

EISENHOWER OPENS OFFENSIVE

United States Marines Capture Mount Suribachi

Devildogs Open Push On Airfield

By ELMONT WAITE
U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, GUAM, Feb. 23 (AP)—American marines reached the summit of Mount Suribachi on the southern tip of Iwo Jima today, and began a renewed offensive on the central air field after repulsing two Japanese counterattacks.

The Stars and Stripes were raised over the volcanic Suribachi 97 hours after the costly invasion began and marines began cleaning out Japanese still clinging to the crater with petrol bombs.

Little progress was made elsewhere in the most costly fight which the marines have ever been engaged—a fight that cost 2,000 American casualties, including 644 dead, in the first three days.

Swimmers Mopped Up
Japanese swimmers made a hopeless attempt to attack American forces on the western side of the island from the rear last night. They were mopped up on the beaches this morning.

Carrier aircraft sweeping over the Bonin Islands in protective formation to eliminate repeated enemy attacks on American ships assembled off Iwo shot down three Japanese planes.

Surrounding of Suribachi was the brightest spot in the entire campaign.

The leathernecks won command of the 566-foot height from the Japanese had cast down a deadly mortar and artillery on other marines spread out over the south third of the island. Its capture eliminated the threat to the rear of the devildog divisions attempting to drive north where the strength of the enemy garrison is dug in.

Raise National Flag
Adm. Chester W. Nimitz condensed the drama into this special communique: "The 28th regiment of the United States Marines was observed raising the United States flag on the summit of Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Island at 10:35 a. m. today."

The extinct volcano cone had been encircled by the fourth line division under Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates. Then for 28 days the leathernecks clambered up the 45-degree cliffs despite grenades and demolition charges hurled down into their faces by desperate defenders.

Before that, Mt. Suribachi was hammered steadily for more than a week by naval guns and aerial bombs. The defenders got on until killed in their dugouts by marines advancing by hole and cave by cave with flamethrowers, grenades and machine guns.

In his earlier communique Nimitz reported strong Japanese mortar attacks on both flanks of the American force edging—feet or yards at a time—toward the southern fringe of Iwo's airfield.

The main airfield to the south already is in American hands. But one of the counterthrusts apparently was repulsed, but there was no report on the other, on the American right flank. Official count, 644 U. S. marines were killed, 3,168 wounded and 644 missing up to 6 p. m. Wednesday. This count covered the first 58 hours of the Iwo fighting. During the same time 1222 Japanese dead were counted.

American Division Seizes Capul Isle, Clear Straits

MANILA, Feb. 23 (AP)—Dougherty's American division, after a series of battles in the Solos, mopped up Japanese on the little Capul island off the tip of Luzon after a new

Philippine invasion aimed at clearing the shipping lane from the United States to war-torn Manila.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announcing the Yank landing on Capul Wednesday, said those Yanks of the American eighth army encountered only light opposition. The island lies in San Bernardino strait between Luzon and occupied Samar island.

Controls Straits
Capul is a controlling point in the straits through which units of the imperial Japanese navy steamed in an attempt to smash the American Leyte beachhead last October.

It lies 260 air miles from Manila, where other Yank fighters are locked in a fierce battle against a bitterly resisting Japanese garrison.

Seize Hotel
From the shattered southern portion of the capital, AP War Correspondent Fred Hampson reported 37th division infantrymen seized the Manila hotel, the city hall and all of the general post office except the basement.

"The hotel was won," he said, "after a room-to-room and corridor-to-staircase fight through the succeeding floors. The post office was no less difficult."

The three-story city hall, near the Intramuros where the Japanese are making a fortified last stand, was won after the Yanks had withdrawn from the building four times in the face of machinegun fire.

Telephone Connections With Berlin Good, Finds Soviet

MOSCOW, Feb. 23 (AP)—Izvestia reported with glee today that a red army major had talked in Berlin with a Nazi security officer in the city hall.

"When Berlin answered he asked for the burgomeister. He was informed the burgomeister was absent, but the latter's secretary, Salzbach, answered.

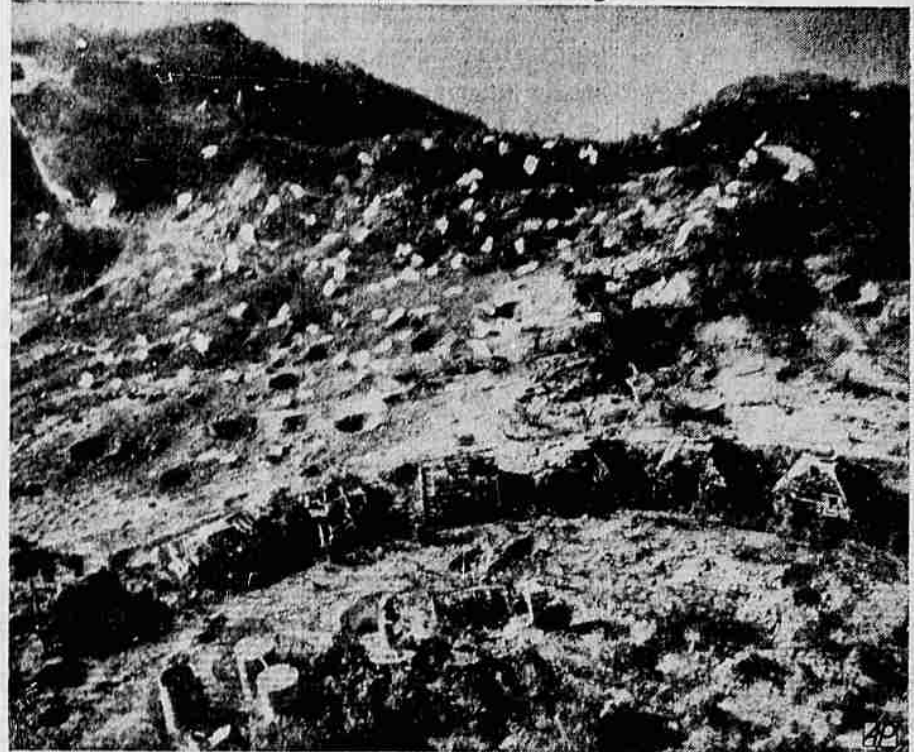
"This is the burgomeister of Berlin," said the major. "How are things getting along?"

"Badly. The people say they've come quite close already," was the answer. "How is it with you?"

Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland
PRICE FIVE CENTS KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1945 Number 10397

Paratroops Invade Corregidor



Parachutes of the 503rd parachute infantry regiment dot the bomb battered terrain of Corregidor shortly after troopers landed and joined forces with amphibious assault troops to engage the enemy for control of the island fortress. (AP wirephoto from signal corps).

PAYROLL TAX BILL PASSED BY SENATE

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.
SALEM, Feb. 23 (AP)—The unemployment compensation program started moving through the legislature today, with senate passage 26 to 3 of a bill to set payroll taxes at .5 to 2.7 per cent, instead of the existing rates of 1 to 4 per cent.

The bill was part of a compromise by labor and industry on four measures, although a tough fight was expected in the senate late today on the bill to extend coverage to employers of one or more persons.

The law now applies to employers of four or more persons.

Sen. Lew Wallace, Portland democrat, chairman of the senate labor and industries committee, told the house that labor and employers conceded many points, and that neither group was satisfied.

Voting against the bill were Sens. W. E. Burke, Sherwood; Frank H. Hilton, Portland, and W. H. Strayer, Baker.

The house began thinking about adjournment today when Rep. Harvey Wells, Portland, introduced a resolution to end the session at 10 p. m. next Monday, but it is likely the session will go at least 10 days beyond that, Monday will be the 50th day of the session, and after that, legislators will cease getting their \$8 a day pay.

Man Sentenced For Forgery
Kenneth Huck, Klamath county resident whose probation was revoked by the circuit court, was sentenced to the Oregon state penitentiary not to exceed three years, when he was brought before Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg at 10 a. m. today.

Huck was charged originally with tendering a forged check. He has been in the county jail since his return to Klamath county by Sheriff Lloyd L. Low from Portland.

Contact Bureau Authority Given

Authority to establish a veterans' contact unit in Klamath Falls, consisting of a contact representative and clerk stenographer, has been granted, according to messages received from Guy Gordon, U. S. senator from Oregon, and Sen. Wayne Morse.

The Klamath Falls office will be opened as soon as needed space and personnel can be obtained, with the assignment of additional personnel if the needs of the service require it.

Turks Declare War On Germany, Japan; To Attend Confab

LONDON, Feb. 23 (AP)—Ankara announced today the Turkish assembly had voted unanimously to declare war on Germany and Japan as a result of a decision of the Big Three to qualify as "associated nations" all countries which take up arms against the axis before March 1.

The assembly also voted unanimously to adhere to the United Nations declaration.

The disclosure that a declaration of war was the price of a seat at the San Francisco conference on world security in April was made by the Turkish foreign minister.

He told the assembly that the British ambassador on February 20 had handed the ministry a memorandum in which Turkey was invited to the San Francisco conference if the declaration of war was adopted.

The Turkish government "reached the conclusion that acceptance of Great Britain's request to declare war would be entirely in keeping with our alliance and would serve the interests of the policy which we have unflinchingly followed always, and of which we have established many proofs and manifestations," the foreign minister said.

Hints Red Battle
The startling Turkish announcement pictured Russia in the front against Japan.

The announcement hinted that Russian armies might be thrown in the Pacific war as soon as Germany was crushed. It implied that the soviet union was aligned with Britain and the United States in the demand that neutral countries go to war with Japan as well as Germany.

LIFTING OF WAGE FORMULA ASKED

By HAROLD W. WARD
WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 (AP)—The AFL and CIO said today they will urge President Roosevelt to override the advice of war labor board public members against lifting present wage ceilings.

CIO President Philip Murray and the four active members and alternates representing the AFL on the board criticized the finding of the public members, emphasizing they would carry their fight to crack the "little steel" wage formula direct to Mr. Roosevelt.

Shape Assault
Murray's statement supplemented one by the CIO members of the board. He said a meeting of the organization's executive board will be called shortly to shape its assault on the wage formula, and campaign to completely overhaul WLB policies.

The public members, after working four months, reported to Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson, and through him to the president, that they did "not recommend a present change in the little steel formula as necessary to eliminate any overall inequity in the wartime stabilization program."

Ask No Change
"Nor can we now recommend such a change, taken as a single step on one sector of the economic front, toward solution of the problem of reconversion," they added.

The president had put off previous demands of Murray and AFL President William Green for a change in war policy by saying the public members are making a study and will report, indicating he meant to give it considerable weight.

Basis for Conclusion
The basis on which the public members—William H. Davis, George W. Taylor, Frank P. Graham and Lloyd K. Garrison—arrived at their conclusion represented a shift in generally accepted treatment of the worker's pay. It accepted as the controlling factor the amount of money earned each week, rather than the basic hourly rates.

They found that while the cost of living had increased 29.4 per cent between January 1941 and October 1944, when the report was started, the average straight time hourly earnings in manufacturing plants had jumped 36.7 per cent.

Enter Town
Meanwhile, the Germans reported that the Russians, fighting within 32 miles of Danzig had broken into another encircled town, the Vistula fortress of Grudziaz.

Southeast of Berlin Marshal Ivan Konev directed a battle of mounding fury at the Neisse river fortress of Guben and Forst, and was reported reinforcing a techold on the west bank of the Neisse.

Guben, 51 miles southeast of Berlin, was reported nearly encircled, and the Germans told of street fighting in both that town and Forst, 15 miles to the south.

Open For Smash
Fall of the two bastions would tear open the Germans' Neisse defenses and open the way for a smash into the gap between (Continued on Page Two)

Corregidor Shakes Under Blasts Set Off by Japanese

By JAMES HUTCHESON
WITH ELEVENTH CORPS TROOPS ON CORREGIDOR, Feb. 22 (Delayed) (AP)—All Corregidor shuddered last night from a mighty blast set off by the desperate Japanese.

Flames shot from three openings of tunnels which honeycombed the rock. A great chunk of Malinta Hill's solid rock south face was blasted loose. The resulting avalanche buried several American soldiers alive, injured others, and ripped out the road encircling the hill.

Motive Mystery
Whether the Japanese were motivated by a desire to destroy the Americans while they (Japanese) took refuge in the tunnels, or whether it was a grandiose suicidal plan, remained a mystery.

Soldiers Stunned
Col. George M. Jones, of Memphis, Tenn., the American commander on Corregidor, believed the concussion must have killed hundreds of Japanese.

route from Warsaw to the Berlin front on the Oder.

Poznan, residence of early Polish kings, fell after a siege of 27 days. Stalin said 23,000 Germans of the hold-out garrison, including the commander, Maj. Gen. Matern, and his staff, were taken prisoner.

Poznan Captured, Reds Win Way Into Vistula Fortress; Stalin Heralds War's End

LONDON, Feb. 23 (AP)—Marshal Stalin tonight announced the capture of Poznan, Poland's third largest city, after crushing a hold-out Nazi garrison which had blocked the main

Whittled Down
The city of 270,000 had been encircled since January 27, and was whittled down in ruins by a slow block-by-block fight which had pushed the Germans first into the northern edge and finally into a narrow citadel.

The fall of Poznan, 100 miles east of the Oder river and 137 miles west of Warsaw, opened to eventual Russian use a network of nine railways and six highways radiating from near Russian bases to their Pomeranian, Oder and Silesian fronts.

A force of more than 1250 Fortresses and Liberators and 650 fighters followed the same pattern as yesterday's assault and spread out in small formations to smash at widespread targets from the relatively low altitudes of 6000 to 12,000 feet.

There was every indication that this operation was only part of a free-for-all attack by all seven allied air commands in this theater and Italy which probably were putting 5000 planes into the air following yesterday's blow by 7000 bombers and fighters.

From Italy Fortresses and Liberators again carried out a giant assault today with attacks on rail lines near Vienna, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt and Villach.

It was the eleventh day of ruinous attacks on Germany from both west and south in which 20,000 planes probably have been thrown against the reich in the last three days.

RAIL TARGETS HIT IN AIR OFFENSIVE

By HENRY B. JAMESON
LONDON, Feb. 23 (AP)—At least 20 freight yards and other rail targets were blasted today by 1900 American planes continuing the gigantic offensive to knock out the German transport system that feeds both the eastern and western fronts.

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Nazis Report Big Push

PARIS, Feb. 23 (AP)—German broadcasts said tonight that Gen. Eisenhower had started his "grand scale offensive" toward the Ruhr and Cologne, had bridged the Roer river at several places and advanced two miles east of the river in shattering power with tanks, artillery and infantry.

Supreme headquarters maintained silence on any new attack. The Germans said the big push had been preceded by a three-hour artillery barrage by "thousands of guns." The enemy said the attack was on a 35-mile front all the way from Roermond to Duren and was mounted by the American ninth and first armies.

Main Bridgeheads
The Germans said the main bridgeheads were at these points: Birkendorf, a suburb of ruined Duren about a mile north of the city proper. This was said to be the largest bridgehead and the enemy said Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's ninth army shock troops had turned south and penetrated the outskirts of Duren. Birkendorf is 21 miles southwest of Cologne.

2. Gevelnich, two miles east of the Roer and northeast of Linlich. The town is 26 miles west of Cologne and 13 from the Ruhr rail and industrial center of Munchen Gladbach.

3. At Selgersdorf, three miles southeast of Juelich and 22 miles southwest of Cologne.

Tanks Strike
The enemy communique said the U. S. ninth army attacked "after the heaviest artillery fire" and radio reports said the American tanks were striking down the 15 miles toward Duren, attempting to roll up Nazi lines east of the Roer which have checked the allies since December.

The British second army, last (Continued on Page Two)

WASH. STATE BIRTHDAY BATTLE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 (AP)—Words of apology, solemnly voiced to an attentive Washington birthday fistfight incident in the house.

Rep. Frank E. Hook, Michigan democrat who set off the flurry of fisticuffs by using the word "liar" in an exchange with Rep. John Rankin (D-Miss.), arose shortly after the house convened to apologize.

A few minutes later, Rankin followed suit in these words: "If I have offended the membership of this house I am sorry."

Asks Apologies
Hook offered his regrets after Rep. Cox (D-Ga.) called upon the two men to beg the pardon of the membership for their brief but lively scuffle on the house floor during a discussion of the CIO's political action committee.

After Hook completed his apology—in his words "just as broad as any member would desire"—Rankin took the floor and said:

"Mr. Speaker, I merely desire to make a statement."

With that he talked at length about his part in the fight, insisting he did not violate the house rules when he clashed with Hook and said:

"Any Gentleman"
"I merely did what any gentleman would do.

"If I were to apologize it would be for the disturbance caused members of this body. I didn't violate the rules for what I said."

Indications were that the membership—particularly democratic leaders—were willing to let the matter drop.

Republicans sat in silence, apparently regarding the proceeding as a family matter among the democrats.

24 Marines to Be Awarded Medals in Record Ceremony

Twenty-four marines, 23 of them veterans of the Saipan fighting last summer, will receive awards Saturday morning at the Barracks in the largest ceremony of its kind yet held at that post.

Eight of the men to be decorated will be awarded Bronze Star medals for meritorious achievement in the field, and 16 of the leathernecks, wounded in the Marianas campaign, will be presented Purple Hearts.

Nine Together
Nine of these men fought together in the same company during the assault on Saipan and were hit hard by stiff Japanese resistance when confronted with a well fortified rock block.

Major Robert P. Folker, a recent arrival at the barracks, has been cited for his work as operations and planning officer of the 22nd marine regiment during the Eniwetok atoll campaign in the Marshall Islands and will receive one of the Bronze Star awards.

To Receive Awards
Other men to be decorated are: Bronze Stars: P1Sgt. R. E. Huisinga, P1Sgt. J. P. Robison, Sgt. R. W. Boese, Sgt. R. E. Hobbs, Sgt. L. L. Hughes, Sgt. E. S. Krane and Sgt. R. J. Kulas. Purple Hearts: P1Sgt. W. A. Brown, P1Sgt. C. H. Cone, P1Sgt. J. K. Harris, Sgt. L. L. Choate, Sgt. C. M. Gambrell, Sgt. A. R. Garcia, Sgt. W. A. McAtee, Sgt. A. P. Rogers, Corp. M. J. Balle, Corp. J. F. Clemons, Corp. S. W. Kirkham, Corp. W. D. Luttrell, Corp. R. H. McFarland, PFC. R. A. Beerman, PFC. J. E. Carroll and PFC. S. E. Simonsen.

Col. George Van Orden will make the presentations and Capt. Roy L. Walters will act as commander of troops of the four companies participating.

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