

# MAKES HEADLINE AS SAMAR OCCUPIED

## Gen. Stilwell Recalled For Another Big Job

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Gen. Joseph Stilwell has been recalled from his Far East command to take a new and important job at present undisclosed assignment.

Stilwell's recall was announced by the War Department today. The War Department had this to say about Stilwell's recall from the China-Burma-India theater:

"He will be given a new and important, but not present, undisclosed assignment."

Amid the complete official silence, there was immediate speculation that Stilwell's ultimate job will be leadership of the Army's new drive into the Japanese coast.

Stilwell's withdrawal also was interpreted by some students of Chinese affairs as a public spanking to the Chinese for their failure to reorganize Chinese armies into a more efficient fighting force.

It is no secret that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek has been urged to make use of Chinese Communist forces in North China and to

## 14,045 Japs Cut Down On Leyte Isle

### U. S. Offensive Takes On Speed

By C. YATES McDaniel  
GEN. MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES (AP)—The crushing blow, now General Douglas MacArthur's invasion army, released as Japan's shattered fleet fled the Philippines, rapidly engulfed Samar Island today, within 275 miles of Manila, aided brilliantly by Filipino guerrillas.

On Leyte, where land-based planes drew cheers from elated soldiers as they began operating from captured airfields, great segments of the island fell to the conquering Americans.

By the hour, Japanese dead and wounded were added to the 14,045 casualties inflicted. Most of the dead were men of Nippon's

NEW YORK—(AP)—John R. Hughes, broadcasting from Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters in the Philippines, reported today that the island of Samar, captured completely in American hands,

defeated and demoralized sixteenth Division which perpetrated the capture on Samar.

Visiting all Samar's more than 1,200 square miles, which extend to within fifteen miles of the Philippine archipelago, American and Filipino domination. The capital city, Catbalogan, was captured by men of Maj. Gen. Franklin C. Smith's 10th Corps.

The second island capital invested in the Philippines, the other being Leyte's Philippine government.

The stronger force of swift MacArthur's troops, which quickly bombed the island almost as soon as Goebbels left the air. At 10:45 a. m., a second group struck.

The operation, put Leyte under attack for the fourth night in a row. The Japanese navy, which had been ordered to defend the island, was completely destroyed.

Some Japanese are bottled up in the mountainous regions of the island, from north and south. They had two choices: flee into the mountains or stand and fight.

Spearheads of Maj. Gen. Frederick A. Irving's 24th Division, which have advanced 16th backbone of distance west of Palo, pushed spearheads of the 24th Division into the valleys. They drove through Santa Fe and Patras.

At the same time, Archduke's 2nd Division and Maj. Gen. James L. Bradley's 8th Division struck north above capture.

See YANK FORCES on page 11

## Japanese Tone Down Claims Of 'Victories'

LONDON—(AP)—Berlin indicated today that the Japanese press was recanting on its claims of great Japanese victories off Formosa and in the Philippines, quoting the Tokyo Asahi as warning "against too much optimism concerning Japanese successes."

"Premature optimism over the situation in the Philippines is out of place," the Berlin radio quoted the newspaper as saying.

"For example the number of Allied aircraft carriers in the Philippines is estimated at roughly 60 to 70 while the enemy lost only 34 at Quinson (Formosa) and the Philippines," the Asahi article was quoted as saying.

In addition Asahi reported that the Japanese had lost 400 planes in the two areas, the heaviest losses in machines suffered during the war.

Asahi said Gen. Douglas MacArthur was continuing to pour reinforcements ashore at Leyte "notwithstanding the severe blows" dealt by the Japanese.

"Yesterday an additional 200 troops were landed at Tacloban," Asahi said.

The broadcast said "seven more enemy planes were shot down," including five U. S. destroyers and two transports were heavily damaged and Japanese planes in Leyte Gulf.

## British And Canadians Race To Cut Off Enemy

### German Western Anchor Seized

By WILLIAM FRYE  
LONDON—(AP)—The whole German stand in Southwest Holland is collapsing. Front dispatches declared today, as British-Canadian columns raced to the enemy's last two escape bridges in an effort to cut off perhaps 40,000 Nazi troops below the Maas (Meuse) River.

As success followed success, western anchor of Bergen on Zoom without a fight, and bit within a mile of the stronghold of Roosen-dael. British Army troops closed within five miles of the central position of Breda, and within 10 miles of the Breda-Bergen axis.

The German defense line below the Maas "has fallen to pieces," one front dispatch declared. Another said: "The Germans are moving on rapidly toward the Maas."

Field Marshal Gen. Walter von Model either had to pull back across the bridges at Mordville and Geertruidenberg, or risk being cut off west and north of Breda, "or have his reeling forces cut to bits."

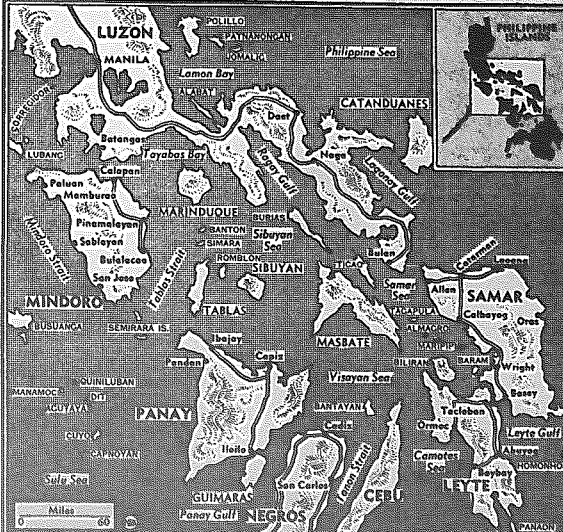
Allied Headquarters announced that the free use of the great power of the Allies in this campaign, now is limited only by the isolated and disconnected enemy units of one battery at Villemont (Flushing) on Walcheren Island.

The Germans are abandoning their positions from the Scheldt to Tilburg. Associated Press War Correspondent William F. Frye reported from the field, and the campaign has become a race to reach the bridge before the enemy can develop it.

The moving Allied drive brought the enemy's last line of defense along a 40-mile front.

(1) Bergen on Zoom, steadily defeated, and (2) Breda, steadily defeated.

See NAZI FRONT on page 11



PHILIPPINE INVASION QUICKENS—American forces moved ever closer to Manila and Batang, symbols of loss of U. S. prestige in the Orient in the early stages of the war, today as Samar Island, north of Leyte, was occupied. Only fifteen miles separate Samar and Luzon, of which Manila is the capital.

## Air Attacks Bombers Scout For Japanese Ships

By HENRY B. JAMESON  
LONDON—(AP)—Sharp air attacks hit Berlin last night a short time after Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels' Nazi propaganda speech, completed a "battle to death" plea to the German nation.

The stronger force of swift MacArthur's troops, which quickly bombed the island almost as soon as Goebbels left the air. At 10:45 a. m., a second group struck.

The operation, put Leyte under attack for the fourth night in a row. The Japanese navy, which had been ordered to defend the island, was completely destroyed.

Some Japanese are bottled up in the mountainous regions of the island, from north and south. They had two choices: flee into the mountains or stand and fight.

Spearheads of Maj. Gen. Frederick A. Irving's 24th Division, which have advanced 16th backbone of distance west of Palo, pushed spearheads of the 24th Division into the valleys. They drove through Santa Fe and Patras.

At the same time, Archduke's 2nd Division and Maj. Gen. James L. Bradley's 8th Division struck north above capture.

See YANK FORCES on page 11

## Japanese Tone Down Claims Of 'Victories'

LONDON—(AP)—Berlin indicated today that the Japanese press was recanting on its claims of great Japanese victories off Formosa and in the Philippines, quoting the Tokyo Asahi as warning "against too much optimism concerning Japanese successes."

"Premature optimism over the situation in the Philippines is out of place," the Berlin radio quoted the newspaper as saying.

"For example the number of Allied aircraft carriers in the Philippines is estimated at roughly 60 to 70 while the enemy lost only 34 at Quinson (Formosa) and the Philippines," the Asahi article was quoted as saying.

In addition Asahi reported that the Japanese had lost 400 planes in the two areas, the heaviest losses in machines suffered during the war.

Asahi said Gen. Douglas MacArthur was continuing to pour reinforcements ashore at Leyte "notwithstanding the severe blows" dealt by the Japanese.

"Yesterday an additional 200 troops were landed at Tacloban," Asahi said.

The broadcast said "seven more enemy planes were shot down," including five U. S. destroyers and two transports were heavily damaged and Japanese planes in Leyte Gulf.

## British And Canadians Race To Cut Off Enemy

### German Western Anchor Seized

By WILLIAM FRYE  
LONDON—(AP)—The whole German stand in Southwest Holland is collapsing. Front dispatches declared today, as British-Canadian columns raced to the enemy's last two escape bridges in an effort to cut off perhaps 40,000 Nazi troops below the Maas (Meuse) River.

As success followed success, western anchor of Bergen on Zoom without a fight, and bit within a mile of the stronghold of Roosen-dael. British Army troops closed within five miles of the central position of Breda, and within 10 miles of the Breda-Bergen axis.

The German defense line below the Maas "has fallen to pieces," one front dispatch declared. Another said: "The Germans are moving on rapidly toward the Maas."

Field Marshal Gen. Walter von Model either had to pull back across the bridges at Mordville and Geertruidenberg, or risk being cut off west and north of Breda, "or have his reeling forces cut to bits."

Allied Headquarters announced that the free use of the great power of the Allies in this campaign, now is limited only by the isolated and disconnected enemy units of one battery at Villemont (Flushing) on Walcheren Island.

The Germans are abandoning their positions from the Scheldt to Tilburg. Associated Press War Correspondent William F. Frye reported from the field, and the campaign has become a race to reach the bridge before the enemy can develop it.

The moving Allied drive brought the enemy's last line of defense along a 40-mile front.

(1) Bergen on Zoom, steadily defeated, and (2) Breda, steadily defeated.

See NAZI FRONT on page 11

## Italian Front At Standstill

ROME—(AP)—Gales and floods brought Italian troops to a virtual standstill today and the Germans were captured in the fighting to reinforce their defenses south and southeast of Bologna.

Allied headquarters said adverse weather also restricted the Mediterranean Allied Air Force operations.

In one attack fighterbombers hit the Adriatic sector, east of Bologna, near the town of Forlì.

The battle line between the British Eighth Army and the Nazis in the Adriatic sector, east of Bologna, was drawn up along the main German defenses at the Robbio River, two miles east of Forlì.

American and other troops of the Fifth Army were bogged down eight miles south of Bologna.

## Churchill Lauds Naval Victory

LONDON—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill said his congratulations to President Roosevelt today "on the brilliant and massive" American victory in the recent heavy battles.

"We are glad to know that one of His Majesty's Australian cruiser squadrons had the honor of sharing in this memorable event."

The text of the message issued from No. 10 Downing Street: "I have accepted my most sincere congratulations which I tender on behalf of His Majesty's Government on the brilliant and massive victory gained by the sea and air forces of the United States and the Japanese in the recent heavy battles."

"We are glad to know that one of His Majesty's Australian cruiser squadrons had the honor of sharing in this memorable event."

The text of the message issued from No. 10 Downing Street: "I have accepted my most sincere congratulations which I tender on behalf of His Majesty's Government on the brilliant and massive victory gained by the sea and air forces of the United States and the Japanese in the recent heavy battles."

"We are glad to know that one of His Majesty's Australian cruiser squadrons had the honor of sharing in this memorable event."

The text of the message issued from No. 10 Downing Street: "I have accepted my most sincere congratulations which I tender on behalf of His Majesty's Government on the brilliant and massive victory gained by the sea and air forces of the United States and the Japanese in the recent heavy battles."

## Reds Drive Toward Union With Czechs

MOSCOW—(AP)—Russian mountain troops were driving across the threshold of completing the conquest of Hungarian-annexed Ruthenia with the capture of Umayev, its chief city and former capital.

Seizure of Umayev gave Gen. Ivan Petrov's 1st Ukrainian Army a southern terminus for a supply route through the Carpathian Mountains by way of the Utrk Pass for an elevated effort to reach the isolated Czechoslovakian resistance forces at Banská Bystrica.

Gen. Ivan Cherniakhov's 8th army linked with the Allies only by plane.

See REDS MOVE on page 11

## Two-Minute News Roundup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Stilwell Comes Home

Gen. Joseph Stilwell has been relieved of his Far East command. The General has been recalled to take a new and important job at present undisclosed assignment.

Stilwell's recall was announced by the War Department today. The War Department had this to say about Stilwell's recall from the China-Burma-India theater:

"He will be given a new and important, but not present, undisclosed assignment."

Amid the complete official silence, there was immediate speculation that Stilwell's ultimate job will be leadership of the Army's new drive into the Japanese coast.

Stilwell's withdrawal also was interpreted by some students of Chinese affairs as a public spanking to the Chinese for their failure to reorganize Chinese armies into a more efficient fighting force.

It is no secret that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek has been urged to make use of Chinese Communist forces in North China and to

defeated and demoralized sixteenth Division which perpetrated the capture on Samar.

Visiting all Samar's more than 1,200 square miles, which extend to within fifteen miles of the Philippine archipelago, American and Filipino domination. The capital city, Catbalogan, was captured by men of Maj. Gen. Franklin C. Smith's 10th Corps.

The second island capital invested in the Philippines, the other being Leyte's Philippine government.

## Japs Open Big Attack

CHUNGKING—(AP)—The Japanese opened an all-out offensive against the northern Kwangsi defense center of Kweilin yesterday and are now attacking Chinese positions in the vicinity of the city, a Chinese communiqué announced today.

The Japanese also advanced in renewed thrust westward from Pingnan, 115 miles east of Kweilin, and the same time launched an attack on the recently-occupied East China coast of Nanking.

The Japanese pushed back after a long lull during which the enemy regrouped forces, built up their supply lines and completed other preparations for the major operation.

TWO THIRTS

The drive began with twin thrusts down both sides of the Hunan-Kweichow railway, which passed at Chinese defenses from 14 to 17 miles east of Kweilin. The Japanese pushed southward from Kwangyung, 30 miles east northeast of Kweilin.

The Japanese pushed back after a long lull during which the enemy regrouped forces, built up their supply lines and completed other preparations for the major operation.

TWO THIRTS

The drive began with twin thrusts down both sides of the Hunan-Kweichow railway, which passed at Chinese defenses from 14 to 17 miles east of Kweilin. The Japanese pushed southward from Kwangyung, 30 miles east northeast of Kweilin.

The Japanese pushed back after a long lull during which the enemy regrouped forces, built up their supply lines and completed other preparations for the major operation.

TWO THIRTS

The drive began with twin thrusts down both sides of the Hunan-Kweichow railway, which passed at Chinese defenses from 14 to 17 miles east of Kweilin. The Japanese pushed southward from Kwangyung, 30 miles east northeast of Kweilin.

The Japanese pushed back after a long lull during which the enemy regrouped forces, built up their supply lines and completed other preparations for the major operation.

TWO THIRTS

The drive began with twin thrusts down both sides of the Hunan-Kweichow railway, which passed at Chinese defenses from 14 to 17 miles east of Kweilin. The Japanese pushed southward from Kwangyung, 30 miles east northeast of Kweilin.

The Japanese pushed back after a long lull during which the enemy regrouped forces, built up their supply lines and completed other preparations for the major operation.

TWO THIRTS

## Air Attacks Bombers Scout For Japanese Ships

By HENRY B. JAMESON  
LONDON—(AP)—Sharp air attacks hit Berlin last night a short time after Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels' Nazi propaganda speech, completed a "battle to death" plea to the German nation.

The stronger force of swift MacArthur's troops, which quickly bombed the island almost as soon as Goebbels left the air. At 10:45 a. m., a second group struck.

The operation, put Leyte under attack for the fourth night in a row. The Japanese navy, which had been ordered to defend the island, was completely destroyed.

Some Japanese are bottled up in the mountainous regions of the island, from north and south. They had two choices: flee into the mountains or stand and fight.

Spearheads of Maj. Gen. Frederick A. Irving's 24th Division, which have advanced 16th backbone of distance west of Palo, pushed spearheads of the 24th Division into the valleys. They drove through Santa Fe and Patras.

At the same time, Archduke's 2nd Division and Maj. Gen. James L. Bradley's 8th Division struck north above capture.

See YANK FORCES on page 11

## Japanese Tone Down Claims Of 'Victories'

LONDON—(AP)—Berlin indicated today that the Japanese press was recanting on its claims of great Japanese victories off Formosa and in the Philippines, quoting the Tokyo Asahi as warning "against too much optimism concerning Japanese successes."

"Premature optimism over the situation in the Philippines is out of place," the Berlin radio quoted the newspaper as saying.

"For example the number of Allied aircraft carriers in the Philippines is estimated at roughly 60 to 70 while the enemy lost only 34 at Quinson (Formosa) and the Philippines," the Asahi article was quoted as saying.

In addition Asahi reported that the Japanese had lost 400 planes in the two areas, the heaviest losses in machines suffered during the war.

Asahi said Gen. Douglas MacArthur was continuing to pour reinforcements ashore at Leyte "notwithstanding the severe blows" dealt by the Japanese.

"Yesterday an additional 200 troops were landed at Tacloban," Asahi said.

The broadcast said "seven more enemy planes were shot down," including five U. S. destroyers and two transports were heavily damaged and Japanese planes in Leyte Gulf.