

Russians Throw Nazis Back Upon Gates Of Stettin

WALKS FIGHT COLOGNE

Baltic Port Bombaraded By Artillery Of Zhukov

Fortress Junction Of Stargard Falls

LONDON—(AP)—Marshal Gregory Zhukov's forces threw the Germans back upon the Gates of Stettin today. They captured Stargard, fortress junction 10 miles east and began shelling the suburbs of Berlin's chief Baltic port.

Marshal Stalin and the Germans announced the fall of Stargard. Stalin said a string of other strong points in the Stettin direction, including Naugard, had been occupied in a nine-mile advance from Daber.

Russian penetrations to the Baltic had been snuffed a triple lock of an estimated 200,000 Germans caught in three coastal pockets extending 150 miles from Koburg to Danzig. Powerful new devices threatened to sweep the Germans out of all Pomerania in short order.

Stettin Bay Sighted. Advanced units already were in sight of Stettin Bay.

Two Russian spearheads on the Baltic near Kolberg and at Koslin have been supplemented by a third farther east between Koslin and Schwie, the Germans reported.

Stargard, one of the most important outer defenses of Stettin, was taken after a brief street fight, Berlin announced, by Zhukov's First White Russian Army.

Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's Second White Russian Army, overrunning 600 local troops in a four-day 62-mile advance, which left piles of Volksturm dead in its wake, reached the Baltic at two places.

Raid On Germany Aerial Offensive Roars Unchecked

By HENRY B. JAMESON

LONDON—(AP)—Four hundred U. S. heavy bombers from Britain assaulted the railway network at Chemnitz and oil refineries at Harburg this morning in the 21st straight day of sustained aerial offensive.

The Eighth Air Force bombers were escorted by 600 Mustangs and Thunderbolts which fanned out seeking German trains and road convoys.

About 250 RAF heavy bombers made a concentrated daylight attack on the benzol plant at Gelsenkirchen just behind the German's Rhine front. While one force of Mustangs hit Berlin last night another group attacked Essen, important rail hub at the northern end of the Ruhr. The Air Ministry said the planes were lost in other operation.

The round-the-clock air offensive was kept in high gear yesterday despite bad weather. Heavy rain and snow in a large part of Europe.

RAIL CENTERS HIT. Approximately 1,600 American

and British heavy bombers concentrated on railroad yards at Dinslaken, 50 miles southeast of Stettin, and Wannebeck, one of the largest rail centers in the Ruhr.

Italy-based American heavy bombers in Germany's Eighth Air Force attacks. B-17s on V-bomb runs caused some confusion that night, but the fighters were not in the area were out in a number of places.

These bombers and two fighters were hit in Germany's Eighth Air Force attack, bringing losses in the last eight days to 73 bombers and 19 fighters out of 14,000 planes in the missions.

Successor To Jones Vinson Nominated For Loan Chief

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Fred M. Vinson, Economic Stabilization Director, was nominated today by President Roosevelt to be Federal Loan Administrator.

Vinson succeeds Jesse Jones as head of the loan agency handling billions of dollars. They were severed from the Commerce Department so they would not come under the jurisdiction of Henry A. Wallace, before the Senate confirmed Wallace for Secretary of Commerce, which Vinson returned the Federal Loan Administration to an independent status.

A former member of Congress from Kentucky and a former Justice of the United States Circuit Court for the District of Columbia, Vinson has been Stabilization Director since James F. Byrnes gave up the post. Byrnes moved into the position of War Production Director.

Immediate Senate reaction to Vinson's nomination indicated quick confirmation.

Chairman Walter, Democrat, North Carolina, of the Commerce Committee, who had opposed giving Wallace the loan agency, said:

"Judge Vinson is a very fine and able man, and I shall vote for his confirmation."

Senator Pepper, Democrat, Florida, who for a time led a Senate

Jap Banzai Attack Fails On Iwo Jima

Marines Rout Screaming Enemy

By LEIF ERICKSON

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam.—(AP)—Sturdy U. S. Marines hurled back a Japanese counter-attack in which hundreds of screaming Japanese were killed. Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

Enemy dead numbered 12,844 as of 6 P. M. Saturday, out of an estimated garrison of 20,000. There were 10 prisoners, the military Korean laborers.

In bloody hand-to-hand fighting, the battle-worn Leathernecks of the 28th and 32nd Divisions continued their tortuous advance over terrain which Nimitz described as naturally suited to defensive operations.

The freed Marines, however, could see for what they were fighting and for what their comrades had died. On 29-30, returning from a Tokyo raid, landed on the southern beach.

Almost half of the B-29 losses in the Japanese attack from the Marianas have resulted from crash landings on the last leg of the 10,000-mile round-trip flight. Now cripples can stop at Iwo. Also, new airfields will mean substantially increased bomb loads to the sky jacks.

WAR IS FIERCE

Compressed into an ever-tightening area on Iwo's northern end, the cornered Japanese are fighting with untamed fury. Marines, snatching a gun or pillbox or blockhouse find the garrison resisting the death of their arms fire mounting in intensity.

The Fifth Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Keller E. Rockey, hurled back the Japanese counter-attack.

Marine Commander Lt. Gen. Holland M. (Howlin) Madh Smith sent a message to the gallant Fourth Division to be ready to meet the enemy congratulating them for "exemplary conduct and stubborn attacks against enemy positions."

It was disclosed that Lt. Col. A. Vandergriff, Jr., son of General Vandergriff's command in 1942, was wounded in both legs by mortar fire on Feb. 24. Previously he was wounded in the leg on Saipan.

Despite the concentrated hail of surface ship shelling, coming from the sea, the Marines and artillery fire, the enemy was still able to lob heavy mortar shells into the highlights of the airfield today as evacuation planes landed and took off with wounded.

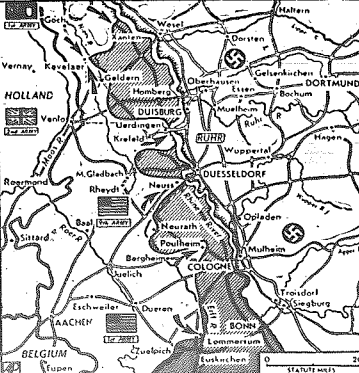
March To The Rhine Yanks Prove Staying Power By Coming Up From Floor Swinging

By DON WHITEHEAD

ON THE OUTSKIRKS OF COLOGNE—The surge of First Army infantry and tanks into the city of Cologne today proved the American soldiers' ability to take a lot of punishment and come back swinging.

And the triumphant American march to the Rhine was underlined by the fact that Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's great counter-attack, the "Wolfsberg" plan for a winter offensive. The maining preparative power of the American Army which were so sorely pounded in the battle of the Bulge.

Even while Von Rundstedt's push was being halted, supplies were pouring into the front. The German commander had thrown Eisenhower's plans



AMERICANS ENTER COLOGNE—Germany's fourth city, Cologne, was a battlefield today as U. S. First Army troops broke into the Rhine metropolis. American forces held long stretches along the Rhine but efforts to seize bridges were futile. The Germans blew up two spans in the area of captured Homburg, across from Duisburg, today.

Japs Mopped Up Yanks Score New Gains On Luzon

By FRED HAMPTON

MANILA—(AP)—American Doughboys pushed deeper today into the mountains of Northern Luzon, reported headquarters stronghold of Japanese Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, as Gen. Douglas MacArthur disclosed that Filipino guerrillas had cleared one entire northern province of Japanese troops.

Other Americans overcame the last Japanese resistance in Manila, continued their eastward pressure to secure the city's water supply area and occupied two more Philippine islands.

MacArthur's communique said units of the 25th and 32nd Divisions of the U. S. Army, with the 1st Cavalry Division and the 1st Marine Division, were reported west of the Baguio Pass road, the Villa Verde Trail and the Ambarbagay River.

These spearheads were east and south of Baguio, the Philippine summer capital. Yamashita said their "irregular type of fighting" baffled the Japanese who suffered "extraordinarily heavy losses, including the death of their commander, a Regular Army officer because a guerrilla leader in 1942.

Activity in this area might also have cleared the northern part of Luzon, where the Japanese made their headquarters.

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Fall Of Rhine City Expected In Short Time

Americans Mile Inside Metropolis Nazis Blow Bridges To North

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS—(AP)—First Army tanks fought a mile deep inside Cologne tonight, driving through the Bickendorf northern section within 2-1/2 miles of the towering cathedral at the heart of the great Rhineland metropolis.

Infantry of the 104th Division moved in from the west and capture of Germany's fourth city was expected by Thursday morning at the latest.

Tanks and infantry, moving through acrid smoke curling from ruins leveled by a wheel to wheel artillery barrage, slowly closed in on the old part of the city, leaving behind railyards and some of the vast array of factories.

Tanks and infantry stormed into Cologne at 7:10 A. M.

The final assault started in the cold darkness of 4 A. M. Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose's Third Armored Division passed the city limits, striking from the north through the suburbs of Bocklemund.

HOUSE TO HOUSE FIGHTING. House to house fighting was touched off quickly. AF Correspondent Don Whitehead, with the First Army, reported.

Cologne lay under a pall of smoke. The thunder of battle was rolling across the city in increasing fury as the Americans closed in for the kill on the eleventh day of their great drive from the Roer River 21 miles behind.

Artillery was pouring heavy fire in massed salvos from American guns wheel to wheel outside Cologne, ringed on all its sides, west of the Rhine.

Smoke rolled up from fires and explosions set by bursting American shells. The Doughboys inside Cologne caught flashing glimpses through the pall of the slender 512-foot tower of the 13th century cathedral. Artillery and troops had been ordered to hold their fire away from the magnificent structure.

TAR HEEL IN ACTION. At 9 A. M., Lt. Col. John Welborn of Southern Pines, N. C., had his troops fighting at Longrich on the northern end of the sprawling railway yards of Cologne, one of the greatest rail centers in Europe and the chief traffic center for all Western Germany.

The first column to cross the city limits from the north was a task force of armor and infantry commanded by Lt. Col. L. L. Doan of Houston, Texas.

Resistance from remnants of six tank and Volksgrenadier divisions was comparatively light on the fringe of the city. The Germans had pulled most defenders deeper in to the ruins, leaving antitank and flak guns to guard approaches over which tanks clanked.

Infantrymen went in to clean out factories and houses in which the Germans were holed up. Tanks ran up and opened fire at point blank range into houses which were strongpoints.

While Rose's tanks struck down from the north, Maj. Gen. Terry Allen's 104th Timberwolf Division was driving in from the west.

Prisoners captured in the first thrust said most Nazis had pulled back to a line of defense on the Ling.

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Yanks Just Miss Bridges To Duisburg Blown Up By Nazis

By ROBERT EUNSON

HOMBURG, Germany—(AP)—The Germans blew two bridges crossing the Rhine to Duisburg north and south of here today while the 8th Division was trying resolutely to seize them.

The enemy garrison in this manufacturing city of 35,000 surrendered three hours after midnight.

Hundreds of retreating Nazis were caught on the west side of the Rhine and were being flushed from basements and cellars in house to house man-hunts for any German stock of military aid.

Many enemy officers were

Two-Minute News Roundup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Western Front

The titanic battle for Germany racing along the River Rhine has erupted into violent action. First Army tanks have fought a full mile inside Cologne. The Yanks are driving through the northern section within two and one-half miles of the towering cathedral in the heart of Germany's fourth city. Two suburbs of the city are said to have fallen to the Yanks.

To the north, the Nazis have blown up two more bridges in the face of Ninth Army fighting now striving mightily to capture them. The spans crossed the Rhine to Duisburg from points north and south of Homburg. The bridge above Homburg was a 60-foot wide railroad structure and would have been vital for the transport of retreating Germans. It was captured on the west side of the Rhine.

Russian Front

The Eastern Front is embellished with new gains for the Red Army. Premier Marshal S. G. Zhukov has announced the capture of Stargard, (Stargard), situated 10 miles east of Stettin. The town here also saved Naugard, 23 miles from Stettin Bay.

Marshal Gregory Zhukov's big guns have begun to shell the city of Stettin lying east of the Oder River. The Red Army has reached the Baltic at three places by driving cutting off some 20,000 Germans. After striking to the west, the Red Army has turned westward toward the Baltic.

Mecklenburg Casualties

(Stettin Inside)

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Air Warfare

The non-stop aerial offensive against the Reich has hit its 21st day with American and British bombers engaged in raids. One thousand American bombers, including 400 heavies, attacked the railway network at Chemnitz in the central Germany. The objects also struck oil refineries at Harburg, near Hamburg. About 250 RAF heavy bombers made a concentrated daylight attack on the benzol plant at Gelsenkirchen, (Gelsen-ker-ken), behind the German's Rhine front.

Iwo

American Marines on Iwo have made small gains and have forced back a Jap counter-attack. The American troops clearing the Japs out of the southern end of the field have discovered a use for the steam of Surtachi volcano. The Marines stuff cans of "C" rations into the volcanic tubes through its caves yesterday and the troops were quick to make use of them.

Philippines

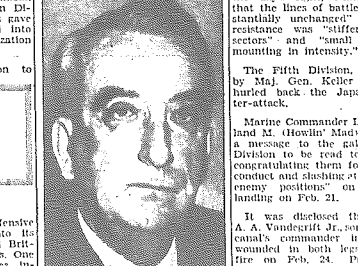
On Luzon, American and Filipino soldiers are fighting in the mountainous area of the north. The Japs are believed to be gathered in upper Luzon for their last stand.

Montgomery's Mother Gives General Deadline

LONDON—Sir—Marshal Montgomery, always an obedient son, has been told to stand up to his European war by March 15.

Lady Montgomery, mother of "Monty," has predicted that the war will be over by that date. The Evening Standard said today, adding:

"And she says she has written to the field marshal to insist that the war be over by that date."



VINSON

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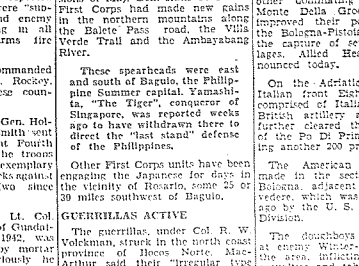
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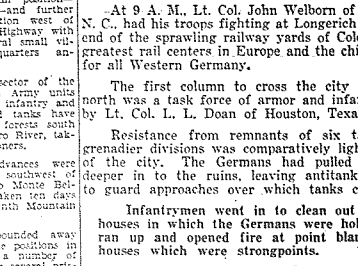
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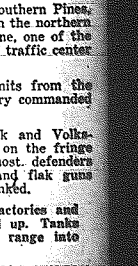
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