

# WAR INTO SAARLAND

## Reds Smash German Defenses In Southwest Hungary

### WRECK NEAR MORGANTON

## Five Severely Injured As Autos Collide

**MORGANTON**—In the worst highway crash in North Carolina history nine persons were killed, six instantly, and five more were critically injured eight miles west of here today at 3 A. M. when two automobiles heavily loaded with passengers crashed head-on at terrific speed. All the dead are young people.

The cars crashed in the light of a full moon on Highway 78 between Morganton and Marion meeting head-on at a point at the bottom of two hills known throughout this section of the state as "Bottom Drop". Both cars were crushed by the terrific impact to a mass of twisted and twisted metal, wrapped around mangled dead and dying and the critically injured. Of the nine dead three were in a group condition when taken from the wreck and expected soon after reaching the hospital.

The dead, all from the vicinity of Glen Mine and Morganton, were: Mrs. M. J. Moore, Morganton, Route 1, a veteran of 33 months overseas service who had returned home Saturday for a seven-day furlough.

Pvt. Virgil B. Merrill, Sebo, Reata.

Pvt. Raymond Wood of near Glen Alpine.

## Soviets Make Grand Scale Double Drive

### Breach Appears Tragic To Berlin

**LONDON (AP)**—Ripping German defenses of southwestern Hungary wide open, a Russian avalanche tonight rolled north and west in a grand scale double drive from the rear and push toward the Austrian border.

A triumphant order of the day from Premier Stalin announced that in the last 24 hours Marshal Fedor Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian Army had lunged ahead 22 miles north toward Budapest and 150 miles northwest toward strategic Lake Balaton and captured more than 300 aircraft including the strong points of Kaszovar, Dombovar, Paks and Szekesvar.

"The breach appears tragic," said a Berlin commentator. "The Russians are not to crowd all Western Hungary and Budapest on a grand scale."

Simultaneously, the German Marshal Hiedy had been appointed military dictator of beleaguered Budapest "to keep internal order."

The radio said Hiedy, whom it did not further identify, had been appointed "supreme plenipotentiary" of the Hungarian capital. It held him to task to "look after internal order in agreement with the Soviet Government and the German Government and the Mayor." He was invested with the "right to issue orders to the German High Command and also bring pressure of a military nature on orders of the Government and the Mayor."

The capture of the multiple junctions and junctions immediately behind the German lines stretching from the Danube 55 miles south of Budapest across Hungary toward strategic Lake Balaton.

German forces in the northeast of the lake's southern end and is on the Budapest-Zsereb rail line, chief means of communication to Yugoslavia. Paks is 55 miles south of Budapest on the Danube. Dombovar and Szekesvar lie between the Danube and Kaszovar.

The drive places the Russians 14 miles south of Veszprém, 67 miles from the Austrian border.

Stalin ordered a victory salute of 20 salves from 234 guns.



**WHO'S DOWNHEARTED?**—Pouring rain, knee-deep mud, and the tough job of carrying wounded men to dressing stations in Eastern France, are all in a day's work to Pvt. James L. Poust, of Hughesville, Pa., whose motto seems to be "Keep Smiling." Here, he exhibits a mud-caked grin for the cameraman. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from Acme.)

## Fight Inside German City On Saar River

### Other Americans Fight House To House In Linnich And Imden

**A BATTALION COMMAND POST** outside SAARLUTERN was the scene of a bitter fight today as American troops fought their way today into Saarlautern on the west bank of the Saar River in Germany.

Great fires burned in the city after an aerial bombardment. From an observation post in the city, American troops could be seen fighting in Pilsdorf, half a mile southwest of Saarlautern, and two companies, reporting by radio, said they were several hours inside the city. They were backed by armored tank-destroyers blasting at strong points.

These units of the 95th Infantry Division penetrated the city from five directions.

**PARIS (AP)**—U. S. troops fought house to house in the German river stronghold of Linnich and Imden today and made slight progress southwest of Duren, but generally there were no gains in the bloody, ferocious battle on the Cologne plain.

The First Army was "fought to a standstill" by savage opposition and made only insignificant advances, a French dispatch declared. But in the holocaust German might was being whittled down in a decisive test.

The First Army has destroyed four German divisions and forced two others to pull back for replacements, while the U. S. Army in the west have taken more than 300 prisoners since Nov. 15. Great dispatches said.

**THIRD ARMY GAIN**

Units of the Third Army farther south gained a mile to a mile and a half at points today, with the Fourth Armored Division battering into the outskirts of Sarre Union, 21 miles southeast of Saarbrücken.

Seventh Army men hammered the German wedge just east of Strasbourg's outskirts where Germans held west bank approaches to three bridges. The latest information at Supreme Headquarters was that these Rhine bridges were still standing, although virtually closed to the Germans by artillery fire and badly pocked by shell holes.

Southwest of Strasbourg, Allied troops recaptured the Selestat, a Berlin broadcast said.

Troops of the Ninth Army fought in the Saar River valley between Linnich, within 15 miles of the Rhine delta in the twin cities of Rhine-Neunhagen and Gladbach. Other units struck back into Roerdorf and Flossdorf, lost earlier to the counter-charge.

First Army soldiers fought in the houses and cellars of Imden on the Saar River, attempting to force crossing, and still farther south made progress through wooded hills below the Saar toward the River. A German parachute troop attack near Gey cut deep into the German line, but was repulsed and contained. Another smaller attack in a different sector was being made with comparative ease.

On the British front in Holland, all was quiet save for the heavy fire and artillery fire staff officer declared the Germans all along the Western Front were suffering more casualties than they could replace with trained men. Comparative strength in some cases is down to 40 men, compared with the normal 160, he said.

**OS ALABAMA PLAN**

Below Strasbourg, armored units wheeled steadily down the Alsatian plain and liberated a dozen small villages, including the town of Boofheim, 16 miles south of Strasbourg.

See **YANK TROOPS** on Page 11A

**Two-Minute News Roundup**  
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Western Front**

American Ninth Army troops fighting on the Colmar plain made some gains today, but the German line remained in tact, according to the American First Army.

The British radio has quoted a British official as saying that the Ninth Army units now control most of the outskirts of Colmar, a major rail station on the Saar River line.

ERIC added that Ninth Army troops also have cleared the outskirts of the Saar River town of Linnich (see news), another enemy stronghold on the road to Cologne, Düsseldorf and Strasbourg-Gladbach.

First Army units secured only small gains in fighting for the high passes of Jelen "Erd" near Duren, where the German defending Duren are well armed with automatic weapons, and apparently have no ammunition shortage.

Heavily Nazi counter-attacks were repulsed on the American Third Army pushing toward the Saar area. Third Army units have captured a series of Nazi villages about eight miles from Saarbrücken.

On the Seventh Army front, American soldiers have pushed into the outskirts of the Nazi-held village of Eberbach (see news) in the extreme eastern part of France.

**Air Warfare**

American planes from Britain attacked German rail targets today, and at least 22 Nazi fighter planes were shot down in aerial combat. The German planes were destroyed by a force of 500 American fighter planes that scored 200 victories.

The American heavy bombers rained their Nazi defenses in the Colmar area on the Rhine, and 50 enemy fighter planes tried to intercept the attack.

**Russian Front**

The Red Army in southwestern Hungary has scored a new sweep. The Russians have captured more than 300 additional planes in southwestern Hungary since yesterday, knocking out at least four major Nazi airbases in what the Germans call their Zepelovka defense line. This line stretches across Hungary from the Danube River at a point 55 miles south of Budapest to the crossroads strategic Lake Balaton. The Red Army now is 28 miles from this line.

**Robs Bank**

**Bandit Uses Small Child As A Shield**

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.**—(AP)—A former Marine and his bride are held on robbery and kidnaping charges here, accused of using a "born-again" five-year-old child as a shield in robbing a bank.

Thomas Henry Lester, 26, formerly of Denver, Colo., and his wife of two weeks, June 22, were arraigned yesterday on charges that they had robbed the California Bank in Los Angeles when they allegedly robbed the California Bank in Los Angeles.

Police Capt. W. White said Lester limited a note to the assistant manager of the bank, which read: "Give me \$25,000 quick and don't notice anyone or both you and the baby will die. The kid is not mine and his life depends solely on your willingness to do as I tell you."

The couple was arrested after the child's mother, Mrs. Jack Gray, called the police. She said that while, saying they wanted to buy blue ice cream, she noted the couple's suspicious behavior and later notified police after she had told her of what had happened at the bank.

**Chinese City Ordered Evacuated**

**CHUNGKING**—The Kuomintang government today ordered evacuation of all its non-essential employees from the capital, Chungking, threatened by a Japanese offensive.

The evacuation of 200,000 inhabitants and thousands of refugees who had taken brief sanctuary there from other danger zones also were leaving.

## Yanks Down Yanks Repulse Jap

### 22 Germans 'Banzai' Charges

**LONDON**—More than 250 American heavy bombers attacked three railroad yards today in the Colmar area, 50 miles behind the German front, and at least 22 German planes were shot down when 50 escorting Thunderbolts and Mustangs tangled with 20 enemy fighters.

All raid warnings broadcast by Berlin indicated that American heavy bombers from Italy struck simultaneously at targets in Southern Germany.

It was the first time in almost two weeks that weather had permitted a synchronized daylight operation.

The bomber fleet which hit rail facilities in the Colmar area carried more than 1,000 tons of explosives.

Colmar is an important as a German supply base in the Southwest. It is a strategic, considered of crucial importance in the campaign to liberate all the Polish lands.

The Japanese launched several desperate attacks against the American 7th, which had been advancing slowly northward on the coast below Ormoc, the strategic Japanese-held port on western Leyte Island. The Nipponese have hurled many night counter-attacks against the 7th in that sector.

The weather also retarded air operations by both sides. Leyte-based American fighter planes roared through the murky overcast to bomb Japanese supply dumps in the Ormoc Bay area, and others attacked enemy supply lines in the Ormoc Valley and a suspected barge depot at nearby Cebu Island.

A few Japanese planes made desultory attempts to find targets but were apparently unsuccessful.

At the northern end of the Ormoc corridor, rain-soaked muscled troops of the American 32nd Division inched forward for a slight gain after three days of absolute stalemate under the tropical deluge.

**RAINS CONTINUE**

As the battle for Leyte Island entered its seventh week today, the torrential rain, souped with stubborn Japanese resistance, put an end to any American hopes for an early conclusion to the struggle, considered of crucial importance in the campaign to liberate all the Polish lands.

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## Nazi Fight Very Intense

**By WILLIAM WHITE WITH U. S. PRESS ASSOCIATES**

**GERMANY**—(AP)—The First Army today is fighting in a small and insignificant battle. The slow process of grinding down German forces went unnoted on the front.

But the Germans have been fighting with cool savage ability such as they never have exhibited before in the entire Western Front campaign.

**RUNSTEDT IS BOSS**

So-called "Prober" fought the high American staff officer declared tonight that it was clear that Hitler had returned from Berlin to run the army in the west and was leaving it to Field Marshal Von Rundstedt.

"Where Hitler would have been running around screaming and shouting orders like 'retake Aachen by 5:15 today' Von Rundstedt has been using old and classic methods," the counter-charge.

"The people he is using his quiet action on this front to bring up and to seal off the Western Front."

"In this campaign you can see that Rundstedt's professional and his own ability is off in his dream world again. The result has been very telling and the enemy's recognition and his resurgence have been remarkable in these last two months."

## Nazi Threat Says Gotham To Be Hit By V-3 Weapon

**LONDON**—(AP)—A Stockholm dispatch quoted Nazi labor minister Albert Speer, yesterday as saying that Germany's V-3 weapon would be ready for firing against New York City by December 15.

No intimation was given as to the nature of V-3, if such a weapon has been perfected.

**New York Ready If Nazi Start Attack**

**NEW YORK**—(AP)—Commissioner of the Port of New York and Chief Albert Speer, yesterday said that New York City is ready for a V-3 attack today. "Our services are ready to go," he said.

Mayor F. W. La Guardia yesterday said that the city is ready for an attack. "We are ready to go," he said.

Declaring that "it is not possible to say whether or not we will be hit," he said that the city is ready to go.

"We are ready to go," he said.

## Claim Allied Losses High

**By ASSOCIATED PRESS**

The Berlin broadcast, a communiqué from Field Marshal Carl Rudolf Gerd Von Rundstedt, said that the Allies had probably lost more than 50,000 men in dead and wounded of the Western Front in November.

The Allies also lost 1,400 tanks, 1,000 armored cars, 52 aircraft, 200 captured and destroyed or captured during the month, while 3,000 Allied soldiers were captured.

The heaviest loss for Eisenhower is the 140th tank, which represented 10 to 12 complete tank divisions, and at least a quarter of the total number of Allied tanks at the Western Front," the communiqué declared.

"It must be taken into consideration that the first major battle for Aachen did not begin until Nov. 17, so only 15 days of this battle could be expressed in figures."

See **RAIDERS** on Page 11A

## 'Escape' From Russians Doolittle Raiders Back Home

**WASHINGTON**—(AP)—The latest of Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle's "Tokyo raiders" by the Soviet Union, and left a year later.

By a bit of fast talking, the crew of the captured plane, when they first came down without gasoline at an airport near Vladivostok.

They told the Russians their plane should be awarded the privilege of being returned to the United States to be put into a neutral port, and they were given a "dacha" or country house. The U. S. military attaché, Col. Joseph A. Michela.

The next morning, however, the officers found they had been interned under international law, and were not permitted to return to the plane.

The United States Embassy, then headed by Admiral William H. Standley, was notified through a messenger from the Soviet diplomatic agent in the Far East, and under took to make contact with the crew.

They turned up in the central Russian town of Penza between Moscow and Kulshev, where they were given a "dacha" or country house. The U. S. military attaché, Col. Joseph A. Michela.

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