

# Germans Seem Unable To Halt Russian Drive

## Nazis Being Ripped To Pieces Over 175-Mile Front; Much Booty Taken

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW.—(AP)—Gen. Nikolai Vatutin's forces, gaining new momentum after smashing ten miles into pre-war Poland, sped forward today in a great fan-shaped offensive toward lifelines vital to enemy operations in the Ukrainian and Dnieper Bend.

The Nazis appeared unable to halt the Russian machine. Over a front of 175 miles from the lower Pripiet Marshes near Rakitino, ten miles inside the old Polish border, to the flat steppe near Zhashkov, 40 miles south of Belaya Tserkov, the first Ukrainian Army was ripping the Germans to pieces and capturing huge stores of booty.

To the north, in the Nivel sector, Gen. Ivan Bagramian's grouping Battle offensive swept deep into the strong concrete bastion where the German spectre of encirclement was the same as in Ukraine.

Snowfalls and blizzards were said to advance patrols cutting be-

hind Nazi lines and threatening the communications of the German forces before Leningrad. Just as Vatutin's tank tanks and cavalry were tearing the German front lines leading to the Dnieper and the Black Sea.

Vatutin's advance brought increased pressure on the Germans in Kirovograd and Kyiv. Soviet troops were reported to be

# Upon New Britain

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NEW BRITAIN

GUINEA—(AP)—in the bitterest kind of jungle warfare Japanese defenders of the island of New Guinea have met with the heaviest losses in the stiffest resistance to the Marines who landed at Cape Gloucester twelve days ago.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported today that Marines pressing eastward toward Borne Bay from the Cape Gloucester area have encountered fierce opposition and only slight advances have been made.

Both sides have whirled up their big guns and American planes have supported the Marines by strafing Japanese lines and gun positions.

**OVER 5,000 DEAD**

The 600 Japanese dead reported in today's communiqué raised to more than 2,000 the number of Japanese killed since the war in the Cape Gloucester action.

Aerial warfare against the Japanese has been going on since Feb. 25, 1945, 180 miles west of Cape Gloucester, where a Japanese fleet of 14 ships, including a battleship, was destroyed.

Out of the sky, and at Kavieng, New Ireland, where two destroyers were sunk and probably sunk.

**RAVAGING RAIN**

of "thundered All-out, flots

shot down seven Zeros, two medium bombers and a floatplane in the attack and during a later enemy assault against the withdrawing carrier force.

The blast against Madagascari-  
an forces in the north coast of  
New Guinea, came at a time  
when the Indonesian Air Force  
was surging up the coast.

American forces, which landed  
at Saidor, New Guinea, Jan. 2  
have moved 50 miles northward  
to contact  
with more than 50 airline miles  
from Madag.

Japanese forces cut off in the  
north, and the saidor land-  
ing are being steadily driven into  
a shrinking pocket by Australian  
forces. The Japanese forces  
now are within 61 airline  
miles of their American allies.

The Japanese Air Force, which  
without bases in the hands  
of the Indonesian Air Force,  
night fighters, an Air Min  
can communicate.

IN ADDITION TO bombing ob-  
jects in Germany, the identity  
of the Japanese Air Force in  
New Guinea also stabbed at north-  
France and other RAP planes I  
the night, enemy waters, the bul-  
let declared.

Apparently a considerable  
number of Japanese Air Force  
Mosquitoes participated in the  
operations, as observers on the  
British shore coast reported  
that the night that the  
heard outward bound planes  
pulsed overhead for almost

## Boyington Missing On Same Day He Downed 26th Japanese Plane

days ago. His achievement was reported yesterday from Guadalcanal.

**DIDN'T COME BACK**

But Capt. Pappy Boyington did not come back from his triumph.

To Mrs. E. J. Hallenbeck, his mother, came the grim Navy Department telegram last night: "We regret to inform you that your son, who was expected to be slow in arriving, but a letter would follow."

His mother expressed faith that "Greg" would come through safely.

Somehow, somewhere," she said. She has recalled proudly in an earlier interview how her son had told her upon his 193rd birthday that the Marine Corps for air service.

"Mother, nothing will stop me. . . . This is what I have wanted to do since I was a boy. This is the only thing I've ever wanted to get up before breakfast and do."

She recalled the letter he wrote her Dec. 15: "The Japs are getting pretty close to Guadalcanal. I will sail for Guadalcanal."

KINGMAN, Ariz.—(A)—Twenty-seven soldiers were killed and eight critically injured in the collision of a Kingman Army A

The Air Base Public Relations officers said all of the dead in one were aviation cadets who had been on a night gunnery mission at a range across the railroad tracks from the base.

Army officials said C. L. Hickey, major, engineer of freight, said that his train was going at the "usual speed of about 45 miles an hour" when he saw the flagman at the crossing and down the bus.

Hickey was quoted by the Public Relations Office as saying the bus appeared to stop and then went out of control.

## Work Stoppage Grips Shipyard

PHILADELPHIA, April 17.—A two-stoppage halted production of a variety of ships for the Navy at the Philadelphia Navy Yard today. The West Coast Shipbuilding Company, which is the second largest shipyard in the nation, was ordered to suspend operations because the warship building program had not been resumed if the Navy takes over the plant.

The yard's gates closed and the workers were thrown out of the yard while a crowd of about 5,000 workers milled outside. Only a few walked in, however, and when a busload sent them home they were told to return to the yard in the morning and now they are going to be sent out with their things to be sold.