

# WAR NEWS

## New Offensive Against 7th Army Opened

By EDWARD KENNEDY  
PARIS—(AP)—The Germans have opened a desperate new offensive against the Western Front in Northern Alsace. It was announced late today at Supreme Headquarters, possibly in a supreme effort to win back the whole northeast France province.

Attacking on a twenty-mile front from Haguenau northwest into the Vosges Mountains, the enemy crossed the Moder River at places fifteen miles below the Reich frontier.

The Germans broke in Alsace in what may be their last reckless effort in the west.

They smashed into U. S. Seventh Army lines after heavy artillery preparation from the Haguenau-Haguenau-Haguenau road. The Americans still held the rail center of Haguenau, but the Germans were attacking through the adjacent forest on both the east and west side. Weather was so bad that the Seventh Army had virtually no tactical air support.

Large German forces began crossing the Moder River line, which Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army had taken up after withdrawing from the Hatten area north of the strategic Haguenau Forest. The Germans last were reported using five or six first class divisions along the attack front.

Other Germans snatched back in Southern Alsace below Strasbourg and made strong counter-attacks against French troops on both the northern and southern flanks of the Colmar-Mulhouse pocket. The Germans were within ten miles south and eleven north of Strasbourg, the prized capital of Alsace which the French and Germans both claim as their own.

The German offensive in Alsace was in an area where the Seventh Army had plenty of room space to trade for time in which to reinforce. It was by no means on the scale of the German offensive of mid-December.

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## Clark Field Besieged By U. S. Troops

Manila Less Than 50 Miles Away

By C. YATES Mc DANIEL  
GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, LAGUNA (AP)—A swiftly moving weight of Fourteenth Army Corps motorized troops besieged Clark Field's thirteen airstrips today after a two-week campaign on LAGUNA in which 100 Japanese were killed for every American.

Manila lies less than 50 air miles ahead of the southern bank of the river. Disclosed today to have paid the highest cost of 87 cents per mile for the first fourteen days of their 65-mile drive from Lingayen Gulf. More than 6,000 dead Japanese have been counted and the figure undoubtedly is greater because the Japanese lost to control their losses by dragging away many of the bodies.

YANKS TAKE CAVERS  
An intricate maze of more than 30 fortress caves, which the Japanese spent months building as a major defense belt for Clark Field, littered with scores of wrecked Japanese bombers and fighters, is in the hands of 49th Division soldiers. Dismantling of the caves is now in progress. Little artillery spatter plagues battle on the satellite field beyond the ground troops not there.

The Bamban River, where the enemy could have put up a delaying defense, was bypassed. The town of Bamban has been seized and the town of Marikina, just one day's march from Clark, has been reached in a 10-mile push from Capas. The town of Marikina, just one day's march from Clark, has been reached in a 10-mile push from Capas.

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## Over 1,400 Saved 765 Lost As U. S. Troop Ship Sunk

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The sinking of a U. S. Army troopship in European waters as a result of enemy action, with 248 soldiers killed and 517 listed as missing, was announced today.

Secretary of War Stimson made the announcement at a news conference. More than 1,400 were rescued, he said.

SENKING "RECENT"  
Stimson said the ship, carrying more than 2,200 soldiers, sank last week. The sinking was "recent," but he gave no other particulars as to the date or other circumstances. All of the rest of the ship was "recent," but he gave no other particulars as to the date or other circumstances.

Transport was the third which the War Department has announced as sunk by the enemy with heavy loss of life. Two others, the Army disclosed last year, went down in the Mediterranean with a total of 1,498 missing. The dates of those sinkings and the names of the ships involved were not announced.

In addition, the transport "Princess Goodrich" sank Oct. 28, 1942, in the South Pacific but only the crew were lost. More than 4,500 officers and men were aboard the Goodrich at the time.

ARMY CASUALTIES  
Stimson at the same time disclosed that Army casualties since Pearl Harbor have totaled 616,951. Coupled with a Navy total of 84,200, the aggregate for the Armed Forces since the beginning of the war now are 701,151.

This total represents an increase of 28,001 since last week's report. The Navy accounted for 1,633 of the increase and the Army for the remainder.

A breakdown on today's figures and comparable ones for last week are: Army killed 117,256 and 111,506; wounded 358,813 and 343,250; prisoners of war 32,421 and 37,462; missing 25,450 and 26,477.

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## Bastogne Hero MacAuliffe Promoted To Maj. General

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Army today announced the promotion of Maj. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe to major general.

McAuliffe, who led the 101st Airborne Division during the Battle of Bastogne, was promoted to major general.

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## East Prussia Appears Cut Off In North

Reds At Point Little More Than 125 Miles From Berlin

LONDON—(AP)—Red Army forces have broken the Oder River line in Southwest Germany and are exploiting the break-through while in the north they apparently have cut off East Prussia, Soviet field dispatches announced today.

Moscow broadcasts said the thunderous Soviet Winter offensive had rolled to a point little more than 125 miles from Berlin and that Red Army units were fighting "on the edge of Königsberg," capital of East Prussia.

German broadcasts said the Russians had broken into Ebling on the Gulf of Danzig, effectively shutting off East Prussia.

Capture of Gierwitz, big industrial center just west of the Silesian manufacturing towns of Hindenburg and Beuthen, was announced by Marshal Stalin. Chranow, important center in the Bombrowa triangle, also was captured.

At Gierwitz, 30 miles southeast of Breslau, is the largest German city captured by the Russians since the outbreak of the war. The city's population was mostly engaged in a large coal transshipping business and a heavy engineering and machine tool industry.

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