the Rhine today and to the north began blasting the heart of the vital Ruhr industrial region with heavy artillery.

It was announced officially that a fifth American army, the 15th, is on the western front to join in the final assault on Germany. The new army, under Lt. Gen. Leonard T. Gerow, is part of Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's 12th army group, which in addition comprises Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd army and Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' 1st.

250 BIG GUNS OPEN FIRE ON RUHR

The bombardment of the Ruhr was opened by more than 250 American heavy guns, directed by aerial observation for accuracy. They pounded targets as far east as Essen. Two-fifths of the Ruhr was within effective range of American 8-inch and 240-millimeter guns. Heavy howitzers and long toms dealt with targets nearer the Rhine, such as Oberhausen, Mulheim and Duisburg.

The 1st army's bridgehead over the Rhine had been extended at least four miles into Germany at last reports, delayed by censorship. Supreme headquarters said only that the bridgehead was being extended steadily and that the Germans caught between the 1st and 3rd armies west of the Rhine were highly disorganized in their efforts to escape.

AMERICANS REACH TOWN OF LINZ

Berlin reported that the Americans had reached the town of Linz, on the east bank two miles from Remagen, between Cologne and Koblenz.

A Nazi broadcast admitted that the Ludendorff railway bridge over the Rhine at Remagen had been captured intact, explaining that it had been left undestroyed "accidentally."

Russian Front Flares

The Russians were across the Oder, eastern counterpart of the Rhine in relation to Berlin's defense, although Moscow screened developments on that front with a security blackout. An unofficial Moscow dispatch said the whole Oder-Neisse line fronting Berlin was aflame along a 175-mile stretch.

Nazi broadcasts said the Russians had swung across the Oder behind the stronghold of Kues-trin, encircling it, and were fighting inside the city. Moscow dispatches reported that other Soviet forces in the north were storming and shelling the outskirts of the Baltic ports of Stettin and Danzig.

Planes Help

The breaching of the Rhine and the Oder in the two-way final assault on Germany was accompanied by another terrific aerial bombardment of railway objectives in the western Reich. More than 1,400 American heavy bombers went over. One of the targets was Kassel, one of the biggest rail centers between the American bridgehead over the Rhine and Berlin. Kassel had already been hit during the night by British heavy bombers.

Other American targets were railway yards at Osnabrueck, Muenster, Rhein and Frankfurt-On-Main. In the absence of detailed accounts of the American crossing of the Rhine, one outstanding fact was that the Germans were taken completely by surprise.

WILLIAM BRANSON DIES IN FRANCE

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Q. (Jim) Branson, 309 Chestnut street, received official word yesterday that their son, Pfc. William M. Branson, had died in France on Feb. 6. He had been wounded Jan. 23 while in action in Belgium. No further details have been received by the family.

Pfc. Branson attended SOCE in Ashland for about six months prior to his induction June 8, 1943. He had been overseas two months at time of his death.

Octopus Juice Is Fed Jap Fliers As Relief of Fatigue

By United Press
Radio Tokyo offered something new for tired Japanese fliers today—Octopus Juice.

"It has been discovered," said the Domei News Agency in a broadcast recorded by FCC monitors, "that octopus extract, Taurin, is an exceedingly efficacious remedy for relieving fatigue and as such will be indispensable to our flying men."

Domei recommended boiling the octopus and drawing off the juice. The broadcast failed to include directions for catching the octopus.

Divorcee Murdered For Emerald Ring

Washington, March 9—(U.P.)—Police believed today that red-haired Nancy Boyer was murdered for her emerald ring.

The 45-year-old Mrs. Boyer, said to be a divorcee, was found beaten and shot to death in the kitchen of her swanky, sound-proof apartment.

Police said the attractive Mrs. Boyer was killed Monday night.

Court Records

Justice Court
Isobel Anne Davidson, cited, failure to stop at stop sign.

Samuel Waldo Kein, cited, no car license.

Henry Cecil Miseneger, cited, no tail lights and driving while driver's license was revoked.



(Acme Photo)
Units of U. S. First Army have stormed across the Rhine south of Cologne and are advancing into the heart of Germany against light resistance. With U. S. Third Army tanks loose along Rhine north of Cologne, Berlin reported a second American force had reached the river at Remagen to northwest.

MAN DISCOVERED NAILED TO CROSS UNDER "L" TRACK

Chicago, March 9—(U.P.)—A man with a crown of thorns on his head was found nailed and lashed to a cross beneath the elevated tracks today.

The crucifixion victim was Fred Walscher, 44, a porter in a tavern. There were spikes driven through his hands into the cross. Blood trickled from a wound in his side.

Walscher told police from a hospital bed that he was nailed to the cross by men he did not know.

Head of Group

In Walscher's home detectives found letters indicating he was the head of an organization called "American Industrial Democracy." Authorities said they never had heard of the group.

Police Capt. P. B. O'Connell was skeptical. He said Walscher might have arranged the crucifixion as a publicity stunt for the A.I.D.

Detectives questioned E. H. Bronner, a chemist, after Walscher mentioned his name. They also began a search for Joseph Schlusser, who was a witness when Walscher became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1927. They found that Schlusser left for California this morning.

COYOTE BAIT PUT OUT IN LAKE CREEK AREA

John Walch of Lake Creek said today he has placed poison bait near the carcasses of two dead cattle at Lost Creek in an effort to kill coyotes which have been killing livestock and deer in that locality. Walch cautioned anyone going into that locality during the next month to leave their dogs home.

TO HELP GREEKS

Washington, March 9—(U.P.)—A 14-man navy public health unit will leave soon for Athens at the request of the Greek government to relieve sanitary conditions and curb disease in that war-torn country, the navy disclosed today.

MEDFORD PULITZER AWARD 1934 TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1945

NO. 295.

SUPERFORTS SET TOKYO ABLAZE IN 13TH MAJOR RAID

Japs Report Big American
Invasion Fleet Repelled in
Zamboanga Landing Try.

Washington, March 9—(U.P.)—More than 300 Superfortresses bombers — the largest number ever engaged in a single mission — attacked Tokyo industrial targets today.

(Ten square miles of the heart of Tokyo were set afire by the raid; a Blue Network Broadcast from Guam said. The attack was termed an "all-out incendiary raid.")

By United Press

Fifty or more American Superfortresses set fires in the Tokyo-Yokohama area early Saturday morning, Tokyo radio announced in a broadcast made while the attack was still in progress.

The Japanese report, heard by United Press in San Francisco, said the B-29's were over the Honshu Island industrial area at 2:30 a. m., Saturday, Tokyo time (10:30 a. m. Friday, PWT).

Tokyo said Japanese fire-fighting units "are now displaying brisk activity in bringing the resulting fires under control."

Landing Try Told

The Japanese reported today that a big American invasion fleet was off Zamboanga at the southwest tip of Mindanao, second largest island of the Philippines, and one Tokyo broadcast beamed in Italian that a landing had been attempted.

The Italian-language broadcast claimed that the attempted landing had "failed." Other Tokyo broadcasts said the 77-ship armada was maneuvering for a landing after a 24-hour naval bombardment of the big fort.

Tokyo said the American fleet included at least three battleships, four cruisers and 20 landing craft, and said mine-sweepers had begun clearing a channel off the coast yesterday morning.

Split Two Japs

The unconfirmed report of the landing, which would face the Americans within 180 miles of Borneo, came as U. S. marines on two drove to a 100-foot cliff overlooking the island's northeast coast, virtually splitting the Japanese garrison.

Vice Admiral Richmond Kelly Turner, commander of the Pacific Amphibious forces, toured the island and said that "it won't be long before this thing is over."

Fewer than 4,000 Japanese were believed left in the northern two defenses, under steady assault of carrier planes and the big guns of warships offshore.

In Burma, fierce fighting raged on Mandalay Hill inside Burma's historic city, with the Japanese fighting desperately to stem envelopment by converging Indian troops. The British radio quoted unofficial reports that British troops had penetrated the old walls surrounding Fort Dufferin, just south of Mandalay Hill.

Janitor Strike Brings Holiday

Gary, Ind., March 9—(U.P.)—A strike of 130 janitors in 19 Gary schools gave 20,000 pupils a second day's holiday today.

The janitors seek higher wages and a new contract. No meetings between the board of education, which has agreed to an increase aggregating \$14,000 a year as against the \$20,000 demanded, had been scheduled, according to a representative of the local of the Building and Service Employees union (AFL).

CIVIC MUSIC CONCERT NEXT TUESDAY EVENING

Next concert of the Jackson County Civic Music association will be Tuesday evening of next week with Ania Dorfman, pianist, as the featured artist. Miss Dorfman, native Russian, is rated one of the nation's leading pianists.

As usual the concert will be at the senior high school auditorium.

TO BERLIN

By United Press
The nearest distances to Berlin from advanced allied lines today:

Eastern Front — 27 miles (from Seelow, by German report).

Western Front — 288 miles (from Linz, by German report).

Italy — 350 miles (from north of Ravenna).

Federal Counsel To Confer Here On S. P. Service

To confer with Medford citizens on the matter of the government's suit against the Southern Pacific railroad concerning service for this area, David S. Craig, special assistant to the attorney general, will be here the middle of this month according to a letter received by Frank Hull, manager of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, from Congressman Harris Ellsworth.

The suit, of great local interest, was filed against the railroad company under the terms of the Land Grant act of 1866 which states that the company must provide "through and continuous service over the Shasta route between Portland and San Francisco."

According to the letter, Craig will be in Oregon between March 12 and 15 for conferences.

WAR PRODUCTION CUT 50 PER CENT BY CIO IS CLAIM

Detroit, March 9—(U.P.)—An automotive industry spokesman charged today that organized labor is cutting war production efficiency 50 per cent by trying to take over management functions.

The charge was one of several made by George Romney, managing director of the automotive council for war production, before the senate committee investigating war production. The committee opened hearings here today.

Romney, speaking for management, directed blame for declines in production efficiency against the congress of industrial organizations and its major affiliate, the United Automobile Workers of America.

He said the CIO is "the most powerful private organization in this history of our country," and that it is using this power during wartime "to reduce the production efficiency of automobile plants between 25 and 50 per cent."

SALVAGE DRIVE TO COLLECT TIN BEGINS MONDAY

Robert A. Duff, Jackson county salvage chairman, announced today that salvage of tin cans throughout the county will start, through co-operation of the schools, Monday, and will continue through March 18.

Duff states the need for tin is critical since almost all of the tin now obtained in the United States comes through these salvage drives. Most of the tin formerly brought into the United States came from the Malay Peninsula which has been taken over by the Japanese.

The salvage chairman reminded householders that cans donated for a salvage should be cleaned, wrappers removed, ends turned in and the can flattened.

E. H. Hedrick, city school superintendent, will be in charge of the program in Medford schools. G. M. Green will supervise the Ashland drive and C. R. Bowman, county school superintendent, will have charge of the drive in county schools.

CANOL ABANDONMENT DECREED AFTER JUNE

Washington, March 9—(U.P.)—Most of the army's \$134,000,000 canol oil project in Canada will be written off the books by June 30.

Abandonment of the project, subject of controversy between the army and the senate's war investigating committee for more than two years, was announced last night by the War Department. It had been in operation less than a year.

Only the products pipeline from Skagway to Whitehorse and Fairbanks, Alaska, will be retained by the army after the June shut-down date.

ENGINEER BLAMED

Washington, March 9—(U.P.)—A Southern Pacific wreck near Bagley, Utah, last December 31, in which 50 persons were killed and 81 injured, was caused by an engineer's failure to obey stop signals, the interstate commerce commission said today.

LIQUOR CONTROL MEASURES WAIT FOR HOUSE ACTION

Bills Requested By
Commission Pass House;
Job Insurance Fails.

Salem, Ore., March 9—(U.P.)—Two control bills requested by the state liquor commission were in the senate for final concurrence in house amendments today, while the senate defeated compulsory unemployment compensation by all employers in the state.

The liquor bills (S. B. 144 and 145) passed the house yesterday after a battle similar to the one the day before on senate bill 117. They came out on a divided report and the house fight was over the substitution of the minority report for that of the majority.

Favor Majority Report

The minority report recommended amendments which leave the law little changed, while the majority amendments give the commission extended powers and make compulsory jail sentences and fines for second offenses in certain liquor law regulation violations.

On S. B. 144 the motion to substitute the minority report for that of the majority was defeated 48 to 16. Both bills passed 43 to 16 and 45 to 14.

Optometry Bill Loses

The house also killed a bill which would specifically permit corporations to engage in the practice of optometry through employment of licensed optometrists.

The senate voted 17 to 13 against the compulsory coverage bill for jobless insurance.

The committee majority (Newbury, Zuercher, Rand, Fattland) argued successfully the federal principle was meant to stop big gaps in unemployment, the various exemptions precluded universal coverage, relatively few firms under four workers had unemployment problems, and that small employers did not want the liberalization.

Would Bar Ascap

A bill outlawing operation in Oregon of Ascap was scheduled for senate committee hearing late today. The upper house also scheduled a special order of business later today on an unfavorable committee report on the liquor bill (S. B. 112) whereby a licensed club could pool its liquor purchases and serve by the drink upon presentation of scrip.

Quick action was expected in committee on a joint resolution (S. J. R. 21) and companion bill (S. B. 313) to create a 31st senator and give the new 25th district to Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson and Lake counties.

90 DAYS REQUIRED TO EVICT TENANT

Three months must elapse as a general rule between the time a rental house is sold and action can be started under local law to evict the present tenant, E. B. McCutchan, district OPA rent council, advised today.

McCutchan restated the conditions governing eviction of existing tenants by the house purchaser in view of the increasing number of such sales in recent months.

"Not only must three months elapse from the date of the sale," McCutchan added, "but a certificate authorizing commencement of eviction proceedings may not be issued until at least 20 per cent of the total purchase price has been paid." He said the certificate authorizes starting of eviction action in local courts three months after the petition requesting the certificate is filed and approved by the OPA rent office.

An exception cited by McCutchan is in cases where the tenant can find equivalent accommodations "without undue hardship or loss."

Plan Dance—A dance will be held at the Officers' Outpost tomorrow evening between 8 o'clock and midnight and it is announced that officers visiting in the city are cordially invited to attend. Miss Joanna Wyatt will entertain, singing popular selections. Punch will be served in the library.

Subscriptions Frozen

Because of rapidly dwindling newsprint stocks The Mail Tribune is forced to extend its subscription freeze to include new subscribers within the county. For some time no new subscriptions have been accepted for delivery outside the county and today's action makes it impossible for anyone to subscribe except as present subscribers are dropped. Those wishing to subscribe may place their order and the delivery of the paper will start when their turn is reached or when additional newsprint supplies permit.

War Bulletin

Washington, March 8—(U.P.)—American submarines have sunk a Japanese escort carrier, a destroyer, and 10 other craft in their latest sweeps in far eastern waters, the navy announced today.

In addition to the two warships, a large tanker, four cargo transports and five cargo vessels were sent to the bottom the communice reported.

These sinkings brought total enemy craft sunk by U. S. subs to 1,057, including 112 combat vessels.

With American Third Army in Germany, March 9—(U.P.)—The Germans today blew up the Rhine railway bridge at Engers, mid-way between Koblenz and Andernach, to prevent a crossing by the American 3rd army. The only other bridge standing in this sector is the Hermann Goering bridge in Koblenz.

London, March 9—(U.P.)—Marshal Stalin announced tonight that the red army had captured Stolp, biggest German stronghold in the northeastern tip of Pomerania and an "important center of railways and highways, and powerful bastion of the German defenses."

Paris, March 9—(U.P.)—The allies have captured 1,009,063 prisoners since D-day, supreme headquarters officially announced today. The bag included one colonel general, 37 other generals, five colonels commanding divisions, and five admirals.

The total accounts for an estimated 58 German divisions.

JUDGE FINDS RAYS FAILED TO PROVE MISMANAGEMENT

An opinion handed down Thursday by Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna, in the suit of Charles H. Ray and others, against Frank H. Ray and others, held the plaintiffs had failed "to sustain the burden of proof devolving upon them by evidence producing moral certainty in an unprejudiced mind." The opinion favors the defendants.

As basis for the appointment of a receiver for and dissolution of the Gold Ray Realty company and the Gold Ray Investment company, the plaintiff had charged the managements of the corporations were "grossly incompetent," that they were "insolvent," and alleged "fraud" against the defendants. All litigants are related and have large interests in the Tolo-Gold Hill district.

The opinion cites that bookkeeping and accounting methods employed by the defendant Frank H. Ray were necessary and proper, disclosed the true financial condition of the two corporations and that the evidence "failed to disclose any falsification of the records, or any deficit or defalcations." The opinion holds the methods used by Defendant Frank H. Ray reveal "efficiency rather than inefficiency."

The uprooting of the McDonough orchard, tearing down of old buildings and sale of cattle to Vern Brophy are also upheld in the opinion. They were points raised by plaintiffs.

The case has been pending for several months and at the equity hearing a mass of testimony and documentary evidence was introduced, with expert testimony by Leland Knox, accountant, Clarence Pankey, orchard authority, and Dick Richardson, stockman.

Attorney George M. Roberts representing Frank H. Ray, said a decree and findings in the case would be filed next week.

SCHOOL GRANT

Washington, March 9—(U.P.)—The federal works administration today announced grants including Portland, Ore., school buildings, \$98,000.

IZAIAK WALTON LEAGUE MEMBERS SLATE MEET

Membership applications for the Jackson County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League received before March 20 will entitle the applicant to attendance at the March meeting to be held on that date at the Hotel Medford. The announcement today by Dr. C. H. Paske, president of the league, colored moving pictures taken on the Salmon river, in Idaho, will be shown and an "outdoorsmen's snack" will be served. Applications can be made to William Lingass, secretary, Aubrey Norris, Dr. Paske, Lawrence Duff, Cliff Chord, Medford, Bert Peck, of Central Point, or any other member of the league.

Americans On Luzon Now In Trap Boasts Japan's "Tiger of Malaya"

By United Press
Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, the conqueror of Singapore and commander of Japanese forces in the Philippines, still insists that "the Americans on Luzon island have been entrapped by our strategy," Radio Tokyo cheerfully announced today.

The broadcast, heard by United Press in San Francisco, said that Yamashita, with a big wide

News of Release Of Son Welcome News For Ryalls

A wire from the prisoner-of-war bureau Wednesday to Theodore L. Ryall, Sr., Route 2, Ashland, stating that his son, Theodore, Jr., had been released from a Japanese prison camp in the Philippines was welcome news indeed for the Ryalls had received no direct word from the young man since Dec. 31, 1941.

Young Ryall, 21 years old last January, was in the merchant marine and was taken prisoner when his ship was seized in Manila Bay. The Ryalls were informed that he was first at Santa Tomas prison and later at Los Banos camp. The wire said his physical condition was good.

Double-Talk In Jap Paper Reflects Nip Fears of Invasion

By United Press
The Japanese habit of double-talk made the Tokyo newspaper Asahi look a bit silly today.

Radio Tokyo, in a broadcast recorded by the United Press at San Francisco, quoted the paper as editorially declaring:

"In case the enemy attempts to land on Japan proper, he will be crushed in the waters. And if any part of the foe manages to reach our shores, they will be wiped out at the shores. If then remnants of the enemy forces penetrate into our land, they will feel the weight of our slashing attacks which will decide the victor."

"If any of these handfulls manage somehow to reach our populated areas, they will be properly dealt with in our own way."

Under War Pressure

Fred Packwood, representing logging interests, said his industry was trying to curb deliberate violators and sought to prevent dumping of overweight logs at weighing stations. He said the proposal would permit trucks to continue to their destination and that overloading would not be profitable because of fines.

The logging industry is under war pressure for more logs and seeks to get the limit load on trucks, Packwood said, "but even the honest operator can't estimate correctly all the time." He added the commission and local boards have power to close or restrict certain highways to logging trucks.

The committee took no action.

300,000th Jeep Rolls Off Lines

Toledo, O., March 9—(U.P.)—The 300,000th Jeep has rolled off the assembly lines of Willys-Overland Motors, Inc., it was announced today.

Company President Charles E. Sorenson said "this milestone" in Jeep production dates from June, 1941, when the vehicle was selected as "standard" by the U. S. army.

SGT. MYRON MEEHAN WOUNDED IN ACTION

Sgt. Myron Meehan was recently wounded in action and has been hospitalized according to a wire from the War Department received this morning by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Meehan, Route 1. No further details were given.

Sgt. Meehan, with a medical unit of the Seventieth, or Trail Blazer Division, had been in the Saar Basin area, his parents report. The sergeant was stationed at Camp White with the 91st Division for a time and later was transferred to the Seventieth for special training with the medical unit. After training at Camp Adair and in Medford, Sgt. Meehan was sent overseas last November and has been in the European theater since.

F. R. RENEWS PLEA FOR STRONG LAW TO FORCE LABOR

Voluntary Manpower Control
System Has Failed, Chief
Says in News Conference.

Washington, March 9—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt today renewed his plea for enactment of strong manpower legislation backed by government authority to assign men to war jobs.

The voluntary manpower control system, he told a news conference, has failed to produce a sufficient work force to supply the necessary materials of war.

Spur to Compromise

His discussion was viewed as a stimulus to congressional conferees who will start work soon on their efforts to write a compromise bill acceptable to both house and senate.

The house passed a bill yesterday which would give statutory backing to the War Manpower Commission's orders limiting the number of persons an employer may hire. The senate provided penalties against recalcitrant employers, but none for workers.

Mr. Roosevelt made it clear today that he preferred the house bill.

ROAD COMMISSION AGAINST RELAXING LOG TRUCK RULES

Salem, Ore., March 9—(U.P.)—Oregon already is more liberal in trucking weights than other western states and the highway commission is opposed to further liberalization for logging trucks, the senate roads and highways committee was told last night in discussion of house bill 275.

Commission representatives said granting another 6,000 pounds under a graduated fine system would benefit willful violators of present laws and break down highways and bridges more rapidly.

Under War Pressure

Fred Packwood, representing logging interests, said his industry was trying to curb deliberate violators and sought to prevent dumping of overweight logs at weighing stations. He said the proposal would permit trucks to continue to their destination and that overloading would not be profitable because of fines.

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