

# THE CHALLENGE OF THE NEWS

## Superforts Again Lash At Targets In Japan

### Nagoya Struck In New Attack

By Associated Press  
About 100 Superfortresses attacked the aircraft city of Nagoya today, a Nipponese Imperial communiqué reported a few hours after the U. S. War Department announced a series of attacks on industrial targets on the Japanese home island of Honshu.

The 21st Bomber Command on Saipan announced the third attack on Nagoya in the early afternoon.

Returning to the huge aircraft manufacturing center, the first Superfortresses over the city bombed through an overcast in the early afternoon.

Other formations kept coming over the target area for 100 hours and a half.

Brig-Gen. Emmett O'Donnell Jr., commander of the operational organization, described today's raid as a "return engagement."

The Nipponese communiqué claimed ten B29s were shot down. A Dow News Agency broadcast, received by the Federal Communications Commission, said "the enemy raiders dropped bombs and incendiaries at random."

### ATTACK IN WAVES

An early dawn dispatch said the Superforts attacked in waves for an hour and a half, hitting the prefecture of Shizuoka, Aichi and Osaka on the east coast of Honshu.

Nagoya, whose two big Mitsubishi aircraft plants have been heavily bombed recently was described as "their main target area." It is in Aichi prefecture.

The War Department announcement described the attacking flight as a "substantial force of B29s from Briz. Gen. See SUPERFORTS on Page 4"

### Two-Minute News Roundup

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Western Front

The German offensive is slowing up but the Germans already are about 60 miles inside Belgium. The Nazi advance is revealed in a dispatch from British Field Marshal Montgomery's Western Front headquarters on the sector north of the German offensive in the front. Montgomery is said to have consulted with American generals on the German front.

#### Home Front

President Roosevelt has made a Christmas suggestion for the home front. Mr. Roosevelt said the best present for our fighting boys is to let them get their letters to their boys, and keep supplying to the Armed Forces.

## From Gamble To Defeat? Eisenhower Calls Upon Men To Destroy Nazi Attackers

PARIS — (AP) — The Germans are taking a last great gamble, Gen. Eisenhower said today in an Order of the Day calling upon his army to destroy the enemy.

LEAVING DEFENSES

"The enemy is making his supreme effort to break out of the desperate plight into which you forced him by your brilliant victories of the Summer and Fall," Eisenhower told his troops. "He will completely fail."

"We will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory."

"The Order of the Day was addressed 'To Every Soldier of the Supreme Command'."

Following is the text of the order:

"The enemy is making his supreme effort to break out of the desperate plight into which you forced him by your brilliant victories of the Summer and Fall. He is fighting savagely to take back all that you have won and is using every trick of deceit and kill you. He is gambling everything, but already in this battle your gallantry has done more to foil his plans in the face of your proven bravery and fortitude, he will completely fail."

"But we cannot be content with his mere repulse."

"By rushing out from his fixed defenses the enemy may give us the chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat. So I call upon every man of all the Allies to rise now to new heights of courage, of resolution and of effort. Let everyone hope before him a single thought—to destroy the enemy on the ground, in the air, everywhere—destroy him!"

United in this determination and with unshakable faith in the cause for which we fight, we will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory."

"Signed,"

"Dwight D. Eisenhower."

## ELAS Army On March

ATHENS — (AP) — An ELAS Army of 15,000 to 20,000 strong was reported today to be moving in an irregularly held by British guerrillas of the Greek National Liberation Army (ELAS) in the mountains of Greece.

Greece informed British authorities that the ELAS force already had entered its territory in Epirus and was making on Drivaski Plateau, overlooking the town of Ioannina, which has been its headquarters.

The British said ELAS claimed that Albanians were among the forces threatening the ELAS territory.

## End Is Near Pocketed Japs Being Destroyed

GENERAL McARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines — (AP) — Yank pinners have snatched shut on the hapless Japanese on northwest Leyte, and pocketed Nipponese troops are being destroyed while American planes range over the Philippines from a new base on Mindoro, less than 150 miles south of Manila, headquarters reported today.

Scattered Japanese units are being frantically slipped through gaps from the east and get to Palompon. Today's communique reported that an additional 2,000 enemy dead had been counted in the closing stages of the Leyte campaign.

On Mindoro, which has the advantage of being on the western side of the Philippines where tropical rains do not fall as they have on Leyte, the air base completed there in five days already is demonstrating its importance. The communique said that Mindoro's 20 enemy raiders Wednesday at a cost of one plane.

#### Eastern Front

Moscow has not yet confirmed Berlin claims that the Red Army has started a new drive in Latvia. Berlin radio said 27 Soviet divisions are in the new assault, launched along a 22-mile front in the area about 60 miles from the port of Riga.

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#### Christmas Paper

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#### Belgium Urged To Leave Homes

LONDON — (AP) — An enemy radio station began broadcasting in Belgium today, urging them to leave their homes.

Obviously intended to complicate the Allied military task by causing confusion among the Belgians, as in 1940, the announcer told the Belgians:

"Leave your homes and flee. German armies are using heavy weapons against you. A single human being will remain alive in your homes where these weapons will be used."

## Momentum Of Attack Dulled By Americans

48-Hour News Delay Cloaks Latest Actual Positions, However

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS — (AP) — The Germans' Winter offensive slowed down today after a 40-mile penetration into Belgium, field dispatches reported, and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower called upon all his armies to administer a crushing defeat.

The German High Command said several spearheads crossed the Ourthe River, which at one point in its meandering course is seven miles west of Werbomont, the deepest previously announced point of the enemy's dagger-like wedge. At this point the river is about 30 miles from the Meuse at Namur and about sixteen miles south of Liege, also on the Meuse.

The Ourthe is about 40 miles inside Belgium.

The Germans also told of fighting on both their flanks. They named the localities of Bugehenich and Lagelle, four miles northwest of Stavelot, as focal points on the Condroz, southwest of Biersheim, and Waldruer, three miles northwest of Condroz, were listed as centers of attack on the south.

Supreme Headquarters declared Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt had made a last great gamble in coming out of his fixed defenses and called upon every man under his command to turn the opportunity into the enemy's "worst defeat."

The offensive "will completely fail," he declared.

Supreme Headquarters still imposed a 48-hour delay on announcements of the actual positions. The first announcement from headquarters was not made until late today and it was scheduled to cover developments only to Wednesday night.

But dispatches from the British Canadian Army group today reported the 40-mile penetration and said Von Rundstedt's smash had lost much of its momentum in the Ourthe.

Part of the course of the winding Ourthe is about seven miles west of Werbomont on the Liege-Bastogne highway, which is the deepest German penetration reported by the Allies, and approximately 40 miles west of the Belgian border.

"All enemy attempts to hold our attacks in Southern Belgium were smashed yesterday," said the communique.

CLAIM ST. VITH

Capture of St. Vith and its salient was claimed.

Surprise attacks in central Luxembourg also were continuing successfully, where German armor clashed.

The announcement said German armor had forced the withdrawal of strong formations from other assault fronts.

The Berlin Radio said some of the forces withdrawn to meet the German thrust were from Third Army units, which had been in American positions east of the Saar had been abandoned.

All the Third Army's "available units" have most probably been shifted to the front, he broadcast, which asserted that one position east of the Saar that was abandoned was Eschdorf, near Saarlautern.

Prisoners taken in the German offensive had mounted to 25,000, Berlin said. This was 3,000 more than reported by Berlin yesterday.

The broadcast admitted, however, that the fighting was still "fiercely" was growing increasingly hard and bloody."

## Eastern Front Reds Drive Near Slovak Rail City

MOSCOW — (AP) — Russian shock troops wedged deeper into Southern Slovakia today while new operations by two powerful Russian Army groups threatened to seal off the beleaguered Bratislava from the west.

British military authorities said the Soviet Second Ukrainian Army drove to within 100 miles east of the big Slovak rail city of Looze (Lancos), within 20 miles of Bratislava, the Slovak capital, in the vicinity of Rimavskabystrica, on the Kassa-Lozse Highway.

Fall of Rimavskabystrica opened an important gateway into the Matra Mountains and brought the front within sight for an isolated force of Slovak Patriots estimated at 25,000.

NAZIS ALARMED

The Germans admitted alarm over the assumption of Soviet pressure on the west side of the Danube in the vitally strategic zone between Budapest and Bratislava, where Marshal Fedor Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian Army mounted early this month to build up greater striking power.

The new strike by Tolbukhin's forces, already linked with elements of the Security Chinese Army, would be to blast through the German flank pinned on positions between Budapest and Bratislava, and on the fortress city of Szekesfehar.

The Germans also confessed nervousness over Red Army attacks in the vicinity of the great bend in the Danube northeast of Budapest, where the river veers west toward Austria.

Reports announced yesterday that 100,000 Soviet troops had backed out onto a 40-mile front west of Budapest in a new offensive aimed at taking the Hungarian capital from the rear and surrounding the city in a pincer movement to Vienna. The Nazis said Soviet-advance already was underway.

## British To Draft More Soldiers

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Later Churchill's office announced tonight.

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The British said ELAS claimed that Albanians were among the forces threatening the ELAS territory.

## Nazis Claim Long Gains

LONDON — (AP) — The German High Command said today "our spearhead advanced farther to the west and established several bridgeheads across the Ourthe River."

Part of the course of the winding Ourthe is about seven miles west of Werbomont on the Liege-Bastogne highway, which is the deepest German penetration reported by the Allies, and approximately 40 miles west of the Belgian border.

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## Nazis Make Bold But Costly Moves

By KENNETH L. DIXON WITH AMERICAN ARMIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, 8:55 A.M. — (AP) — The bulk of Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's German offensive force appeared temporarily blunted this morning, forced to turn aside in some sectors and to proceed at a slower pace.

Generally speaking the American northern flank is holding firm against repeated counter-attacks. On the southern flank the defensive situation also seemed slightly improved, although still confused.

Enemy detachments, weaving behind our lines were managing to create considerable havoc in the rear areas, but in one instance overrunning a unit's command post.

However, individual counter-penetrations usually were proving costly to the enemy, with the doughboys subsequently rolling off the offensive points and isolating those units.

Such tactics resulted in the destruction of 55 German tanks in one sector alone yesterday. Many others, however, still are at large within our lines, as are scattered groups of enemy infantrymen.

An enemy counter-attack involving ten tanks and two companies of infantry was repulsed at dusk last night on a newly active point of the front, some 30 miles south of the city of Luxembourg.

Another enemy attack in force was repulsed in the early morning. However, its direction continued westward rather than north as it reinforced by a American armor and men bent of repeated efforts to turn upward through the northern flank.

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