

Weather

Forecast: Sunday, cloudy with rain, warmer, and windy.
Temp.
Highest yesterday 57
Lowest this morning 28

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MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1945

NO. 2.

Allied Armies Cross Rhine; Drive Wedge Five Miles Into Ruhr

Paris, March 24—(U.P.)—Four allied armies vaulted the Rhine today in a climatic win-the-war offensive of gigantic proportions and within 24 hours advanced eight miles across the north German plain and drove a wedge 12 miles wide and five miles deep into the vital Ruhr industrial basin.

Massive fleets of naval assault boats carried the troops and tanks. Field Marshal Sir B. L. Montgomery's three armies, including the American 9th, crossed the Rhine while 3,000 troop carriers and gliders dropped three divisions—some 40,000 men of the 1st allied airborne army behind the German lines.

GREATEST OFFENSIVE

Fleets of allied planes darkened the sky joining massed artillery in blasting the east bank defenses for miles beyond the river. It was the greatest offensive yet launched against the Germans from the west, designed to end the war in the quickest possible time.

The assault crashed into Germany's inner fortress on a winding 35-mile stretch of the Rhine from Rees through Wesel south to Duisburg in the heart of the Ruhr, Germany's last major war production area.

The British 2nd and Canadian 1st armies established three or more bridgeheads between Rees and Wesel. Field dispatches said these were quickly expanded into a 15-mile front with armored spearheads as much as eight miles east of the Rhine and pointed for Berlin, 280 miles away across ideal tank country.

NINTH ROARS AHEAD

The drive into the Ruhr by Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's American 9th army roared ahead against light resistance and cut the Wesel-Duisburg road by reaching the outskirts of Dinslaken only four miles north of the major industrial city of Duisburg.

Ninth army doughboys also captured Spellen, three miles south of Wesel on the south side of the Lippe river, and overran Voerde, Mollem, Stapp and Walsun as they rapidly enveloped the Ruhr arsenal.

PARATROOPS SCORE

Allied supreme headquarters announced that the airborne forces had linked up with ground troops in a solid junction within six hours after they dropped, but the exact points of contact was not immediately disclosed.

Front reports said some airborne troops had landed due north of Wesel and joined forces with British troops fighting to consolidate a series of bridgeheads between Rees and Wesel.

It was believed that other paratroops landed in the American one continuous bridgehead.

End of War Drive

Washington, March 24—(U.P.)—Military observers tonight cited incoming reports of the smashing allied drive beyond the Rhine and said "This is it."

They hope that the allied armies in the west are committed now in the last great battle of the European war. That is what this was planned to be. Time and the fortunes of war will determine whether General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower will have to pull up once more, reform for attack and throw still another Sunday punch.

No V-day date is mentioned here. But the war department has its own estimate of the day beyond which organized German resistance shall cease. Days, weeks and months probably must elapse before they will have verification or repudiation of their estimate.

If this thrust fails to roll on to Berlin there is one thing of absolute certainty—Eisenhower can and will reform his armies, send them forward and beat the ears off the enemy.

He has faltered, paused and stopped twice since D-day, June 6, when the allied armies came ashore in Normandy. The first time was when the thrust beyond Paris was stalled. Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., simply ran out of gas. Since then preparations of the greatest magnitude have been made. Cleaning up the west bank of the Rhine was merely incidental to what is happening now.

There have been disappointments and the inevitable miscalculations in these mass undertakings. The second time we were stalled was in December. Then the Germans broke through to create the Ardennes bulge. But some of the luck and some of the breaks were with the allies, as will be more widely known when the whole story can be told.

Nazis Tipped Off

Watch Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's drive in the north. His smoke-screened preparations tipped the Germans some weeks ago that they would be hit hard by Monty. But they didn't know when. The man in the beret is driving now for the Westphalian plain, the broad highway to Berlin. It is an area where tanks and other armored vehicles can roam, prowl, encircle and kill. On that flat land they need not bother with roads.

Sister Kenny Firm For Congress Quiz

Minneapolis, Minn., March 24—(U.P.)—Sister Elizabeth Kenny's dispute with the American Medical Association over treatment of muscular paralysis continued tonight.

She remained adamant in her threat made earlier this week that she would leave the United States unless her theories and methods receive a Congressional airing.

14,000 WARPLANES DEVASTATE RUHR IN RECORD RAID

Greatest Armada of All Time Pounds Reich In Final Round Against Hun

London, March 24—(U.P.)—The allies sent an estimated 14,000 warplanes—the greatest air armada in history—against Germany today, devastating the Ruhr, launching a record airborne landing and blasting Berlin in the first raid on the reich capital by Italy-based planes.

"This is the opening of the final round," Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder told the fliers in their final briefing for the greatest day of air operations in five and one-half years of war.

Heavy bombers, medium bombers, fighters, gliders, troop carriers and tactical planes filled the skies over the reich, shooting down at least 68 German planes and plastering the Ruhr with bombs in support of the big push across the Rhine.

American and British planes threw an impenetrable air umbrella over the ground armies as they blasted German troop concentrations, strongpoints, armor, gun positions, airfields, railroads and highways. They also bombed two big fuel refineries.

Most spectacular was the gigantic airborne operation in the Wesel area, in which between 5,000 and 6,000 planes were engaged. The greatest air effort in history. A 100-mile column of gliders and troop carriers for two hours poured thousands of troops behind enemy lines while protecting fighters swarmed on all sides of the great formation.

Shortly after the landing some 240 Liberator of the U. S. 8th airforce came over the airborne bridgehead only a few hundred feet above the ground, dropping 1,600 tons of food, medicine and fighting equipment to the troops.

Great squadrons of R. A. F. Lancasters blotted out German defense positions ahead of the other ground troops which crossed the Rhine in assault boats. They hit troop concentrations, armored units, fortifications and machine gun nests "with great accuracy."

Virtually every British-based and tactical plane at the allies' disposal was in action over the Rhine when the 15th airforce in Italy sent its largest escorted heavy bomber fleet of the war on the 1,200-mile roundtrip to Berlin.

EARLY POSTPONES PLANS TO RESIGN WHITE HOUSE JOB

Washington, March 24—(U.P.)—Stephen T. Early has agreed to postpone his resignation as secretary to President Roosevelt until the chief executive finds someone to replace the late Maj. Gen. Edwin M. Watson in his secretariat, the White House revealed tonight.

It issued a statement by Mr. Roosevelt saying Early had planned to resign, to enter private business, when he returned from Europe where he has been advising the army on improvement of its public relations set up. Early returned to Washington this week.

Mr. Roosevelt said Jonathan Daniels, son of Joseph Daniels, publisher of the Raleigh News and Observer, will replace Early as his secretary in charge of press relations. Daniels, now an administrative assistant to the president, has been filling Early's post during his absence.

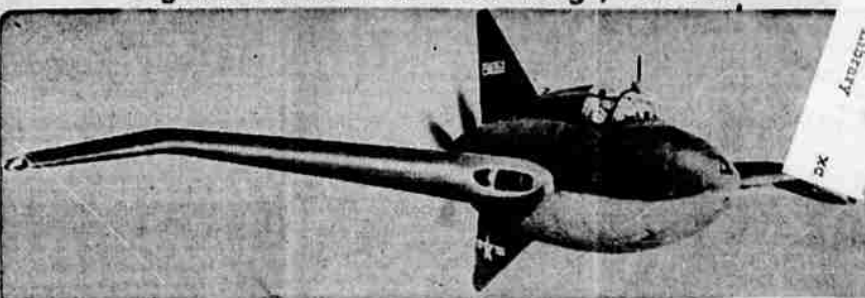
Early will serve as secretary in charge of appointments, the post held by Watson, until a permanent replacement is named, the president said.

Congress Agrees On Work-Or-Fight Act

Washington, March 24—(U.P.)—Senate and House conferees agreed today on a compromise bill which would provide penalties for both employers and employees who willfully violate it.

The measure would give to War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes power to freeze workers in essential industries, regulate hiring of workers, and establish limitations on the numbers of workers employers may hire.

Fighter Plane With Bat Wings, No Tail



Here's the first view of the Northrop Aircraft's XP-56, a fighter plane with batlike wings and no tail. Twin, three-bladed, counter-rotating pusher propellers are located where the tail is on more conventional type airplanes. The weird looking craft will be used as a basis for designs of future military and peacetime ships.

YANKEES ELATED AS MADCAP RACE FOR BERLIN NEAR

Nazi Resistance Feeble and Troops Elated As End of War Looms

By Ann Stringer
United Press War Correspondent
With American Forces on the Rhine, March 24—(U.P.)—We are on the threshold of the war's end tonight. There is a spirit of elation along the front.

Tonight it looks like the madcap race for Berlin is on—not only between the various armies on the western front, but also between the eastern and western allies as a whole.

The spirit is something hard to believe. I saw guys returning from the front cold, shivering and drenched. They were tired and uncomfortable. But they were happy. They are in on the kill now and they're not going to sleep until the race is finished.

Yesterday I listened to Gen. Omar N. Bradley seriously warning against over-optimism. He meant it. Over-optimism has been too much of a good thing.

But in the past few days I've flown over the 1st army Rhine bridgehead and seen big cities gutted, along with little farm villages.

There is no Siegfried line, no mountain-like pillboxes such as those at Normandy, to hold us back. The only fortified area where the Germans could hope to make a fanatical stand is the heavily-congested Ruhr.

All along the front the allies now seem able to tear apart and grind their way through the Nazi defenses. They seem to be going where they please—and there's no question where that is.

The Germans, hoping to stop this avalanche, are frantically pulling in everything possible. For weeks their commanders have been resorting to "piracy"—snatching stray troops anywhere they could find them and impressing them into service.

They have sent convalescents to the front. They have hurled training companies, raw and unprepared, into the battle in a desperate hope of plugging the dykes. But it's no use. Each day our army takes prisoners numbering into the thousands. Each day they overrun numbers of towns and vital miles of the reich.

Each day defenses which could have been formidable and bloody have been taken with ease.

SCOTCH VETS OF AFRICA FIND NO WATCH ON RHINE

With the British 2nd Army, March 24—(U.P.)—Battle-hardened Scotsmen of the 51st Highland division who started their march along the road to victory at El Alamein led the British 2nd army crossing of the Rhine.

The men who had battled across two continents since the summer of 1942 flung lifebelts around their waists, climbed into amphibious vehicles and crossed the moonlit Rhine at 9 p. m. The Germans supposed to be standing watch on the Rhine must have been asleep for the Scotties met practically no opposition.

Military men said the mass crossing by the three armies under his command was the most brilliant operation yet turned in by Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery.

The artillery barrage which preceded it was his biggest yet.

RUSSIANS DRIVE TOWARDS VIENNA ON 62 M. FRONT

London, March 24—(U.P.)—The red army has swept 43 miles across western Hungary and is moving toward Vienna on a 62-mile front in a new juggernaut offensive coinciding with the allied grand-scale drive into Germany from the west, Marshal Josef Stalin revealed tonight.

Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's 3rd Ukrainian army smashed the formidable Lake Balaton line southwest of Budapest and seized the big bastions of Mor, Veszprem and Szekesfehervar as well as 350 other towns in a massive surge against Germany's south east ramparts.

In a second order of the day Stalin announced the fall of the Silesian citadels and road centers of Neisse and Leobschuetz, 43 and 68 miles southeast of Breslau. Both were key bases in the defense of the passes into the Bohemian plain.

Other soviet columns were reported by Berlin to be attacking from all sides in a roaring battle for Oder bridgeheads around Kuestrin on the road to Berlin. The Baltic port of Stettin rocked under a ceaseless pre-assault bombardment; Danzig and Gdynia tottered. The Russians were welding their might into a supreme knockout drive from the east just as their allies were doing in the west.

FARM BILL WINS HOUSE APPROVAL, GOES TO SENATE

Washington, March 24—(U.P.)—The House today passed and sent to the Senate an \$833,801,000 appropriation bill for agriculture department operations in the fiscal year 1946 which starts July 1.

Approval by a vote of 256 to 16 came late in the day after administration forces overcame several attempts to amend the bill. A motion by Rep. John Taber, R., N. Y., to send the entire measure back to committee was defeated 159 to 58.

Democrats saved a \$500,000 school lunch program item in the closest vote of the day, 89 to 88. Taber had moved to strike the lunch fund from the bill. He also was defeated, 87-87, in an attempt to knock out \$90,000,000 for the Farm Security Administration.

No attempt was made to change the \$300,000,000 fund for payments to farmers under the 1946 crop program. The committee recommended that amount, although the Budget Bureau originally asked only \$200,000,000.

CLOSEST RESCUE TO NIPPON TOLD

Aboard Adm. Mitscher's Flagship off Japan, March 19—(Via Navy Radio)—(U.P.)—Snatched from under the muzzles of Japanese shore batteries by the daring pilot of a Kingfisher seaplane, 1st Lt. Ralph O. Glendinning, Avon, N. J., today told of watching the bomb-blasted Miyazaki airfield buildings burn as he bobbed along in a life-raft ten miles off southern Kyushu.

The rescue, the closest yet to the shores of the Japanese homeland, was made by Lt. William A. Ethridge, Kansas City, Mo. His landing on the rough waters within sight of Jap soil was described by Glendinning, a 21-year-old marine pilot, as "the most beautiful I ever saw."

FUTURE DARK FOR BLACK MARKETS TWO BUREAUS SAY

President Expected To Clarify Food Situation Tuesday at Conference

Washington, March 24—(U.P.)—The future looked dark tonight for the black market in meat. Both the Treasury and the Office of Price Administration are out to kill it.

With the Treasury and OPA at war on the black market, Congress undertook to find out just why some phases of food production, especially beef, have failed to keep up with demand.

It appeared unlikely, however, that these various activities could produce much result—in the form of more food in the ice box—for months to come.

In the meantime, some clarification of a confused situation should be forthcoming on Tuesday, when President Roosevelt is expected to discuss the food shortage in detail at his news conference.

And today, having adjusted themselves to the idea of reducing their consumption of red meat proteins, consumers were told to expect also a shortage of vegetable protein.

Congress showed interest this week in assertions by meat packers that there actually is no shortage of beef cattle. Cattle aren't being slaughtered, packers told the Senate Banking Committee, because under OPA prices there is no profit in them. For many, they said, it is "go broke or go back."

The Treasury has disclosed what it is trying to do to black market profiteers—including illegal dealers in meat—what it did to Al Capone. By watching them where they do their biggest spending, in the country's lush vacation resorts, Treasury agents hoped to nail black market operators with income tax evasion indictments.

MICHIGAN STATE LEGISLATORS IN NEW GRAFT LINK

Lansing, Mich., March 24—(U.P.)—Michigan's one-man grand jury initiated new legislative graft conspiracy charges tonight against two former state senators who previously have been convicted, influencing action on a 1941 Horse Racing Bill.

The indictment announced by Grand Juror Judge Leland W. Carr named ex-Senators Jerry T. Logie, R., Bay City, and Charles C. Diggs, D., Detroit. Both are free on bond pending appeal on three-to-five year sentences imposed after they were found guilty of bribery in a 1939 finance company measure.

Special Prosecutor Kim Sigler said Logie and Diggs would be arraigned early next week. It was the ninth major indictment—three of them involving race track legislation—returned by the Carr-Sigler grand jury since it started its unrelenting drive in 1943 to eradicate graft corruption from the capitol.

Three graft cases have gone to trial, and a fourth opens April 16.

SIAPAN HERO CALLED

San Diego, March 24—(U.P.)—Col. Evans Carlson, organizer and leader of the famed Carlson's Marine Raiders who gained glory on Saipan, has been recalled to active duty. It was reported today. His exact assignment was not immediately revealed.

WAR BULLETINS

Calcutta, March 24—(U.P.)—British troops advanced to within four miles of the Japanese stronghold of Kyaukse in central Burma. It was announced today, as other empire forces to the southwest hurled back a powerful Japanese attack on their outposts at Meiktila.

Rome, March 24—(U.P.)—German bombardments and sharp patrol clashes have broken the lull along the 5th U. S. army front. It was reported today, as allied warplanes for the second straight day flew about 2,600 sorties and blasted enemy communications in north Italy.

Chungking, March 24—(U.P.)—Onrushing Japanese armored columns, gaining more than 20 miles in 24 hours, have pressed to Fancheng, only 31 miles from Loehokow, American airbase and military headquarters in northern Hupeh province, a Chinese communique said today.

OREGON DEFEATS UTAH 69-66 TO WIN THIRD SPOT

Kansas City, Mo., March 24—(U.P.)—Oregon's fighting youngsters won third place in the N. C. A. A. western basketball finals tonight, defeating the Rocky Mountain entry and 1944 champion, Utah, 69-66.

The Webfoots finished in third place in the western tourney because they didn't know how to give up. Behind 38-30 at the half, they returned to the floor to pull into a 42-all tie in less than three minutes.

Then, with Dick Wilkins leading the way, but with all members of the starting quintet cutting a piece of the offensive, Oregon matched baskets with Utah's Satterfield, Doron and Howard until the 16-minute mark when they went into the lead to stay.

The score was tied an even dozen times along the way. Doron was high man with 24 points. Wilkins got 21 to lead Oregon.

New York, March 24—(U.P.)—A great New York university basketball team scored six points with a half minute remaining in an overtime period to defeat Ohio State 70-65 in the NCAA eastern championships at Madison Square Garden tonight.

Behind by 10 points with two minutes remaining of regular play, the Violets came roaring back to tie the score 62-62 with only a second remaining.

OKLAHOMA WINS

Kansas City, Mo., March 24—(U.P.)—Working brilliantly around Man Mountain Bob Kurkland the Oklahoma Aggies brushed off Arkansas tonight to win the NCAA western basketball championship. The final score was 68-41. Arkansas defeated Oregon 79 to 76 Friday night.

HOUSE PROBE OF HOSPITALS NEAR

Washington, March 24—(U.P.)—The way was cleared today for house debate Monday on a proposal to investigate conditions in veterans hospitals.

The house rules committee approved a resolution by Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) which would authorize such an investigation by the veterans committee. There have been charges from a variety of sources that care in veterans hospitals is bad.

Rep. Philip J. Philbin (D., Mass.) said he would attempt to broaden the scope of the investigation. He said he would ask for creation of a special 11-man committee to investigate all phases of servicemen's rehabilitation, including conditions in army and navy hospitals.

PORTLAND MAN FREED

San Francisco, March 24—(U.P.)—The army announced tonight that among enlisted men and officers, liberated by American forces from Japanese prison camps in the Philippines, who have departed for their homes from Letterman General hospital was: Cpl. Peter Connacher, Portland.

FUND USE WARNING

Sacramento, March 24—(U.P.)—Gov. Earl Warren today warned against appropriation of state funds for construction of local public works.

JAPAN AIRCRAFT CITY, GUARDIAN ISLANDS BOMBED

Nagoya Target of Superforts—Battleships Rake Ryukyu Group

(A Japanese imperial communique broadcast by Tokyo radio admitted damage to the city and that flames were not controlled for nearly five hours. (The communique, heard by United Press in San Francisco, said that "about 130 B-29s raided the Nagoya district for about one hour and a half from midnight on March 25. The city area was indiscriminately bombed with explosives and incendiaries," causing fires and damage "but the fires were completely extinguished by 4:50 a. m.")

Guam, Sunday, March 25—(U.P.)—A fleet of at least 225 Superfortresses attacked the Mitsubishi aircraft industry at Nagoya with hundreds of tons of demolition bombs early today in a strike designed to cripple Japan's airplane engine production.

A communique issued at the 21st bomber command headquarters announced that Marianas-based B-29s had resumed their series of punishing raids against the principal centers of war-making facilities in the Japanese homeland.

The Superfortresses, carrying a huge but undisclosed tonnage of "general purpose" bombs, dropped over blacked-out Nagoya shortly after midnight at 5,000 feet altitude.

The five previous raids against major Japanese cities—Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe—were incendiary-bomb attacks designed to burn out target areas.

It was the second attack against Nagoya—the Far East's greatest aircraft center and Japan's third largest city—within a week. And it was the fifth time in the war that the Mitsubishi plant has been the target for the Superforts.

Guam, Sunday, March 25—(U.P.)—Fast battleships and carrier aircraft of the U. S. Pacific fleet raked four islands of the Ryukyu chain south of Japan with tons of bombs and shells Friday, in a follow-up to the fifth fleet's assault on Japan proper earlier in the week, it was announced today.

The big guns of battleships blasted coastal objectives on Okinawa, Japan's guardian island in the Ryukyus, and other nearby islands while fast navy aircraft hunted down Japanese shipping and aircraft. No detailed report of damage inflicted was given.

AMERICANS TAKE BAY NEAR MANILA

Manila, Sunday, March 25—(U.P.)—United States Infantrymen south of Manila drove nine miles yesterday to Arenas Point and cleared the shores of Batangas Bay for Allied shipping. Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

The capture of Arenas Point put the American troops just across the strait from Verde Island which the 24th Division occupied earlier this month.

East of Manila, the 8th Division jumped off after a heavy "tillery barrage and captured Japanese-held ridge between Mount Baytangan and Mount Yabang, the communique said.

Meanwhile, the 43rd Division consolidated gains made across the Booboro river yesterday and pushed several hundred yards toward Mount Balidindan 700 yards southeast of the river.

Ike Warns For To Ignore Hitler Order

By United Press
Gen Dwight D. Eisenhower today warned the German armed forces not to execute captured Allied airborne soldiers on pain of "severe punishment."

The warnings, cited a secret order by Adolf Hitler ordering "the execution of Allied airborne and parachute troops," and warned that "during this last phase of a lost war you will do well to be doubly scrupulous" in not following the order.

"You will be judged according to your conduct, with strict justice, but without mercy," the proclamation said.