

# Tells Story Of Invasion

By Austin Bealhear  
 AN FTH USAF PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE BASE—30 Allied landing forces have established beachheads on the coast of Northern France and are shaking their way inland. The first photo reconnaissance pilots back from the scene of the initial thrust said today.

From a ringside seat only 300 feet above the burning, smoking rim of the continent, two airmen watched the Allies strike the first blow.

One is Lt. Col. C. A. Shoop, Beverly Hills, Calif., a former Army test pilot who arrived in this theater six weeks ago and became commander of this group only yesterday and flew his first mission today.

The other is Maj. Norris Hartwell Jr. of Cheveron, Wis., formerly acting commander of this unit.

They've established some good beachheads, Shoop said. "There were lots of burning buildings and bomb craters," Hartwell declared. "Tanks were burning all over the place."

"Shoop said the Channel was 'full of our warships' but that no German Naval vessels were around.

"I don't know whether the enemy was surprised or not, but we didn't see any opposition to our ground forces."

**WARSHIP SHILLING**  
 "At each location along the beaches our warships were standing off throwing in shells. There were groups of ships both coming and going across the Channel. Some of them were hit once and they were as close to the shore as they could possibly get. I think their fire was being thrown pretty far in."

Shoop added that "We could see our troops advancing across the ground at one place. At one locality we saw a group of planes on the ground. We didn't see any air opposition, but we got down to 500 feet and the ground fire was pretty heavy."

As usual these photo pilots flew unarmed, each carrying four cameras instead of guns. They penetrated 25 miles inland and ranged up and down the coast, taking a total of 1,449 pictures.

Men like these shot thousands of pictures covering every foot of Nazi Europe in recent weeks to aid in planning the Atlantic invasion operation.

Hartwell said the only opposition to Naval forces was furnished by ground batteries and their fire "apparently was almost as heavy as ours," Hartwell said.

"You could see the sun lighting buildings and every now and then you'd see a building explode."

"The air was very clear with our planes—all kinds. Visibility was good when we arrived but smoke began coming from the sea and it was pretty thick by the time we left."

Both pilots said they saw not a single person in the streets of the towns even before the bombardment got well underway, indicating the civilian population was complying with Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's request to get out of the way.

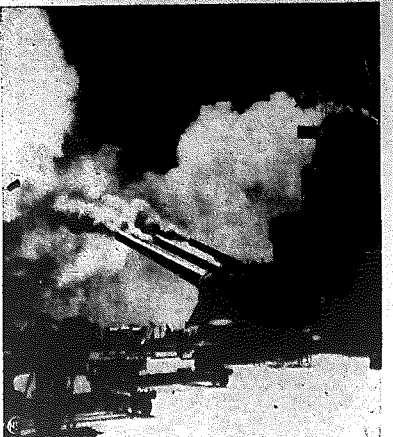
"Of the landing operations Shoop said "Everything seemed to be moving very fast. I saw many of our troops running."

It was a great shock," he summarized. "It looked like a newspaper picture I had seen of other invasions."

# INVASION--Scenes Such As These Are Being Enacted Today In France



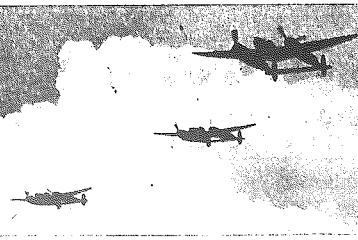
**CONVOYS** of troop transports and cargo ships by the hundreds carry men, machines and supplies to the shores marked for invasion. Barrage balloons protect vessels from dive bombers, while escort warships watch for submarines.



**WARSHIPS** guard convoys, engage the enemy's fleet and shell axis defenses at invasion points.



**BOMBERS** had enemy's guns, troop concentrations and installations to soften up area for attack.



**FIGHTERS** form an umbrella over the attacking troops to protect them from enemy air attack.



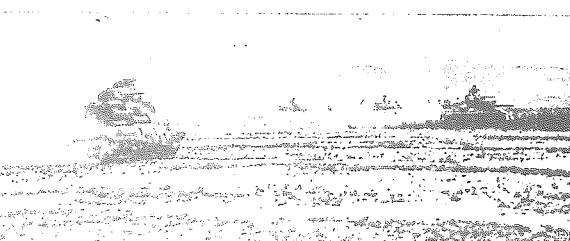
**GUERRILLAS** and underground agents spring to action behind lines in occupied countries.



**TROOPS** from the sea swarm ashore from invasion barges launched by the convoy ships. Initial landing groups establish beachheads so larger forces can land and push inland.



**TROOPS** from the air land behind axis lines, cut foe's communications. Paratroops come first, seize fields so airborne troops, jeeps, tanks in places and gliders may land.



**TANKS** hold the line and battle, crush the enemy's defenses, knock out his armor and spearhead the advance. Jeeps, trucks, half tracs and infantry support the tank action.



**GUNS** of the field artillery and other mobile weapons shell enemy positions, knock out his tanks to clear the way for our advance. Engineers fix roads, bridges as enemy retreats.

# Nazis Claim Tanks Shot

LONDON—(AP)—German forces, launching a counterattack, knocked out 35 heavy Allied tanks at Amies in the Seine Bay area today by noon, a DNB report from Berlin said today.

"Numerable barriers on the beaches are rendering enemy landings extremely difficult," the German account declared.

"In the area west of Cherbourg, German counter-thrusts are making good progress. The enemy now, as before, is throwing the bulk of his landing force into the area between Cherbourg and Oysterham, the western part of the Seine Delta."

"Another center of gravity developed between Caen and Isigny (at the mouth of the Orne River)."

Another German broadcast reported, "The Allies reached the coast today with several tank groups and advanced several kilometers to the south."

"Particular attention was made at the small coastal place of St. Vaast La Hougue."

"Heavy artillery units developed between German coastal batteries and Allied Naval forces. Thereby one cruiser and a major landing craft laden with troops and heavy arms were sunk by direct fire."

The broadcast added that flat landing boats penetrated the Orne and Vire estuaries under artificial fog and "tried to carry out landing operations on a major scale in the rear of the Atlantic Wall."

The broadcast said that the Germans expected new landings in the area of St. Malo, west of the Cherbourg Peninsula.

It described airborne divisions in action at the Ploeghe and British divisions in the Seine area and the American 28th and 100th on the Normandy Peninsula.

# The German Communique

LONDON—(AP)—Tuesday's German High Command communique as broadcast by Berlin radio said that the enemy began his long prepared and by us long-expected attack on Western Europe.

After having made heavy air attacks on our coastal fortifications by day and by night, German troops at several points of the northern French coast began their attack on the night of June 5 and 6, and simultaneously supported by strong land forces he landed also from the sea.

In the attack on coastal stretches embittered fighting is in progress.

In Italy the enemy from Rome made several unsuccessful thrusts against our positions west and north of the city. East of the city enemy attacks launched with concentrated forces on the night of June 5 and 6, and west of Civitavecchia after an embittered struggle.

Fishers and flocks of the Luftwaffe Command downed eight enemy aircraft over the upper Italian areas.

At the east front German and Romanian troops effectively supported by some German and Romanian Air Force formations in embittered fighting made further progress northwest of the city. In the area of the city enemy attacks launched with concentrated forces on the night of June 5 and 6, and west of Civitavecchia after an embittered struggle.

From other sources on the eastern front there are reports of local fighting actively only in the Vitebsk area.

# Carbon Plant To Celebrate

Hundreds of walk-talky battery makers at the National Carbon Co. plant here will gather at 8 P. M. today on the wide grass lawn there to celebrate what was described as an outstanding production record set last week.

The winner must will be informed, and will be attended by plant executives and the workers on each of the two shifts. The hour of P. M. was selected as that all employees could be present without interfering with production of these batteries, now being produced by the thousands for Army Signal Corps combat rations.

This plant recently went on a seven-day work week in response to an appeal from the Army for still greater production at this critical period. C. H. Orr, plant manager, said that the Army is credited splendidly to the request for longer hours and more batteries, and those workers here assured today that many hundreds of their batteries now are in service with the Allied invasion forces in France.

Executives of a number of other departments of the plant will also be present, and the Quartermaster General will officiate at this celebration as special guests.

# Rufus Ledford Succumbs Here

Rufus Hudson Ledford, 59, died at his home, 722 N. DuRoi St., after a long illness.

Born in Georgia on March 3, 1885, Mr. Ledford was the son of John Ledford and Josephine Ledford.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Clara Ledford, a son, P. E. Ledford of Atlanta, two sisters, Mrs. M. Alexander of Akron, Ohio, and Mrs. Lena Duke of Atlanta, and a daughter, W. H. Ledford of Atlanta.

Funeral services will be held at 11 o'clock morning at the Hicks Chapel and burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery. Dr. G. H. Jordan pastor of the First Methodist Church will officiate.

" pallbearers will be Steve Delinger, Bob Todd, Grady Jaffer, Travis Ledford, Bill Ivy, and Willie Taylor.

Rev. M. C. Chalmers, funeral home catcher, broke into organized ball with Harbinger in the New York-Penn League in 1922.

**UPSET STOMACH**  
 "Dopto-Bismol" is good for that.

**ZORIC CLEANING**  
 Domestic Laundry, Inc.  
 5173—Phones—3-7115

# Claim Berlin Not Excited

LONDON—(AP)—German propagandists asserted today that despite the invasion of Western Europe, the continued normal in Berlin with no special radio announcements.

But as a part of these assertions obviously were false.

From the time of the first landing a constant stream of German broadcasts—many of them carried more than an hour later in Hitler's defense along the Western Coast had been carried.

The German account today was quoted by DNB as saying the Allies opened the invasion on the coast of Normandy.

A DNB extra bulletin asserted the German propagandists "failed to mention the fact of the Allied bombings of Berlin."

# THE GREAT INVASION

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# J. Will Elliott Taken By Death

J. Will Elliott, 72, died yesterday afternoon at his home, 1115 E. 10th St., after a long illness.

Mr. Elliott was born in North Carolina and came to Charlotte in 1905. He was a member of the First Methodist Church and the Y. M. C. A.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. J. Will Elliott, and two children, J. W. Elliott and J. W. Elliott.

Funeral services will be held at 11 o'clock morning at the Hicks Chapel and burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery. Dr. G. H. Jordan pastor of the First Methodist Church will officiate.

# Allied Leaders Take Gigantic Gamble In Tricky Sea-Borne Invasion

Allied forces, striking the blow which they expect to end the war in Europe, have attacked the most difficult of all military operations— invasion.

Their attack is being carried out by sea. The Allies have used the most modern of military equipment and the most modern of military tactics.

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# Nazi Spokesman Tells Of Invasion

LONDON—(AP)—The German news agency DNB communique today declared that the "Great counter-offensive between the West and the Anglo-American has begun."

"The Allied landing in the west today has put the German armed forces in the most difficult position in their history. They are being attacked from the sea and from the air. They are being attacked from the sea and from the air. They are being attacked from the sea and from the air."

# Dutch Warned To 'Be Ready'

NEW YORK—(AP)—The London radio, in a Dutch language broadcast, urged the Dutch to be ready for the invasion.

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At the present moment when the Allied invasion of Western Europe is in its very first stages, nothing can be said yet about the tactical and operational developments.

We can only stress the significance of the invasion with which the German Wehrmacht is being the enemy's onslaught. In our opinion, the invasion is at least as important as the number of soldiers and the quantity of their equipment.