

Russian Troops Threaten Baltic Port Of Stettin

Drive To Northern Gateway To Nazi Capital

Drive Close To Northern Gateway To Nazi Capital

Tanks, Infantry Thrust Forward

By DANIEL DE LUCE

MOSCOW (AP)—The First White Russian Army thrust forward again today against the reduced enemy bridgehead at Stettin from within four and a half miles of that vital northern gateway to Berlin.

Simultaneously, the Russians were reported bringing up pontoon equipment along a three-mile stretch of the Oder River in the vicinity of captured Orshin, less than 11 miles south of Stettin.

The heaviest Russian pressure was exerted against the southern flank of the Nazi bridgehead, which extends along the east bank of the Oder for about 13 miles south from Stettin's eastern suburb of Alt-Damm, on the edge of Dammshar See.

The remaining Nazi bridgehead east of the river is only one to two miles deep at some points. Its complete seizure would be a tactical preparation for the Berlin offensive second in importance only to the capture of Kuesenitz early this week.

Bridge Town

Gregory K. Zhukov's troops into another good jumping off spot for spanning the Oder. However, the main highway bridge across the Oder's eastern arm, the Regnitz, and the Oder itself, from Orshin toward the Stettin-Berlin autobahn was unscathedly reported demolished before the Russians occupied the town.

Meanwhile, the Third White Russian Army group, liquidating the Nazi's East Prussian fragments, pressed closer to Braunsberg and reached the outskirts of the port of Braunsberg, which already has been cut off from Koenigsberg, 19 miles to the northwest.

An uneasy hull was reported from the east of the Oder, where the Eastern Front's 20-mile stretch of the middle Oder due east of Berlin—where both German and Russian troops continued to mass for an impending climactic battle.

Marshall K. K. Rokossovsky's See REDS DRIVE on Page 6

Two-Minute News Roundup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Western Front

The great German city of Koblenz is two-thirds in American hands. Anticipating the city's capture, the Germans smashed into the city in a frontal amphibious assault at last night (EWT). Hours later, only one-third of the city remained to be cleared.

Troops of the 5th Infantry Division entered the city after an amphibious assault in boats across the Moselle River near the point where the Moselle flows into the Rhine.

At the same time, other units of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army plunged 40 miles southeast of Koblenz to cut off the northern escape route for thousands of Germans trapped in the Moselle triangle. The Germans admit that Third Army armor units have crossed the Nahe (Rhine) River at the town of Bad Kreuznach (Bad Kreuznach), 21 miles southwest of the big city of Mainz on the Rhine.

Air Warfare

Thirteen hundred American heavy bombers have continued the air war against Germany. With 750 fighters as escort, the bombers struck Nazi rail communications and oil plants in northwest and southwest Germany. The German radio also told of Allied bombers from Italy attacking the Vienna area of Austria.

Naval Action

Warships of the British Navy are said to be cutting through the

In 5 Industries Draft Deferment Relief Granted

By KARL R. BAUMAN

WASHINGTON (AP)—Liberalized draft deferments for young men in five major industries—coal mining, transportation, steel synthetic rubber and the mining of copper, lead and zinc, were announced today.

The action, by Selective Service, will permit deferments to exceed the 30 per cent limitation which has been in effect for one month on men aged 18 through 29.

This means, a Selective Service spokesman said, that more deferred men over 20 will have to be drafted to meet the increased draft calls for Army combat replacements.

Meanwhile new claimants—notably aircraft manufacturers—were being assigned Washington for similar relief, claiming that war demands could not be met unless they were permitted to retain more young workers.

Selective Service said it acted upon the recommendation of the inter-agency deferment committee created by War Relocation Director James F. Byrnes. It allowed the Solid Fuel Administration, the Office of Defense Transportation,

the Rubber Reserve, and the War Production Board to issue deferment certificates in excess of the 30 per cent limit, for men in the listed occupations.

The relief in transportation applies to railroads, inland waterways, Great Lakes transportation and airlines; in rubber, to the production of both synthetic rubber and its raw materials; in non-ferrous mining to both mines and smelters; in steel to steel mill workers and foundrymen; in coal, to mining only.

About 60 per cent of steel and foundry workers—or some 60,000 men under 30—will be allowed deferment certificates, WPA said. In the copper, lead and zinc mines and smelters, about 64 per cent will be deferred, or some 10,000 men.

The largest of the punctures in the coal mining liberalization.

Japs Are Finished Yanks Use Bloody Iwo's Air Bases

By MORRIS LANDSBERG

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam (AP)—Velez's little two, now called, 15,208 wounded and 441 missing, already is paying off with quick dividends. The Navy disclosed today that two airfields are in combat operation there within fighter range of Tokyo.

The second airfield, in the center of the eight-square-mile island, at a cost of the 4,189 Marines killed, 15,208 wounded and 441 missing, already is paying off with quick dividends. The Navy disclosed today that two airfields are in combat operation there within fighter range of Tokyo.

The second airfield, in the center of the eight-square-mile island, at a cost of the 4,189 Marines killed, 15,208 wounded and 441 missing, already is paying off with quick dividends. The Navy disclosed today that two airfields are in combat operation there within fighter range of Tokyo.

Engineers finished it yesterday, the same day three Marine divisions crushed the last organized enemy resistance on Iwo. The big southern bomber field, captured on the second day of the invasion, has been in operation since Feb. 26 and already 20 Superfortresses have made emergency stops there—halfway between the Marianas and the Philippines—before the costly Superforts crip-

pled over Japan have been confronted with the necessity of attempting a 1,500-mile flight back to Guam and Saipan.

MOOP-UP IS SLOW

This morning's communiqué reported mopping up of enemy remnants on the north end of Iwo. Such operations probably will continue for many months.

Two days ago, eight Japanese were killed while breaking out of caves on Mt. Suribachi, at the south end of Iwo, which was captured Feb. 23.

Hundreds of Japanese probably remain to be rooted out of caves and tunnels, many of these on the north end where the battle ended.

In unstinted praise of the accomplishments at Iwo by Maj. Gen. Graves B. Erskine, third, Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates' Fourth and Maj. Gen. Keller E. Rockey's Fifth Marine Divisions, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said they "have made an accounting to their country, which their history will be able to value fully."

Reparations Germany Will Have To Pay Through Nose

LONDON (AP)—The Weekly Economist said today:

"There is reason to believe that the Big Three are thinking in terms of exacting reparations from Germany to the tune of about 1,000,000,000 pounds (\$4,000,000,000) a year for 20 years, in addition to restitution of what has been stolen."

President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin announced after the Yalta conference that Germany would be required to make compensation for "the damage caused to Allied nations. A commission will be set up in Moscow to consider the extent and methods of compensation. In kind" would indicate payment in goods and services.

The Economist's statement was included in an article which discussed the advisability of creating an international body to administer the reparations to Allied nations, on the grounds that Germany "could not fight an aggressive war without the aid of heavy industries" of that region.

The Economist held that an independent Rhineland policy should be adopted "only if it stands more than an even chance of working."

Nazi Army Men Executed

LONDON (AP)—A Nazi home broadcast recorded by Reuters said today that 1,000 men and officers of the German Army had been executed by mobile courts in the West. The broadcast said that the courts had been set up to deal with the "grave military offenses" of the soldiers.

Mecklenburg Casualties

(Sterile Inside)

PRISONER

Pfc. Robert L. Geyer

WOUNDED

W/SGT. C. C. Bruna

Sgt. J. D. Edwards

MISSING

7/5 Raleigh Times

B-29 Raid Burns Wide Kobe Area

Fire Bombs Hit Fourth Jap City

By ELMONT WAITE

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, Guam (AP)—Twelve square miles of Japan's greatest shipbuilding center, Kobe, was set afire or reduced to ashes by more than 300 Superforts today. Fires were visible 100 miles.

The conflagration, created by 2,500 tons of incendiaries, was second only to Tokyo's seventeen square mile holocaust in the 21st Bomber Command's intensified war on the Japanese homeland.

In only eight days, Superforts also have destroyed five square miles of industrial Osaka and two square miles in the heart of Nagoya. That 20-square-mile area of devastation in four enemy cities is nearly equal to the combined total area of Albany, N. Y., 19 square miles, and Jersey City, N. J., 21. It equals 55 per cent of Pittsburgh's 55 square miles.

Col. W. H. Blanchard, operations officer of the 21st Bomber Command, who flew over Kobe from 4 to 6 A. M. (Japan Time) while the raid was in progress, reported that even as his observation B-29 led the target several square miles already had been reduced to ashes. Fires were pouring more miles of factories, shipyards and other war plants.

NEARLY OBLITERATED

That twelve square miles represented about 75 per cent of long, narrow Kobe's total area. The 1,000,000 population city extends five miles along the Japanese Sea and is one to three miles wide.

Among the flaming targets were the Mitsubishi airplane plant and Kawasaki locomotive plant, both directly hit from the third B-29 over the city. The dock area, set blazing by the second Superfort.

Great fires immediately lighted up the city, which was blacked out as the raiders approached.

Blanchard made his report to Maj. Gen. George E. LeMay, commander of the 21st Bomber Command, after the concluding bombing of the densely crowded Kobe area.

Blanchard held in his lap while he flew over the target.

Kidnaped Baby Found Safe

CONCORD, Mass.—(AP)—A two-year-old baby boy who was kidnaped from an escaped Communist agent's car in West Concord, Mass., was found safe today.

Police said the baby, Roger, was found in his bed while the car was found abandoned.

State and city police joined in an immediate search for Roland, 19, of Fall River, the fugitive.

St. Laurent fled from a reform school guard while working on the police car and allegedly stole the automobile in West Concord while the child was in it.

Tank Men Roll

By EDWARD D. BALL

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY (AP)—The momentum and impact of the 4th Armored Division's thrust south of Coblenz left the Germans confused and bewildered.

The bewildering was reflected yesterday in the dust-caked faces of prisoners streaming to the rear. The German surprise also was shown in the absence of defensive preparations along the two-fronted route blazed by the Fourth's Combat Commands A and B.

At one town, 600 Germans were herded into the barbed wire enclosure of a concentration camp where Russian slave laborers had spent the night under German guards. The

Meat Supply Will Be Cut

WASHINGTON (AP)—A new slash in civilian meat supplies is expected today on the heels of President Roosevelt's projection of more belt-tightening on the home front.

For the April-June quarter, the civilian meat allocation may be cut to an annual rate of 118 pounds per person—the lowest level since 1935 when supplies were curtailed by a severe drought and a Government hog production control program.

During the first quarter of 1945, the per capita meat supply has averaged 126 pounds per person a year. This compares with 1944's average of 147 pounds.

SHARE WITH HUNGRY

The reduction is in line with President Roosevelt's statement yesterday that Americans would have to share a larger portion of their food with hungry peoples in war-liberated areas.

Germany Stunned By Smashing Drive Of 4th Armored Division

By EDWARD D. BALL

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY (AP)—The momentum and impact of the 4th Armored Division's thrust south of Coblenz left the Germans confused and bewildered.

The bewildering was reflected yesterday in the dust-caked faces of prisoners streaming to the rear. The German surprise also was shown in the absence of defensive preparations along the two-fronted route blazed by the Fourth's Combat Commands A and B.

At one town, 600 Germans were herded into the barbed wire enclosure of a concentration camp where Russian slave laborers had spent the night under German guards. The



Most Of Rhine City Cleared By Third Army

Drive To South Cuts Off German Escape Route At Mainz

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS (AP)—U. S. Third Army troops fought into Koblenz in a frontal amphibious assault today, and streaked 40 miles southeast of the Rhine city, cutting off a northern escape route at Mainz for thousands of Germans facing entrapment in the huge Saarland triangle.

A street battle raged in Koblenz this afternoon. Troops of the 87th Division in assault boats poured into the northern section at 3 A. M. meeting light resistance at the outset, and other forces which jumped the Moselle River south of the city moved up from the southwest.

The attack carried across the Moselle River near its confluence with the Rhine, AP Correspondent Thorburn Wiant said.

By tonight, the Americans had cleared nearly two-thirds of the once-great Rhine city.

About 500 prisoners have been taken in the city, which ignored a call to surrender broadcast by an American tank yesterday, a colonel commanding a regiment that stormed the city.

The 87th Division surged by assault boat across the Moselle into the city that served as headquarters of the American Army of Occupation after the First World War.

Only about 2,000 civilians so far have been discovered in the city, which once had 50,000 population but now lies in ruins due to aerial attacks.

Coblenz probably will be completely cleared late tonight.

Troops began pouring into the northern section in darkness at 3 A. M. against light resistance. Other troops which jumped the river south of the city moved up from the southwest.

The attack on the ancient city opened just ten days after the Fourth Armored Division of the U. S. Third Army made its sensational sport to the Rhine north of Coblenz.

Berlin arrived across columns had crossed the Nahe River at Bad Kreuznach, 21 miles southwest of Mainz.

Bad Kreuznach is a road hub 21 miles southwest of the Rhine city of Mainz, a main escape hatch for the Germans being squeezed by the Third Army's lightning lunges southward behind the Siegfried Line.

Two armored columns of the Third Army are hammering toward a junction with the U. S. Seventh Army, rolling the one step back into the Siegfried Line from the south. Divisions of two German armies are in this pocket forming in the Saar triangle between the Moselle and Rhine Rivers.

An Allied front dispatch said Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's armor thrust another 10 to 15 miles southeast of Simeon today, and striking to within some 30 miles of the Seventh Army lines north of Bielefeld.

BERLIN SECTOR

Berlin said the breakthrough by concentrated U. S. tank forces had

Air Offensive 2,000 U. S. Planes Surge Over Reich

By HENRY B. JAMESON

LONDON (AP)—More than 1,300 heavy bombers and 750 fighters of the U. S. Eighth Air Force surged over the Reich today in attacks upon rail communications and oil plants a few hours after 1,000 RAF night bombers had blasted German industrial targets.

Objectives of the American daylight raiders included synthetic oil refineries at Bohlen, on the southern outskirts of Leipzig; and Ruhland, 30 miles north of Dresden; benzol plants at Mohls, also near Leipzig; large railroad yards at Munster and a tank factory at Hannover.

At the same time the German raid reported Allied planes from Italy again were swarming over southern Austria in the Vienna area.

The huge fleet of daylight bombers and fighters from bases on Britain stretched out over 150 miles. The first split into two main sections over Germany, one striking into the northwest and the other into the southeast.

Close to 1,000 British warplanes attacked Nuremberg and Wuerzburg, the main targets in the northwest. Last night and RAF warplanes raided Berlin for the 25th consecutive night. The Air Ministry declared the purpose of the raids was "to destroy what remains of the German war industry."

Nuremberg, war center and Nazi meeting place in southern Germany, has one of the largest railroad yards in the Reich, with nothing like that happening in the west. Some of its armament plants and tank factories are still producing on a reduced scale.

Yanks Move On Baguio

By JAMES HUTCHESON

MANILA (AP)—The 3rd Division has pulled its heavy artillery to within rifle range of Baguio and today can drop shells into the former Philippine commonwealth's Summer capital.

The 3rd's former 10th Cavalry Regiment's 1st Squadron is pushing toward the mountain city from both west and south.

MOUNTAIN PROBED

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communications reports that the 3rd Division is probing the mountains from the southeast.

Maj. Gen. Leonard F. Wing's 43rd Infantry Division meanwhile is probing the mountain range from the north. The 43rd's 1st Brigade is in the Shimbu Line east of Manila while an amphibious operation has been made in Southern Luzon.

Installations around Baguio, Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita's Headquarters, have been heavily shelled heavily. Yet the city has been spared.

The advance of the 3rd has been slow—thirteen miles in a month—because the mountainous terrain filled with Japanese ambush parties. The going has been made more difficult by the systematic blowing up of bridges, although the 3rd has captured concrete Airway span was captured by a surprise night move.

'Free' Manila Paper To Quit

By RUSSELL BRINES

MANILA (AP)—The OWI newspaper, "Manila Free Press," announced today it would suspend publication next Tuesday because "our job is done."

Editorially the newspaper announced that its function was the temporary dissemination of news and information from a government agency and consequently suspended attempts to re-establish Manila's press. The free press, it stated, was as high as 40,000 copies, four pages each, local papers were used a single sheet printed on both sides and their circulation was limited to around 4,000 because of paper shortage.

The announcement came five days after the OWI's Philippine Bureau turned commercial thereby precipitating a small controversy in Manila newspapers.

Philippine head of the OWI field staff, said that the decision to suspend publication was not connected by reaction to commercial policy.

Some local editors asserted the commercial policy meant unbalanced competition from a government agency and consequently suspended attempts to re-establish Manila's press. The free press, it stated, was as high as 40,000 copies, four pages each, local papers were used a single sheet printed on both sides and their circulation was limited to around 4,000 because of paper shortage.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and considerably warmer today. A cold front will be over the area tomorrow and will bring showers and rain.

Temperature at 8:30 today: 68. High at 10:30 today: 75. Low at 6:30 today: 55. Source: Times.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and considerably warmer today. A cold front will be over the area tomorrow and will bring showers and rain.

Temperature at 8:30 today: 68. High at 10:30 today: 75. Low at 6:30 today: 55. Source: Times.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and considerably warmer today. A cold front will be over the area tomorrow and will bring showers and rain.

Temperature at 8:30 today: 68. High at 10:30 today: 75. Low at 6:30 today: 55. Source: Times.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and considerably warmer today. A cold front will be over the area tomorrow and will bring showers and rain.

Temperature at 8:30 today: 68. High at 10:30 today: 75. Low at 6:30 today: 55. Source: Times.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and considerably warmer today. A cold front will be over the area tomorrow and will bring showers and rain.

Temperature at 8:30 today: 68. High at 10:30 today: 75. Low at 6:30 today: 55. Source: Times.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and considerably warmer today. A cold front will be over the area tomorrow and will bring showers and rain.

Temperature at 8:30 today: 68. High at 10:30 today: 75. Low at 6:30 today: 55. Source: Times.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and considerably warmer today. A cold front will be over the area tomorrow and will bring showers and rain.

Temperature at 8:30 today: 68. High at 10:30 today: 75. Low at 6:30 today: 55. Source: Times.