



SAAR MOP-UP—U. S. Third and Seventh Armies mop up disorganized German remnants in Saar-Palatinate while First Army east of Rhine slashes toward heart of Ruhr.

VAST AIR ATTACK SEEN PRELUDE TO DRIVE OVER RHINE

First Army Already On Move Against Southern Flank of Ruhr Valley, Is Report

Paris, March 22 — (U.P.) — Thousands of Allied warplanes set the Ruhr and Dutch Rhine-land aflame today with a great tactical bombardment that Berlin said was the prelude to an imminent full-scale drive across the Rhine.

The U. S. First Army east of the Rhine already was on the move northward against the southern flank of the Ruhr valley. The Americans shoved the northern wall of their bridgehead up against the Sieg river, 10 miles south of the Ruhr, and expanded their east bank salient to a width of 31 miles.

Activities Veiled Simultaneously, a front dispatch revealed that a partial security blackout had been clamped on the American Ninth, British Second and Canadian First armies deployed along the west bank of the Rhine from Nijmegen southward almost to Cologne.

The full striking power of the Allied Air Forces was being thrown into the attack on a scale not exceeded even in the Normandy bombardment that preceded the invasion of France last summer.

Well over 2,000 American and British heavy bombers spearheaded the assault, dumping a great weight of explosives on a chain of German military camps, airfields and communications centers in the Ruhr and along the east bank of the Rhine farther south.

Victory Drive Seen Simultaneously, the U. S. First and Ninth and the British Second tactical air forces — normally about 4,000 planes — struck all along the front from the Swiss border to the North Sea, bombing and strafing German troop concentrations, gun positions, and road lines in the path of the poised Allied armies.

Jittery Berlin propagandists said the Allied armies of the west were expected to launch their "victory drive" across the Rhine "at any hour." They indicated the tremendous Allied air blows marked the opening phase of the ground assault.

Field dispatches said a 6-mile pall of artificial smoke blanketed the entire northern end of the battlefield southward from Nijmegen.

British Deploy Behind the smoke screen Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery was deploying the massive armored and infantry forces of his British Second, Canadian First, and American Ninth armies for what both sides agreed would be the decisive assault on the Rhine barrier.

Preliminary reports from the Saar-Palatinate front said Third Army troops alone had counted 350 German tanks, 200 big guns, and 5,000 motor vehicles wrecked by the blistering ground and air offensive of the past week.

HALIFAX DELEGATE TO UNITED NATIONS MEET London, March 22 — (U.P.) — Prime Minister Churchill announced in Commons today that Lord Halifax, British ambassador to Washington, will be a member of the British delegation to the San Francisco conference.

The other principal British delegates will be Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, Deputy Prime Minister Clement R. Attlee, and Dominions Secretary Lord Cranborne.

Reds Break Through West of Oppeln; Trap 15,000 Germans

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SUBSIDY INCREASE PLANNED TO HIKE SUPPLY OF MEAT

Increase Up to 50 Cents a Hundred Pounds to Help Slaughterers Out of Hole

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — The government today sought to alleviate the meat shortage by increasing the subsidy to cattle slaughterers. The increase will be up to 50 cents a hundred pounds.

The plan was announced by Price Administrator Chester Bowles before the Senate Banking Committee. His disclosure came after he had spent two days before the committee defending his agency's meat price policies against heated criticism of packers and Republican senators. The critics said packers were going broke.

Basis Explained The additional subsidy will be based on the amounts paid by slaughterers for live cattle. It will be computed on the basis of the amount paid by the individual slaughterer in excess of the "floor" established for live cattle prices, and will reach the maximum of 50 cents a hundredweight when the slaughterer pays ceiling—top permissible—prices for cattle.

Spokesmen for meat slaughterers and packers told the committee they are losing money under present OPA policies and regulations on handling of both beef and pork. Bowles said he thought the new subsidy "will put packers in a reasonably good position."

Arthur L. Winn of the National Independent Meat Packers' Association disputed that contention. "As long as we would pay the ceiling price we would get the 50 cent subsidy — and continue to lose money," he said. Winn told the committee that there was a record cattle population on the nation's ranges but that OPA price regulations were preventing their slaughter.

'BOYS IN PLUSH' TO BE HARRIED

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., told a press conference today that he will soon announce a new plan of government action against income tax evaders.

He said he had been studying the tax evasion matter for some time. Morgenthau would not speculate on how much tax evasion is costing the government, but he indicated the new plan would be directed chiefly at "the boys who live in the plush" rather than the small taxpayer.

A federal fiscal official not in the treasury department estimated that income tax evaders were costing the government from \$3,000,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000 annually in lost revenue. Morgenthau told his press conference he hoped fewer loans would be made for the purchase of government securities during the Seventh War Loan drive. He called such loans "free riding" loans.

He explained that bonds purchased with money obtained through loans generally were held only briefly, then sold on a rising market.

One Good Jap In Prisoner's Book

Memphis, Tenn., March 22 — (U.P.) — Cpl. Willard Hall, of Portland, Ore., today said he met only one "good Jap" during the 32 months he was a prisoner of the enemy in the Philippines.

Hall said a Jap soldier named "Big Stoop" brought him quinine and food when he had malaria. "He saved my life," Hall said. "He didn't beat any of our men like the other Japs did."

DIVERSION BAN FAVORED Sacramento, March 22 — (U.P.) — The Senate Fish and Game Committee today recommended passage of a bill by Sen. Irwin T. Quinn, D., Eureka, to prohibit diverting the waters of the Trinity or Klamath rivers into the Sacramento.

New Zealand Girls Like Klamath



Dreams are beginning to come true for five New Zealand girls who recently completed the 6,500-mile sea voyage to the United States to join their Marine husbands at the Klamath Falls, Ore., Marine Base. The American Red Cross aided in the arrival of the girls in Klamath Falls only a few days after their ship docked at a California port. Shown above are, (left to right) Miss Frances Rivman, American Red Cross official; Gunner Sergeant and Mrs. Gilbert Pritchard; Sergeant and Mrs. William David Thomas and their six-months old daughter, Janice; Captain and Mrs. W. R. Curand; Quartermaster Sergeant and Mrs. Dale Earl Stout; Private 1/c and Mrs. James Jerome Havican, and Walter S. Bird, American Red Cross field director at the Klamath Falls Post. (Official Marine Corps Photo.)

Dreams Come True for 5 Marines Who Married Girls in Antipodes

Klamath Falls, March 22 — Dreams are beginning to come true for five Marines whose New Zealand brides have just arrived in the United States.

Four of the girls are from Wellington, N. Z., or vicinity and met and married their American husbands while the 2nd Marine division was stationed near that city after the Guadalcanal campaign. The other was a resident of Auckland, and her husband was a member of a marine anti-aircraft unit there.

They sailed from New Zealand aboard a converted luxury liner and made the 6,500 mile sea voyage under strict wartime regulations. Their first glimpse of their husbands' homeland came when their ship docked in San Pedro, Calif., harbor early in March.

They came directly to Klamath Falls from Los Angeles, but on such short notice unanimously agree that they "like this country very, very much."

In crowded Klamath Falls, however, the young couples are already running into some knotty problems in the way of domesticity, particularly finding a place to live. Another difficulty arose when the girls' baggage failed to arrive on schedule and they had to live out of the suitcases they carried with them from New Zealand, supplemented by a little shopping in town.

Getting squared away with the OPA and ration boards also occupied a large part of their first few days here, and the wives have expressed great surprise over the many things they are able to buy here which were scarce or almost non-existent at their homes.

Arrangements for the girls to join their husbands in Klamath Falls were made through the Red Cross.

FLYNN CLOSETED WITH POPE PIUS

Vatican City, March 22 — (U.P.) — Edward J. Flynn, New York Democratic leader, revealed today that his current mission for President Roosevelt would extend to France and Britain.

Flynn went to Moscow after the Crimea conference. From there he came to Italy, and today he had a private audience of an hour with Pope Pius.

He received correspondents late today, but was evasive regarding his mission for the president. He said he was going to Paris to see Gen. Charles De Gaulle and finally to London to see Prime Minister Churchill.

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — Marines fighting in the Pacific soon will have their own mobile operating rooms close to the front lines, the navy disclosed today.

MON TO TRAVEL Olympia, Wash., March 22 — (U.P.) — Gov. Mon C. Wallgren prepared today to leave the executive desk for a ten-day trip to California.

BANK CALL Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — The comptroller of the currency today issued a call for reports on the condition of all national banks as of March 20.

HEALTH PROGRAM BILLS ARE SIGNED

Salem, Ore., March 22 — (U.P.) — House bill 53 of the 1945 legislature, which provides for programs of health instruction and physical education in Oregon schools, was signed into law by Gov. Earl Snell today.

The new act will become effective next year. The governor also signed 11 of the appropriation bills which passed the legislature, involving nearly \$19,000,000.

The bills (H. B.'s 422 through 433) provide money for per diem legislative pay, state treasurer's office, humane society, flax and linen board, Oregon and national guard administration of the public utilities law, capitol buildings and grounds, state department, elections, tax commission, claims, hospitals and schools for the deaf and blind, and for the transportation of prisoners and the mentally deficient.

Another bill authorizes appointment of county veterans service officers.

PRE-TRIAL HEARING ON IN FEDERAL COURT

Pre-trial proceedings continued in federal court here today with Judge James Alger Fee presiding. The action of Ruth Davis versus the Medford corporation, suit to collect damages for the death of David A. Davis, opened and was recessed after a short time to continue in the morning.

Pre-trial in the case of C. P. Pruess, Grants Pass, against Fred C. Hetschel of California to collect attorney's fees has been continuing and was set for trial March 26. A panel of 51 jurors has been instructed to report at 10 a. m., March 26.

French Women Enslaved by Hitlerites Freed From Horror Camps by Russians

By Sam Souki United Press Staff Correspondent A Middle East Post, March 22 — (U.P.) — Liberated French women, still haunted by the nightmare of German concentration camps, are going home.

Their memories are of the days when their German captors made them enter the crematorium and hack out gold teeth they might discover in the mouths of the dead.

They still shudder at the memory of the times when they were forced into death cells to crush the skulls which the fires had not reduced to ashes.

Now they want revenge. They want to return to the foul camp at Birkenau and the nearby crematorium of Auschwitz and there point out their torturers. These French women have been rescued by the Russians who are advancing on Berlin.

These women were rounded up in France during the occupation and taken to Birkenau on various charges ranging from defying German orders to suspicion of being in contact with the Free French.

Ruthlessly, they were torn from their children, from their homes and herded into box cars and sent to Germany. They were stripped, given coarse uniforms

and then put to work. They slaved 12 hours a day, breaking stones, repairing roads and digging ditches.

Thousands Perish Every day some weary women would drop. Nine hundred of the camp's 8,000 inmates died every month, but more came to replace them from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium and France.

After three months the Germans paraded all the women and stripped them for "selection." Two doctors examined every woman. All judged to be too tired for further use and those with any signs of an infectious skin disease would be separated from the rest.

Still naked, they were pushed into large cells. They knew what their fate would be, and the living were deafened by the shrieks and moans of those about to die.

With sunset they were led to the shower rooms and from there to the gas chamber. Then the smoke would start curling from the crematorium's chimneys.

Year of Life The selection parade occurred every three months. Once a year the women who were forced to work in the gas chamber and the crematorium were themselves liquidated.

FIFTH U. S. FLEET NEARING OKINAWA FOR NEW BLOWS

Tokyo Radio Broadcaster Admits Nation Is Facing Gravest Crisis in History

By United Press The American 5th fleet today was reported approaching the Okinawa Islands, 300 miles southwest of Japan where it heaped destruction in two days of attacks that evoked an admission from Tokyo that Japan was confronted with its gravest crisis in history.

Tokyo radio issued the report that the fleet with its big force of aircraft carriers was heading toward the Okinawa Islands. Pacific fleet headquarters continued to screen the fleet's activities with a security blackout.

The island group is the site of an important naval base and several airfields midway between Japan and Formosa.

New Setback The Japanese were given another setback in the Philippines. American troops and Filipino guerrillas crushed the last organized resistance on Panay with the capture of Iloilo, the capital.

American bombers in the Philippines stepped up their aerial offensive and destroyed or damaged 13 Japanese vessels, including five small warships. The attacks ranged from the eastern Philippines to the China coast.

The war department at Washington announced that a sizable task force of B-29 Superfortresses, flying from bases in India, raided the big Burmese port of Rangoon today.

BALLAD SINGERS APPEAR TONIGHT

The American Ballad Singers are appearing in concert this evening at the high school auditorium at 8:15 Seth Bullis, president of the Jackson County Civic Music association stated this morning.

Mr. Bullis said that due to the fact that originally the concert had been scheduled for Friday, March 23, many calls had been received about the date.

It was stressed again that children must either sit with their parents or adult companions or else take seats in the balcony, since large numbers of children in the first few rows of seats on the main floor have proven distracting to both artists and concert goers.

Elite Guards Stage Suicide Stand Against 90th Division at Mainz

By Robert Richards United Press War Correspondent With U. S. Third Army in Germany, March 22 — (U.P.) — A fanatical band of Nazi elite guards is dying in the streets of Mainz today — and killing Americans — in a useless "honor" stand that apparently has been dictated by Adolf Hitler as an example to the rest of his willing armies.

Elsewhere on the 3d army front in Worms, Kaiserslautern, Bad Kreuznach and Alzey, the Germans quit almost without a fight. But in Mainz these hand-picked suicide troops seem bent on going down to the last man

Oregon Healthiest Spot in Nation Is Proved By Draft

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — Rep. Harris Ellsworth (R., Ore.) said today he was grateful to selective service for proving that the Pacific coast "and particularly Oregon" is the healthiest place in the nation.

The percentage of men rejected for physical reasons in Oregon was the lowest of any state in the union, Ellsworth said.

"Only 24.4 per cent of those examined in Oregon were rejected," he said. "This figure is far better than the national average which is 39.2. I am grateful to selective service for compiling this information."

HOSPITAL SURVEY BODY APPOINTED

Salem, Ore., March 22 — (U.P.) — An eight-man committee to make a statewide survey of the hospitals in Oregon, appointed in conformity with House Bill 395 of the recent legislative session, was named today by Gov. Earl Snell.

The survey will be made in cooperation with the federal government which has authorized a survey of public and private hospitals in all states, and has provided federal funds for the job. It has been anticipated that federal funds, estimated at some \$300,000,000, will be made available for the construction and rehabilitation of hospitals following completion of the survey, the governor's office said.

The committee will work with and for the State Board of Health.

STREETCAR ROMEO GUILTY OF BIGAMY

San Francisco, March 22 — (U.P.) — Francis Van Wia, the 58-year-old "Ding Dong Daddy" of the carlines, was found guilty on three counts of bigamy today by a jury of nine men and three women after 10 minutes of deliberation.

The former lion tamer and self-styled confidential investigator, who assertedly wooed and won 13 brides without benefit of divorce, seemed dazed as the verdict was read. He tried desperately to withhold tears.

The little streetcar casanova will now be held for trial next Tuesday on his plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.

CONGRESS ASKED FOR WAR AGENCY FINANCE

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — President Roosevelt today asked Congress for \$1,120,453, 300 to finance activities of the government's 19 civilian war agencies in the year beginning July 1.

The total is \$48,000,000 less than the sum allocated to the agencies for the current fiscal year.

WOULD BAN DAMS Sacramento, March 22 — (U.P.) — Construction of Table Mountain dam on the Sacramento river, or any other large dam below Redding, would be prohibited under a bill introduced in the assembly today by Sam L. Helmsinger, D., Fresno.

for the honor of the German army east of the Rhine. The city's military importance now is practically nil, but the Nazis are making the veteran 90th infantry bleed for every house and street corner.

Even German planes have joined the Nazi ground forces, bombing and strafing the attacking Americans in an effort to delay the fall of Mainz.

It appeared likely that Hitler or some one else in the German high command pulled all the elite guard units west of the Rhine into Mainz with the idea of making a heroic stand in the city as a "shot in the arm" for the jittery German troops.

TWO-WAY DRIVE CRACKS DEFENSE IN SOUTH SILESIA

Scores of Key Towns Fall to Konev Forces—Left Wing Secured for Berlin Drive

London, March 22 — (U.P.) — Moscow announced tonight that Marshal Ivan S. Konev's first Ukrainian army had killed or captured 45,000 Germans in a new Silesian offensive advancing 25 miles through more than 400 towns south and west of Oppeln.

The converging offensive killed more than 30,000 German troops, a communique said. Marshal Konev in announcing "the new offensive said Konev's army captured 15,000."

London, March 22 — (U.P.) — Marshal Ivan S. Konev's army has broken through south and west of Oppeln in southern Silesia, advancing 25 miles and trapping at least 15,000 Germans in a sweeping new offensive that overran more than 400 German towns.

Marshal Stalin announced tonight that Konev's first Ukrainian army joined forces in a two-way drive that toppled most of the defense strongholds in the southern end of Silesia.

Wing Secured Neustadt, Cosel, Flankenberg, Suelz, Oberglogau, Krappitz, Steinau, and scores of other key towns fell to Konev's forces securing the extreme left wing of the Berlin front for the brewing push against the German capital.

A special order of the day by Stalin said the junction of Konev's two columns in drives south and west of Oppeln surrounded and routed a formidable force of German troops.

Along with the 15,000 Germans, the Soviets captured 464 field guns and great quantities of other war materials.

BIG WALLOP IN SUPER-BUSTERS

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — The new British 22,000-pound bombs now being dumped on Germany are so devastating that one of them, dropped experimentally, obliterated a small granite island off the British coast, the British Information Service revealed today.

When another one was dropped experimentally in southern England, observers standing a mile away saw chunks of earth weighing 10 tons each hurled into the air.

And when a "dud," filled with ballast instead of explosives was dropped at a British experimental station, it buried itself so deeply in the soil that it took 18 men working 12 hours a day, nine days to dig it out, BIS said.

Draft Extension Given Approval

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — The house military affairs committee today unanimously approved extension of the selective service act for another year from May 15, the date of expiration.

Committee members said the measure probably would go before the house before Easter.

WILLIAMS REJECTION IS 'FOREGONE CONCLUSION'

Washington, March 22 — (U.P.) — Sen. Robert M. La Follette (Prog., Wis.) said today that senate rejection of Aubrey Williams' nomination to be rural electrification administrator "is a foregone conclusion."

La Follette, a Williams supporter, told the senate he regretted that Williams "is going to be rejected upon what seems to me to be entirely flimsy evidence."

Little Bobby Emmens trying to get ahead of the calendar and venturing forth in a barefoot state.

Al Price and other federal court officials disappointed that southern Oregon weather is turning out to be the same as their home city, Portland during their semi-annual visit to Medford.

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