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★★★★ Final

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YANKS HURL NAZIS BACK OVER RIVERS

Raiders Fly From Italy As Blows From Britain Halt

Bad Weather Stops Heavy Air Attacks On Germany

U. S. Losses Not High As Feared

LONDON — (AP) — U. S. Fifteenth Air Force heavy bombers from Italy apparently were striking Germany today as grey Wintry weather halted a two-day offensive by the British-based U. S. Eighth Air Force and the RAF.

Berlin broadcasts warned the Germans of raiders over Bavaria.

Losses of the Eighth Air Force in the flak-filled skies over oil plants and rail yards in Germany yesterday proved considerably less than the originally announced 56 bombers and 30 fighters. Sixteen bombers and seventeen fighters previously said to be missing were reported safe. This left 40 bombers and thirteen fighters still unaccounted for.

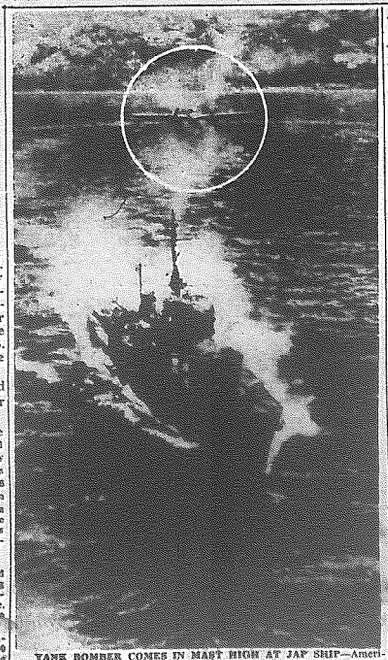
3,000 PLANES ATTACK

Some 3,000 planes had attacked synthetic oil plants in the Leipzig area and railyards about Saarbrucken. The Tactical Air Force, supporting ground troops, lost three medium bombers and one fighter.

Last night more than 100 Stallfaxes and Lancasters dropped 3,000 tons of fire bombs and explosives on the Rhine-Ruhr city of Duisburg, and two-ton blockbusters on Hamburg. Four of the raiders were lost.

Not since 63 U. S. bombers went down to combined ack-ack fire and fighter opposition over Berlin in April have Allied planes encountered such concentrated defense fire as they did yesterday, particularly in a 40-mile square area near Leipzig.

The German air force declined to come up in strength to oppose the massive formations of Fortresses and Liberators. Four enemy interceptors were shot down.



YANK BOMBER COMES IN MAST HIGH AT JAP SHIP—American B-25 Mitchell bomber swoops in mast high in attack on Jap destroyer-escort sinking through the waters of Ormoc Bay, Philippines, Nov. 10. (AP Wirephoto from Air Forces.)

Seventh Japanese Convoy Destroyed

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES—(AP)—Japan's disastrous attempts to replenish her Leyte garrisons have cost her 26,000 troops lost at sea in the destruction of seven convoys, the latest one on Thursday with 5,000 men and uncounted supplies aboard.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today that the low-flying American pilots sank a 9,000-ton transport and three small freighters headed toward the west coast port of Ormoc on Leyte. In addition, a 5,000-ton freighter and a destroyer were hit and left ablaze.

"The transports were heavily loaded with men," Gen MacArthur said in his communique, "and the enemy's loss of life is estimated at 5,000 men."

SECOND IN 2 DAYS

It was the second convoy destroyed in two days. On Wednesday, thirteen ships were wiped out, two at the dock after unloading but the rest sunk at sea with all hands aboard.

MacArthur said 29 transports totaling 103,750 tons and eighteen escort ships have been sunk in the seven convoys knocked out.

Fighters, hitting at masthead level, bagged the bulk of the carefully dispersed convoy off Mashate and Cebu but one small freighter, falling prey to a night patrol plane, was sunk as far west of Leyte as Mindoro Island.

Another freighter was sunk off Borneo during continued widespread bomber raids on the central Philippines and islands to the south, and a bomber scored a hit on what was described only as a "large enemy vessel."

JAP SUB SUNK

A submarine was sunk off western Leyte Monday by two destroyers of a force sent into these mined and dangerous waters to bombard Japanese installations.

Associated Press Correspondent Dean Schedler, aboard one destroyer, said the American ships made ready to take the survivors aboard but under the glare of searchlights "the Japanese could be seen holding objects that looked too much like grenades and guns for safety." The Japanese were left splashing in the sea.

Budapest Partially Evacuated

Germans Report Withdrawal

LONDON—(AP)—The German Radio said tonight that the eastern section of beleaguered Budapest was being evacuated.

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW — (AP) — Enveloping 50 more communities in their new drive west of the Danube in Southwestern Hungary, Russian troops today moved north to within 78 miles of outflanked Budapest and less than 100 miles of the Austrian border.

Moscow announced a nine mile advance north along the west bank of the great river yesterday. Northeast of the besieged Hungarian capital other Red Army troops seized the Axis strongholds of Eger and Salkszo which guard invasion routes into central Slovakia.

Russian troops also cut the railway between Miskolc, Hungary's fifth city, and Kassa (Kosice), eastern Slovakian communication link now threatened by Gen. Ivan Petrov's forces fanning out from captured Ungvar. The line was severed at Arnot, less than three miles northeast of Miskolc.

Petrov's troops, attacking on a 30-mile front, captured 30 villages, including Dercen, 20 miles east of Fenyer; Sotraviany, 23 miles east of Kassa, and Zemplin, seven miles northeast of the big earth Hungarian rail center of Satoraljaujhely.

In addition to capturing Eger and Szikszo, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's troops penetrated Kaca, ten miles northeast of Eger and 25 miles from the central Slovakian frontier.

Using captured Pecs, in southwestern Hungary, as a base, Russian and Yugoslav Partisan forces were driving northward toward one of the main railways which the Germans use to supply their forces of occupation at Zagreb in northern Yugoslavia.

Seven Die In Plane Crash

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—Seven were killed and 16 injured when a Transcontinental and Western Airlines passenger plane en route from San Francisco crashed in a heavy fog as it was nearing its destination at Burbank early today. The plane carried 20 passengers and three crew members.

City Manager Walter Cooper of San Diego was reported dead and Mayor Harley Knox of the same city was severely injured. The pilot and co-pilot were killed. The plane was in radio contact with Lockheed Airterminal, Burbank, shortly before the crash.

Some of the injured passengers told reporters that the plane lost altitude, began to jerk and then crashed after scraping along tree tops.

The officials said that at first it was reported seven military personnel on the plane were killed in addition to the two crew members but that the pilot, and co-pilot, because of their uniforms, were erroneously reported as military personnel.

WHO WOULDN'T SMILE?—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander of the ETO, wears a broad smile on his face, while seated in a jeep preparatory to starting on an inspection tour "somewhere on the Western Front." With his men smashing ever deeper into German territory, smiles are the "order of the day" for Gen. "Ike." (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from Acme.)

Thrown Over Roer & Saar Barriers To The Rhine

Gain In Eastern Tip Of France

PARIS — (AP) — Four American armies threw the Germans back across the Roer and Saar Rivers, chief northern and southern barriers to the Rhine, and broke through German defenses in the easternmost tip of France today.

U. S. First Army troops struck for the chief remaining keys of Nazi strength along the Roer southwest of Duren in the Cologne plain as Gen. Eisenhower daily increased the pressure on thinning enemy forces. Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' troops gained up to 400 yards in assaults directed at the Hurtgen Forest hamlets of Gey and Brandenberg.

Battling in the easternmost point of France above Strasbourg, the 15th Corps of the U. S. Seventh Army broke through the Germans' main defenses in the woods southwest of Haguenau and surged into the outskirts of that key communications center 28 miles southwest of Karlsruhe, Baden.

The U. S. Ninth Army of Lt. Gen. William Simpson already had drawn up in solid assault strength along the Roer and Inde rivers for a distance of 15 to 20 miles northwest of Duren when Hodges' men launched their attack for a similar footing along the stream southwest of Duren.

PATTON DRIVES

Lt. George S. Patton's U. S. Third Army surged up to Bitche on a front of at least 15 miles, solid against the Siegfried Line. His 10th Armored Division chased the Germans across the Saar River at Merzig.

The Ninth Army captured Wels and seized three-fourths of the hamlet of Beeck as it drew a tight arc around the Roer River town of Linnich on the road to the Rhineland city of Munchen Gladbach.

Beeck is three miles west of Linnich and already had been bypassed on either side at captured Lindern and Hoven. Its streets were filled with German dead as the result of a hail of American phosphorus shells. Patrols stabbed across the line.

On Simpson's right flank, the First Army was less than a mile from Brandenberg, which is little over a mile from the Roer at a point about 6 1/2 miles southwest of Duren.

VITAL VILLAGE

Gey is 3 1/2 miles southwest of Duren and three miles northeast of Hurtgen and is one of the

See YANKS THROW on Page 4

Germany's Strength

Hitler Has 6,000,000 Men To Fight But Quality Poor

By ROGER GREENE

21ST ARMY HEADQUARTERS—(AP) — Adolf Hitler now probably has about 6,000,000 troops to wage the climactic battle of Germany, including about 1,250,000 really fit men between the ages of 19 and 46, according to the best available information here.

Under the leadership of three commanders, Field Marshal Walther Von Model, Col. Gen. Kurt Student and Gen. Herman Balck, with Field Marshal Karl Dudolf Gerd Von Rundstedt as supreme chieftain in the West, the Nazi Fuehrer has more divisions massed on the Allied front in Western Europe than on D-Day. But they are far inferior in quality.

Von Model is commander of the northern group of German Armies in the west. Balck is in command of the southern group, and Student is a parachute expert apparently in command of German parachute troops.

On June 6 there were approximately 65 German divisions on the Western Front, compared with about 70 today. But when Gen. Eisenhower's forces stormed the beaches of Normandy a German division had an average strength of 17,000 men, according to information here. Today many Nazi divisions average less than 11,000 men, it is estimated.

Hammered incessantly and violently for nearly six months by Allied armies in the west, the enemy has been manufacturing divisions continuously but losing far

See HITLER HAS on Page 4

Two-Minute

News Roundup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

European Fronts

Allied troops on the southern sector of the Western Front have scored a major break-through toward the important Nazi-held supply center of Haguenau (Hahgnoh) in Eastern France.

The Fifth Corps of the American Seventh Army cracked the main Nazi defenses in the forest southwest of Haguenau. The Americans now are fighting in the western outskirts of the city, which is the biggest Nazi supply dump above captured Strasbourg. In addition, Haguenau is an old Maginot Line fortress on the railroad to the important German Rhine city of Karlsruhe (Karla-rooh-nay).

Other Seventh Army troops have moved south from Strasbourg to join French troops moving north from Mulhouse. Seventh Army forces have captured Stotzheim, sixteen miles southwest of Strasbourg. And French units are at least fifteen miles above Mulhouse. Other French troops near the Swiss border have taken the city of Huningue (Heo-nehng) on the west side of the Rhine River.

Up north on the embattled Cologne plain, American Ninth and First Army troops are massed along the Roer River line. The doughboys are fighting for three key Nazi towns on the roads to Cologne and Duesseldorf. The Ninth Army is within a mile of one strong-point at Linnich (Lee'-neeck). Doughboys also are about four miles from another key point, Julich, and American First Army troops are fighting four miles from the town of Duren.

Bad weather is limiting Allied support for ground forces on the Western Front. However, an American Marauder bomber formation attacked Nazi strong points on the Saar River. Other fighters and fighter bombers have hit five fortified villages on the Nazi side of the Roer River.

There are no new details of action on either the Russian or Italian fronts. In Moscow, the official Communist newspaper "Pravda" has praised military success and the Russian-British-American alliance. The "Pravda" article marked the first anniversary of the Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin conference at Teheran.

The Far East

Scottish troops have entered the Burma town of Pinwe, north of Mandalay. The Japs were driven out yesterday after two weeks of hard fighting.

The Japanese have sent still another convoy to its doom off Leyte Island in the Philippines. For the seventh time, American flliers have caught the enemy troops ships trying to reinforce the Jap garrison on Leyte. The latest toll is four vessels sunk and two set on fire. An estimated 5,000 Japanese soldiers perished. This brings the Jap losses in Leyte-bound convoys to 29 transports, eighteen escort vessels, and 26,000 men.

In addition, MacArthur's fliers have sunk a large enemy freighter off the island of Borneo. Aussie cat destroyers in Leyte Gulf have run up the score by sinking a Japanese submarine.

Home Front

Two Washington officials hinted today that Washington is going to be the site of the United Nations conference on world security. Chairman Sol Bloom of the House Affairs Committee says he has been informed that formal announcement of the plans for the conference will be made next week. And Senator Walter George of Georgia predicted that the United Nations meeting will be held in Washington in February.

From Port Niagara in New York state comes an Army note about how to save coal by taking showers in the right way. The shower rooms at the military post have posters asking the soldiers to use just enough hot water to get wet, turning off the water while using the soap and then using just enough water to wash off the soap. This one-two-three shower method was designed to save coal in the fort.

WEATHER

Fair and a little cooler today and tonight, with lowest temperatures tonight ranging from 20 to 25; fair and continued cold tomorrow.

Temperature at 2:30 Today 43
High & Low Last 24 Hours 48; 27
Sunset Today 6:12
Sunrise Tomorrow 8:16

Bad Omens For Hitler

Red Winter Offensive Looms

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Russia's view of what is now needed in the European war is "a vigorous assault by the armies of the United Nations to crush Hitler Germany with the shortest delay."

The statement in the Soviet Embassy information bulletin suggested the probability of an early Soviet offensive on the Polish front where the Red Armies stand nearest to Berlin. Anglo-American and Allied armies in the west already have a full scale assault in progress.

In the opinion of some top American military men this expected Red drive holds the main possibility for an early victory in Europe—early at least in comparison with Prime Minister Churchill's statement to Commons this week that Germany may not be defeated before Summer.

The lead article in the Embassy bulletin by a Red Army officer, Maj. Gen. N. Belayev, develops the theme that Germany is caught "in the vise between two fronts."

Russia's offensive last Summer, he says, following up enormous losses previously inflicted on Hitler's armies, "created the conditions in which the Anglo-American armies could successfully develop their operations in the West" by tying up 200 German divisions.

"Hitler Germany is now in the vise between two fronts which is what she feared most. She has no a single chance of salvation.

"The Red Army and the Anglo-American armies have taken up positions for decisive offensive against Germany's vital centers. What is now needed is a vigorous assault by the armies of the United Nations to crush Hitler Germany with the shortest delay."

In American military quarters there have been two principal schools of thought about Premier Stalin's Eastern front. One is that he has wanted to clean up and consolidate his positions in the Balkans this Fall, thus making it unfeasible to start a major campaign on the Polish front around Warsaw. The other is that the Russians prefer to fight a Winter offensive and as soon as the ground freezes will begin attacking in co-ordination with the already well-developed Allied assaults in the West.

Republicans Fight Board Appointees

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The Senate Republican Steering Committee agreed tentatively today to oppose confirmation of two of President Roosevelt's appointees to the Surplus War Property Board.

Chairman Taft, Republican, Ohio said it was his judgment most of the 37 Republican senators would vote against confirming former Gov. Robert A. Hurley of Connecticut, stated as chairman of the board, and Lieut. Col. Edward Heller, a War Department finance representative at Boston.

LOAN ISSUE

This development came as the Senate Military Committee was inquiring about the two nominees, with particular reference to a $2,000,000 loan made to the Narragansett Machine Co. Hurley is a vice president and Heller handled some of the inquiries into the loan, which was guaranteed by the War Department.

The department defended its guarantee and said it had found no grounds for criticism of Heller.

The Surplus Property Board was created to handle disposal of $100,000,000,000 in war supplies.

Taft told a reporter:

"We do not think these men are qualified. The surplus property disposal legislation was passed to take care of a tremendous job. The board should be made up of outstanding men, not some lame duck who has twice been rejected by the people of his own state."

Hurley, the democratic nominee, lost the race for the Connecticut governorship in the Nov. 7 election.

Taft said the Republicans had no particular objections to Heller, but believed some more outstanding person should be named. Senator Gillette, Democrat, Iowa, defeated for re-election, is expected to be nominated third member of the board in January.

Snowstorm Hits Moscow

MOSCOW—(AP)—Moscow had a heavy snowstorm today after a November which the press described as the mildest in 35 years. Grass is green in fields near the capital.

No beating of drums...

Just a reminder that

The Sad Sack

by Sgt. George Baker

Will Appear Five Days A Week In The Charlotte News Beginning Monday.

Don't miss the adventures of the most hopeless GI of the war.