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ESTABLISHED 1888

GREAT BRIDGE OVER RIVER PUTS TORCH TO OSAKA

2,000 Tons Of Bombs Dropped On Nippon City Hit At 'Hidden Factories'

By VERN HAUGLAND 21ST BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Wednesday—(AP)—American Superfortresses bent upon destruction of Osaka's 'hidden factories' put the torch to Japan's second largest city early today.

Target for this third mass low level incendiary attack by B-29's on Japanese cities within five days was Osaka's most inflammable and congested area. Two thousand tons of bombs were dropped, the heaviest bomb load yet to hit a Japanese city.

The area attacked is twice as large as the Nagoya target in Monday's raid and was comparable to the ten square miles which constituted the target in the Tokyo raid of last Saturday. Seven important war plants and harbor installations were damaged in the incendiary bombing of Nagoya, aerial photographs showed.

Fifteen fires still were burning in the industrial city, which produces 40 to 50 per cent of all Japanese war material, when the photographs were taken, twelve hours after 300 B-29's fired a five-mile square area.

Greatest damage was done to Aichi Aircraft Works' Etsuiku plant, Maj. Gen. Curtis LeMay, commander of the 21st Bomber Command, said 25,000 square feet of the plant was destroyed. This was nearly 16 per cent of the roof area.

The Itochu Machinery Co. plant was damaged moderately. Pictures showed minor damage at the Atsuta factory of the Nagoya arsenal, Daito Electric plant, Fubuki plant, Nissan Chemical plant, Sumitomo light metals plant and the harbor.

FIRE'S STILL RAGE Although fires still burned at Daido, Nissan Chemical and at the harbor, LeMay said the flames evidently were controlled just as they started to merge from five areas in which the majority of damage was done.

Mountain War Fifth Blasts Enemy From Italian Peak

By LYNN HEINZLERING (OME)—(AP)—The Army troops have blasted the Germans from the peak, 5,000-foot Monte Spigolino, in the forbidding mountain country fourteen miles northwest of Pistoia, and repulsed enemy counter-attacks upon the peak, Allied Headquarters announced today.

The activity flared in a section southwest of Monte Belvedere, which the Americans hold. Monte Spigolino is about three miles east of Pistoia, on the Italian frontier in the conning mountains. Like the action in the Belvedere region, the advance apparently was designed to sweep Fifth Army positions for whatever may be in store on the Italian front in the coming months.

The Germans further west and along the coast sent a series of attacks against the positions, and Allied patrols made contact with the enemy in the coastal region.

Peace Issue Poll Taken

CONCORD, N. H.—(AP)—The plans of the great statesmen to affiliate the United States with a world federation, possessing world police powers, received the approval of the first plain meeting of citizens to vote on it in New Hampshire town meeting elections today.

In Swanton, N. H., first town to report on a referendum held before 173 voters in town meeting, all 173 voted in favor. The referendum was inserted in a referendum book by the 25 communities holding meetings today—making the Granite State the first in the nation to poll its people on the latest international peace proposals.

The question as worded on the ballot was: "Do you favor the United States membership in a general system of international co-operation, such as that proposed at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, having police power to maintain the peace of the world?"

Returns of the vote are to be reported to the Secretary of State and results sent to New York for the Congress's consideration.

Zamboanga Occupied By U. S. Troops

Japs Chased Into Mindanao Hills

By JAMES HUTCHESON MANILA — (AP)—Tank-led 41st Division infantrymen captured Zamboanga town and seized four more villages as they pursued retreating Japanese toward the hills of Mindanao Island, headquarters announced today, while other detachments pressed the cleanup of southern Luzon island.

The 41st seized four villages on the highway about two miles north of Zamboanga as engineers were reconstructing a captured, nearby lumber airstrip, 215 miles from Baguio. The Japanese abandoned formidable fixed positions before the town and around the airstrip and fled northward into the hills dominating fabled Zamboanga.

Associated Press War Correspondent Russell Briner reported from Zamboanga that abandoned Japanese fortifications there were the most formidable fixed positions encountered in the central and southern Philippines. The Japanese deserted the ancient Spanish fortress city about a week ago, leaving behind a small relieving force.

Strong bunkers and tunnels were found deserted around San Roque bomber airfield, the second to fall in Mindanao. Maj. Gen. Jens A. Doe's tank-led 41st division quickly overran Zamboanga, a small airfield, and then captured the San Roque airfield, one of the best on Mindanao, in their lightning sweep which carried into the municipal center of Zamboanga.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said in his communication today that the Americans on Mindanao, secured by sea and air, are now applying, were overrunning strong steel and concrete pillbox and artillery positions with only minor losses.

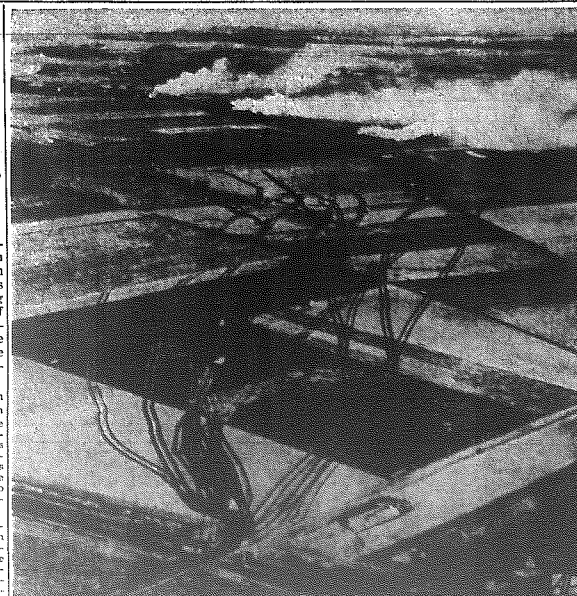
The Japanese at Zamboanga, caught off balance by the amphibious invasion, had not been able to organize their defense, he reported, because of the "rapidity and surprise of our advance."

General MacArthur's expedition on Luzon the Eleventh Airborne Division captured Los Baños, forcing the Japanese to evacuate the town provincial capital on the island to be liberated.

LOS BAÑOS TAKEN Los Baños, where airborne troops captured more than 2,000 civilians, fell to U. S. troops, was easily taken. Enemy strongpoints were overpowered afterward 1,500 yards northwest of the town.

No opposition was encountered at Batangas, about 25 miles west of Los Baños, on the southwest coast of Luzon. The central Luzon First Division yesterday captured Antipolo, a valley town captured Antipolo.

It's The Taxes Cuts His Own \$50,000 Pay To \$1 Yearly NEW YORK — (AP)—Frank Phillips, chairman of the House Committee on Finance, has slashed his own salary to \$1 a year from \$50,000 because heavy tax reductions, it was disclosed today.



THE NINTH LEAVES ITS TRACKS—Tanks of the U. S. Second Armored (Hell on Wheels) Division of the Ninth Army left this pattern in German soil in their break through to the Rhine. Scene is near Krefeld in Düsseldorf area within 400 yards of the Rhine. U. S. tanks have halted because of shelling from German tanks behind the burning building. Photo by George Silk, Life photographer with wartime still picture pool. (AP Wirephoto).

Report Drive Described As Dead On Berlin

By RICHARD KASSICHE LONDON—(AP)—German broadcast declared today at least nine Soviet divisions had crossed the Oder River between Guestrin and Frankfurt and were attempting to beat toward Berlin.

The Berlin radio said Red Army forces were striking toward the capital from Kletz, on the Oder's west bank opposite fallen Ebersdorf, from a bridgehead opposite Guestrin six miles farther south, and from a third bridgehead at Lobau, twelve miles south of Ebersdorf and four north of Frankfurt.

Capture of Kuestrin, 38 miles east of Berlin and sixteen north of Frankfurt, was announced by Moscow yesterday, but the German High Command said Nazis still were fighting in the southern fringe of that city, one of the three biggest fortresses guarding the path to Berlin.

The German communique declared Russians were attacking powerfully north of Frankfurt in attempts to expand their bridgeheads, but insisted the attacks were held.

Moscow still had not officially reported any crossings of the Oder, but dispatches said three Red Army groups apparently were being driven for an assault on the German capital. Five-day, hurried to rubble, fell after five days of hand-to-hand battle, the Russians said.

MECKLENBURG CASUALTIES (Sterfa list) KILLED: N/Sgt. Harry D. Phillips, Pfc. P. B. Smith, Capt. W. L. Smith, WOUNDED: N/Sgt. Joe Bumgardner, FM James Spunt Mann.

Great Air Blows Raze Nazi Cities

By HENRY B. JAMESON LONDON—(AP)—RAF heavy bombers battered the communications hub of Barmen on the southern fringe of the Ruhr today after leaving Dortmund and Essen written off as dead from mammoth attacks in the two previous days.

Simultaneously, U. S. 15th Air Force Flying Fortresses and Liberators from Italy bombed Regensburg, 80 miles northwest of Munich, and the site of numerous German aircraft factories.

The assault on Barmen on the 29th day of the Allied air offensive followed a 1,100-plane raid with 5,000 tons of explosives yesterday on Dortmund, eastern gateway to the Ruhr. The bombs were unaided in 20 minutes.

It was the biggest daylight attack ever staged by the RAF, which also kept the mighty Allied aerial offensive rolling through the night by sending its Mosquito bombers against Berlin for the 21st successive night.

Dortmund is the second largest city in the industrial Ruhr valley, and while previous bombings had just about knocked it out as a manufacturing center it was still serving as a major transportation hub. Nearly half the city's population is bound for the Western Front passed through the city.

The RAF heavily threw everything into the attack—using practically every type of bomb from the smallest incendiary to the largest 12,000-pound high-blast bomb. More than half the Lancaster and Halifax participating had 4,000-pounders in their bomb bays.

Pontoon Span Thrown Across To Bridgehead

First Army Less Than Two Miles From Great German Highway

By JAMES M. LONG PARIS—(AP)—The First Army has thrown a pontoon bridge across the Rhine to its Remagen bridgehead and drive to a point less than two miles from the six-lane autobahn linking the Ruhr with Frankfurt on the Main, a bridgehead dispatch announced today.

"The doughboys are slowly enlarging their bridgehead against stiff opposition and numerous counter-attacks," said the dispatch from Don Whitehead of the Associated Press.

New gains widened the bridgehead to nearly six miles at points along its 11-mile breach in the German Rhine Line. The Germans estimated, that from 60,000 to 70,000 First Army troops were in the critical area—a maximum increase since yesterday of 30,000 Americans.

Hundreds of rocket firing planes were reported assisting the attacking infantry. Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' troops captured a hill north of Hoenning, 16 miles northwest of Coblenz, at the south end of the cross-Rhine salient.

Border reports reaching Switzerland said Field Marshal Von Rundstedt had once more been deposed as supreme German commander in the west. These were without Berlin confirmation, but one of the reasons for such a shakeup might have been the German fumble which allowed the Ludendorff bridge at Remagen to stand, permitting Americans to cross the Rhine with dry feet.

Gains outward from the Rhine in the rugged hills, sheer cliffs and valleys of the Westerwald was relatively slow. The Germans were making their strongest stand at the north end of the bridgehead where the Americans were but 23 miles from the edge of the Ruhr Basin—Germany's greatest arsenal.

NAZI RESISTANCE A First Army officer said resistance in the center of the bridgehead salient was moderate. Defense in the south was characterized as light.

The German communique said the First Army had captured several villages and heights east of the Rhine. "The most bitter fighting on the whole Western Front is raging for the bridgehead," the Berlin radio asserted. "The battle still is developing and the Americans have been establishing bases for operations in depth. Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's formation is in the south and apparently is bringing up reinforcements and only they will attempt a concerted counter-attack."

The slowly backed gains in the Rhine bridgehead showed German medium artillery bases from any positions commanding direct observation of the shell-hit but still burning city of Remagen. The Germans now have brought up 240-millimeter guns to continue their bombardment.

COUNTRY ROUGH Parts of the Eleventh Panzer Division were identified in German defense lines in the rough country, resembling Remagen. No more than 50 tanks and self-propelled guns were deployed in the area around the bridgehead. Much of the country is unsuitable for armored operations. Medium and light bombers, however, attacked the area. They bombed a large base for jet propelled planes which have been raiding American lines. They bombed jet fighters east of the bridgehead. Light bombers also patrolled the area.

See YANKS THROW on page 5

Generals Promoted

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Nine lieutenant generals were nominated by President Roosevelt today to be full generals in the U. S. Army. They are: Joseph T. McNarney, Supreme Deputy Allied Command, Mediterranean Theater.

Omar N. Bradley, commanding general, Sixth Army Group, Western Front in Europe. Carl Spaatz, commanding general, U. S. Strategic Air Force in Europe. George C. Kenney, commanding general, Far East Air Forces.

Mark W. Clark, commanding general, 15th Army Group, in Europe. Walter Krueger, commanding general, Sixth Army, Philippines. Breton B. Somervell, commanding general, Army Service Forces.

Jacob L. Devere, commanding general, Sixth Army Group, European Theater. Thomas T. Handy, deputy chief of staff, U. S. Army.

Elevation of the above would give the Army eleven four-star generals in active service. The others are General Joseph W. Stilwell, chief of Army Group Forces, and Martin Craig chairman of the Secretary of War's Personnel Board.

In addition, the Army has four five-star generals, Marshall, Alvin, MacArthur and Eisenhower. Newspaper Publication By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Japanese Cabinet adopted temporary measures today for the publication and distribution of newspapers in the "present critical war situation," the Domei news agency reported in a broadcast to Asia recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

Two-Minute News Roundup

Western Front Action on the Western Front appears to be centered on the cross-Rhine bridgehead where the German army has been holding. Hundreds of rocket-firing planes are attacking the Yanks. The Americans have deepened the bridgehead to nearly six miles in a plunge toward a super-highway linking the Ruhr with Frankfurt on the Main. The doughboys have reached a point less than two miles from the highway.

Russian Front The German High Command claims the repulse of new Russian attacks north of Frankfurt aimed at expansion of bridgeheads across the Oder. The Nazis say that at least nine Soviet divisions have crossed the waterway.

Air Warfare The Superfortresses' offensive aimed at knocking Japan's capacity to make war continues with a new strike at Osaka. The strategic industrial center on Honshu lies northeast of Nagoya. The 20th Force announcement of the raid reveals that every large force of Superfortresses delivered their atomic strike in described as similar to those delivered on the weekend against Nagoya and Tokyo. This new strike occurred of 300 B-29's from the Mariñas base.

In the west, the air offensive of the Allies has poured into the 23rd day with new blows by RAF heavy bombers. The big British planes have raked the communications hub of Barmen on the southern fringe of the Ruhr.