

YANKS DRIVE NAZIS Allies Capture Myitkyina, Major Jap Base In Burma EIGHTH ARMY EAGLES FLORENCE

Troops In Tuscan City Outskirts

Find Five Of Six
Bridges Destroyed

By NOLAN NORGAARD
ROME (AP)—South
African troops of the British
Eighth Army entered the
outskirts of Florence today
and found five of the six
bridges crossing the Arno
River into the historic art
treasure chest had been de-
stroyed by the retreating
Germans.

The most noted of the bridges,
the Pontevecchio, alone was left
standing and it was blocked by
the demolition of houses on both
approaches.

STOUT DEFENSE
Florence, a city of 322,000
population, had been stoutly de-
fended by the Germans for weeks as
one of the strongest outposts of
their Gothic Line in the Apennines
rising to the north.

The Germans were on the run
back through Florence, and their
guns flashed from the peaks
which rise behind the beautiful
Tuscan city.

Had forces departed last night
from a ridge south of the city.
From that vantage point today
AP correspondents saw flames
leaping behind the city and
saw to smoke and flames.

The New South Wales drove
the Germans from high ground
north of Florence in the advance
toward the city.

The last defenses of Florence
were captured only after heavy
fighting. The city was then
looted and the Germans fled
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Police Ride Few Trains Running At Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Roving bands of strikers
threatened violence today to workers attempting to restore
service on Philadelphia's Government-subsidized transportation
lines and at the Army's request—police were assigned
to ride all trolleys, busses, subway trains and "El" trains
to protect operators.

May Gen. Philip Hayes of the
Third Service Command, who took
control of the system last night
on President Roosevelt's orders,
said persons with apparent enemy
sympathies were attempting to pre-
vent resumption of service.

This afternoon hours after the
Army's 5 A. M. (EWT) deadline
only 14 trains were in continuous
operation on the market street
"El" and eight in the Broad Street
subway tube compared with a
rush hour total for both lines of
77. No buses moved in this busy
war-time metropolis of 2,000,000
and only the trolleys on one route
operated.

In Washington, Attorney Gen-
eral Biddle ordered an immediate
investigation to determine whether
any Federal laws had been vio-
lated, with particular attention
directed to possible violation of
the Smith-Connally anti-strike
act.

The stoppage, which began
Tuesday morning in protest
against the upgrading of Negro
transit employees, had stranded
hundreds of thousands, cur-
tailed vital war production and
given rise to riot violence.

Even as the Army took over,
new clashes between whites and
Negroes broke out.

See POLICE RIDE on page 6

Reds Driving Toward Borders Of Silesia

By DANIEL DE LUC
MOSCOW (AP)—Russian forces which smashed the
German Vistula River line advanced swiftly today to within
94 miles of German Silesia while other army groups in the
north shelled towns and villages inside East Prussia from
positions three miles from the
border.

RUSSIAN FORCES
Russian forces moved within 50
miles of Krakow, fifth city of old
Poland, and within 20 miles of
Warsaw, Poland's capital, today.
In this area west of the
Vistula, some 110 miles below
the German line, Russian forces
were within 20 miles of Warsaw
and 50 miles of Krakow.

Official sources were silent
on the latest advances, where
they were, however, they were
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Long Siege Concluded In Victory

New Phase Of
Campaign Ahead

By CHARLES A. GRUMICH
SOUTHWEST ASIA COM-
MAND HEADQUARTERS,
KANDY, Ceylon (AP)—
American, Imperial and Chinese
forces have captured
Myitkyina, major Japanese base
in northern Burma, after a
bitter and bloody siege that
began last May 17, it was
announced today.

At least 3,000 Japanese were
slain during the 2 1/2
months of fighting. The last
remnants of the garrison either
were killed or captured in the final
mop-up of this largest city in
northern Burma.

The victory gave the Allies con-
trol of two Myitkyina airfields and
an important road and rail junction
on the upper Irrawaddy River for
a prospective link-up with
Chinese forces in Yunnan to the
east in a combined effort to open
a land route to China.

Forward Allied troops in North
Burma are firmly established prob-
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advance elements of the Chinese
moving westward. Possibly patrol
forces in Yunnan to the east in
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Special Court Set Up For Purging Of German Army

LONDON (AP)—Berlin announced today a special
court of honor had been set up to purge the German Army
of elements hostile to Hitler, and said eleven officers
including a field marshal already had been fired or jailed.

The announcement said nine
officers accused of participating
in the plotting for the July 20
bomb attack upon Hitler were
sentenced to death by their own hands
and five by execution.

Col. Gen. Ludwig Beck, former
Army chief, was listed among the
four "traitors who pleaded guilty
by committing suicide." The five
officers put to death included
Gen. Friedrich Olbricht and Count
Glaus von Stauffenberg—the latter
allegedly placed the bomb aimed
at Hitler—were "executed by
shooting" the day of the assassina-
tion. The court of honor was
headed by the field marshal.

The ousted Marshal was Er-
win von Witzleben, one of
the leaders of the storming of
the Maginot Line.

The Army has requested
Hitler to carry out a purge in
the Army to cleanse it of the
July 20 traitors, the broadcast
announcement said, and added
that the Fuehrer had ap-
proved.

This inquiry into Germany's
military set-up was disclosed along
with Nazi Party measures to
strengthen the home front for
the utmost war effort.

"Soldiers ousted by the Fuehrer
have no right to be mentioned
together with those who are fight-
ing for Germany's existence," the
announcement said. "The court of
honor will therefore be tried by the
Fuehrer himself."

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to be headed by the field marshal.

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Doughboy Tide About To Cut Off Peninsula

Great Area Of Brittany Believed
To Be In Hands Of Americans

By GLADWIN HILL
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITION-
ARY FORCE (AP)—Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's dynamite
team of armor and infantry has driven close to St. Nazaire
and practically completed the slicing off of the Breton
Peninsula it was pushed to fight.

The dashing pace of the Americans, driving across
Brittany in more than half a dozen directions, was believed
to have established them in a much greater area than the
65 mile wedge, 30 miles wide, which official communiques
and latest war correspondents' reports showed.

The latest correspondents' dispatches said the doughboy
tide, spreading twenty miles southward of the central com-
munications hub of Rennes, were within 40 miles of St.
Nazaire, the Nazi U-boat base which British commandos
partly worked in March, 1942, using an old U. S. destroyer
as a time bomb.

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U. S. Bombers Hit Targets In Germany

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR
LONDON (AP)—More than 1,200 U. S. heavy bom-
bers attacked a variety of targets in Germany today, includ-
ing the Peenemuende experimental station where the enemy
develops flying bombs and rockets.

Other targets included:
A fighter plane plant and air-
field at Ahlhorn, 47 miles north-
west of Berlin.

An aircraft assembly plant at
Rostock, at the Baltic, 110 miles
northeast of Berlin.

Pier installations at the great
base of Kiel.

An oil refinery at Bremen.

LONG ROUNDUP
The planes made a flying round-
trip of about 1,200 miles to the
German Baltic coast town of
Prenzlau, 100 miles north of
Berlin.

Before dawn, bombers from
Italy and Britain scourged German
supply routes across France.

Weather cleared today over
most of Europe, enabling the Ger-
mans to use fully their over-
whelming air power, beginning
with a series of dawn raids. It
was the first time in more than a
week that the weather was de-
scribed as "excellent" by German
officials. The Luftwaffe's heavy
bombers dumped their lethal loads
swiftly.

The Germans reported violent
air battles over northwestern Ger-
many, and asserted that many
American planes were destroyed.

Early in the day, British and
American planes from Italy bom-
bed the south of France rail yards
at Portes Les Valence and bridges
near Nice and communications in
the Po Valley of Northern Italy.

The Russians were reported bom-
bing and strafing East Prussian vil-
lages and railroads in the path of
threatening Red Army.

It was a second heavy U. S.
Sloan at Prenzlau since the Ger-
mans began evacuating their
robot planes and communications in
Southern England. On July 18, about
750 bombers severely damaged 40
plants making hydrogen and hy-
drogen peroxide, used in launching
the flying bombs.

In widespread operations yester-
day, Allied planes from Britain,
Italy and Russia destroyed 108
German plants, communications an-
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Robot Bombs Are Blasted

By RICHARD R. KASCHKE
LONDON (AP)—The flying bomb
barrage against London tapered off
today after a night in which British
flamethrower defenses knocked down
robots to the score.

A few buzz bombs slipped through
the defenses, however, exploding in
London and Southern England.
Many more fell to such defenses
as fighter planes, ground fire and
barrage balloons.

Coastal watchers described the
battle in the mouth of the Channel
as a "brilliant spectacle." The robots
exploded in the air in profusion
under attack of fighter and ground
guns. But, despite the successes,
thousands of Londoners joined the
million who already had evacuated
London under government urging,
and the city was in for hours of
rain, gas and hundreds were left
behind.

The robots again used the same
method of flying bomb attack last
night and those which threatened
to reach the defenses killed a
small number. The Government
announced others were trapped
and some were seen in spectacular
flashes. At one point 30-year-old
which Boris trapped in the de-
struction of a bombed house, was in
the path of a flying robot. He was
seen to be and finally dug her
out of the rubble.

A constant with the direct de-
fenses of the night, air
and sea, more than 2,000 Amer-
ican planes to attack the Peen-
emuende experimental station north
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