

ESTABLISHED 1898

GERMANS KEEP TANKS IN LINE

Berlin Plants Attacked By Flying Forts

By HENRY B. JAMESON

LONDON—(AP)—More than 400 U. S. Flying Fortresses attacked war plants today in Berlin—where new orders for evacuation of women, children and all unneeded persons were issued—while more than 500 other Fortresses hammered similar targets in Hannover.

War Tour

Sights And Scenes On Berlin Road

By HAL BOYLE

WITH AN AMERICAN ARMORED COLUMN IN INNER GERMANY—(AP)—Sights and scenes on Berlin road.

Worn out by three days and nights of continuous advance, doughboys and fell asleep on iron beds—the backs of the tanks they are riding into battle.

German prisoners attending back guards—The captured hands are dirty, haggard and hungry.

Now that Spring has returned the stink of death rises from the battlefields.

Both attacks, as well as the one at Hannover, were carried out between 10 A. M. and 11:15 A. M.

The last previous attack on Berlin was a record 3,000-ton assault by 1,300 bombers March 18, but only last Saturday 500 B. 24's Air Force Fortresses attacked the capital in the longest northern flight from their bases in Italy.

In addition to hitting Berlin proper five times since the first of the year, the American heavy bombers also attacked the German Army Command headquarters at Zulp, a spectacular daylight raid March 15.

Reds Take Baltic Port Of Gdynia

Soviets Closer To Austria

By RICHARD KASSICHE

LONDON—(AP)—Gdynia, Baltic port and last big Polish city in German hands, was captured by the Red Army today along with 9,000 prisoners, and to the north Berlin said Soviet troops had crossed the last river barrier guarding the Austrian frontier.

A German broadcast also said the Russians had captured Lobos on the west side of the Oder River 37 miles from Berlin.

Gdynia, a port of 113,000 developed by the Poles after the last war as a rival of Danzig, fell just 24 hours after troops of the Second Polish Army.

Other Russian troops were fighting in Danzig, farther south.

A German military spokesman indicated Russians pushing up the Danube Valley as part of a huge pincer movement on Czechoslovakia and Vienna had crossed the Moravian Gap now manned by the northern arm of the pincers.

The Haha at some points is a scant twenty miles from the Austrian border.

The spokesman said fighting had broken out at Sarva, a communication center west of the Haha, and that the focus of the battle had shifted to that place.

A German broadcast declared the Soviet front line in the northwest of the Oder River northwest of Kuehrz, 30 miles from Berlin.

"Do you wish to permit an interruption of war production in your time as a result of this disaster?"

Both Lewis and the operators have indicated a work stoppage would be asserted if possible, and an affirmative vote in today's election would not necessarily be followed by a walkout.

Tabulation of the results, expected to be overwhelming in favor of striking, probably will be completed by tomorrow morning.

Cost of the vote, to be conducted by the National Labor Relations Board has been estimated at \$200,000.

Rotational troops totaled 1,607 and 805 were wounded and sick. The rotational troops, sent immediately for Camp Patrick Henry, Va., several miles north of Newport News and from there they will be sent to reception centers nearest their homes within 24 to 36 hours.

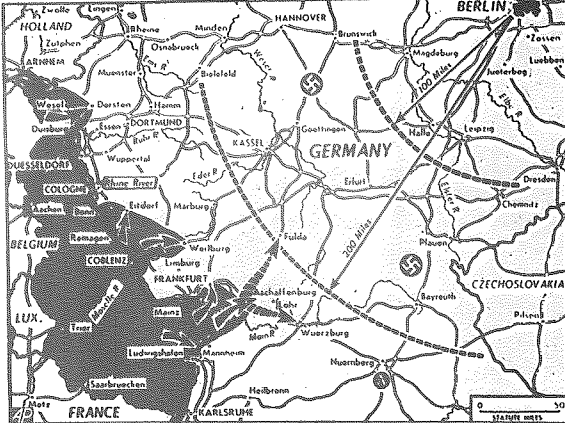
Patriots Asked To Be Ready

By LYNN HENKELING

ROME—(AP)—Gen. Mark Clark, the Allied commander in Italy, declared today that a German retreat northward was inevitable.

The German inevitably will retreat sooner or later, leaving Fascist troops to cover their rear," Clark said.

Clark declared it was certain that the central Apennine area would be called upon to be of specific assistance to my armies shortly.



ALLIES SURGING EASTWARD IN GREAT VICTORY—This map shows where Allied forces are smashing eastward far into Germany. Gen. Eisenhower has declared the main German lines have been broken in a great Allied victory.

Mine Strike Vote Taken Yank Forces Win Cebu Isle Beach

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Four hundred thousand soft coal miners across the nation voted today on whether to strike for John L. Lewis' contract demands, including a \$9,600,000 a year union royalty.

As the miners voted, on their own time, at mines or other convenient places, the Government sought to avert a mine shutdown by offering a new contract before that time.

The strike vote, required under the Smith Connally War Labor Disputes Act because Lewis served notice of a dispute in the industry, will be taken on this question.

Installations at the modern adrome just northwest of Manila, the fine wharf area, the municipal electric plant and the huge coconut refinery just across the harbor on Macaon Island—the largest refinery in the Philippines—all were bombed and blasted.

Non-rotation Japanese broadcast reported variously that "barrage battles are raging" and that "the Japanese are well equipped and more help will come to them."

The entire Italian Front was quiet as Clark broadcast his message. Only a few patrol skirmishes broke the monotony of a March drizzle.

In the central sector, patrols reported that Germans had cleared out of several localities where there had been sharp clashes in recent weeks.

Japs Report Kyushu Raid

By ELMONT WAITE

GUAM—(AP)—Tokyo radio reported today American carrier planes raided Kyushu Island at the southern end of Japan this afternoon in a quick follow-up of two Superfortress raids within twelve hours.

Tokyo said about 80 seaborne planes raided the southernmost shores of Kyushu, last assaulted by carrier aircraft March 19.

Neither report was confirmed by the American command, which announced battleships and swarms of carrier planes continued their aerial assault on the island.

Disagreeing Japanese broadcast casts reported variously that "barrage battles are raging" and that "the Japanese are well equipped and more help will come to them."

The entire Italian Front was quiet as Clark broadcast his message. Only a few patrol skirmishes broke the monotony of a March drizzle.

In the central sector, patrols reported that Germans had cleared out of several localities where there had been sharp clashes in recent weeks.

Mecklenburg Casualties

KILLED: Pfc. Harry E. Jefferson, Sgt. Elmer L. Bailey, 1st Lt. Charles W. Stevens Jr., Sgt. Wilfred Beeson.

WOUNDED: S/Sgt. Roland W. Hanson, Pfc. Homer Wallace.

3rd Army In 213 Miles Of Nazi Capital

German Armies In North In Wild Retreat Before Allied Might

By DON WHITEHEAD

WITH THE U. S. FIRST ARMY—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' far-ranging tank columns were racing eastward today on roads with the enemy unable even to challenge the advance with token resistance.

Close to 225 miles from Berlin, and Dohlsheide were within 80 miles from the Rhine, but a news blackout masked movements of the changing chessboard making swift progress.

WIESBADEN—(AP)—Third Army troops have seized Wiesbaden on the north and sped on to within seven miles of a junction with the First Army north of the Main River.

HUECK, Germany—(AP)—Ninth Army troops captured Huesen, site of one of the Fritz Thyssen steel works, in a plunge today into the north black area of Duisburg.

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS—(AP)—The Germans declared tonight the American Third Army tanks were probing in the heart of the Ruhr 213 miles from Berlin as their armies part of the Ruhr broke into wild retreat before the massive might of Allied armor and infantry.

The scope of enemy disintegration increased as four powerful armies of Gen. Eisenhower broke clear through collapsed defenses at points 145 miles deep in Germany.

FOURTH ARMORED ON LOOSE

The Fourth Armored Division—the mystery spearhead of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army—was definitely on the loose well beyond Aachenburg, 200 miles southeast of falling Frankfurt on the Main. It was sumpily from Czechoslovakia.

The German communiqué said it crashed into Gemunden, 218 miles from Berlin, and the enemy's radio asserted that it had driven five miles farther northeast within 213 of the capital. Gemunden is 145 miles deep in the Reich.

Exact forward locations of the Third, First and British Second Armies all were masked in a news blackout, however, which kept the enemy confused.

FIRST ARMY DRIVE

The First Army was 120 miles inside central Germany, 225 miles from Berlin at last reported positions. Indications were that the First was appreciably closer.

First Army troops were either in or within sight of German breakthrough toward the Westphalian capital of Bonn, after sensational overnight advances.

At least 14,000 more Germans surrendered as American and British tanks raced through roadblocks towns without defenses and beyond bewildered Nazi civilians littering the landscape with white flags.

Plots back from runs in the north where the bombing line had to be advanced sometimes over 20 minutes as the Germans appeared to be in rout before a British armored breakthrough toward the Westphalian capital of Muenster, 30 miles away at last reports.

SOLDIER FRONT

The American First, Third and Seventh armies united in a solid front 80 miles wide from besieged Mannheim to east of Bonn. The Seventh Army had raced 32 miles east of the Rhine to join the Third on the Main beyond Aachenburg, which Third Army troops were mopping up as southeast of Frankfurt.

Seventh Army troops fought in the suburbs of Mannheim, great chemical center of 253,501, opposite captured Ludwigshafen on the Rhine.

Frankfurt itself was doomed. Two Third Army Divisions mopped up its southern suburbs and the western part of that ninth largest German city, a major rail center and one of Hitler's most important arsenals.

Two-Minute News Roundup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Western Front

The shattered German defenses on the Western Front are being cut into ribbons by the new gains of rampaging Allied armies.

A sensational advance by the British Second Army is described by the German radio. Berlin says that British tank spearheads have been held in the Speers hills, 100 miles west of Berlin.

It is true, this means the British have straddled 100 miles from the Rhine bridgehead at West. Other Allied armies are cutting into the breakthroughs in German lines although exact gains still are obscured by an official news blackout.

The German High Command declares tanks of the American Third Army have rolled to a point 175 miles northeast of Gemunden (Gay-Min-Dee).

A new dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Hannington Paron tells how United States tanks pounded the beaches of Okinawa last Saturday. Okinawa is midway between Japan and Formosa. Japanese installations of all types were blasted. Paron says the hattergawagon moved as though on target rails. Fifteen-inch shells were placed where they would do the most damage.

Philippines

The Philippines, the Japs have blown up a big highway bridge just north of the new American beachhead on Okinawa. Our troops are now fighting toward Cebu City, which has been set free by the enemy.

Soldiers Arrive From Europe

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—(AP)—More than 2,400 soldiers from the European theater were returned to the United States today aboard a big Navy transport and departed at the Hampton Roads port of embarkation.

Rotational troops totaled 1,607 and 805 were wounded and sick. The rotational troops, sent immediately for Camp Patrick Henry, Va., several miles north of Newport News and from there they will be sent to reception centers nearest their homes within 24 to 36 hours.

Patrols on escape routes north from Bologna to the Brenner Pass and along railroads leading to the Alpine passes should prepare now for their job of hampering the withdrawal, Clark added.

He advised them not to take on "bombs or later" and ordered Patriots to stand by to strike at a moment's notice to hamper the withdrawal.

The German inevitably will retreat sooner or later, leaving Fascist troops to cover their rear," Clark said.

Clark declared it was certain that the central Apennine area would be called upon to be of specific assistance to my armies shortly.

Mine Strike Vote Taken

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Four hundred thousand soft coal miners across the nation voted today on whether to strike for John L. Lewis' contract demands, including a \$9,600,000 a year union royalty.

As the miners voted, on their own time, at mines or other convenient places, the Government sought to avert a mine shutdown by offering a new contract before that time.

The strike vote, required under the Smith Connally War Labor Disputes Act because Lewis served notice of a dispute in the industry, will be taken on this question.

Installations at the modern adrome just northwest of Manila, the fine wharf area, the municipal electric plant and the huge coconut refinery just across the harbor on Macaon Island—the largest refinery in the Philippines—all were bombed and blasted.

Non-rotation Japanese broadcast reported variously that "barrage battles are raging" and that "the Japanese are well equipped and more help will come to them."

The entire Italian Front was quiet as Clark broadcast his message. Only a few patrol skirmishes broke the monotony of a March drizzle.

In the central sector, patrols reported that Germans had cleared out of several localities where there had been sharp clashes in recent weeks.

Mecklenburg Casualties

KILLED: Pfc. Harry E. Jefferson, Sgt. Elmer L. Bailey, 1st Lt. Charles W. Stevens Jr., Sgt. Wilfred Beeson.

WOUNDED: S/Sgt. Roland W. Hanson, Pfc. Homer Wallace.

Japs Report Kyushu Raid

By ELMONT WAITE

GUAM—(AP)—Tokyo radio reported today American carrier planes raided Kyushu Island at the southern end of Japan this afternoon in a quick follow-up of two Superfortress raids within twelve hours.

Tokyo said about 80 seaborne planes raided the southernmost shores of Kyushu, last assaulted by carrier aircraft March 19.

Neither report was confirmed by the American command, which announced battleships and swarms of carrier planes continued their aerial assault on the island.

Disagreeing Japanese broadcast casts reported variously that "barrage battles are raging" and that "the Japanese are well equipped and more help will come to them."

The entire Italian Front was quiet as Clark broadcast his message. Only a few patrol skirmishes broke the monotony of a March drizzle.

In the central sector, patrols reported that Germans had cleared out of several localities where there had been sharp clashes in recent weeks.

Mecklenburg Casualties

KILLED: Pfc. Harry E. Jefferson, Sgt. Elmer L. Bailey, 1st Lt. Charles W. Stevens Jr., Sgt. Wilfred Beeson.

WOUNDED: S/Sgt. Roland W. Hanson, Pfc. Homer Wallace.