

U. S. TROOPS CONVERGE ON METZ NET DRAWN AROUND JAPS ON LEYTE

Nazis Evacuate Hungarian City

LONDON—(AP)—German troops have evacuated the important communications center of Jaszbereny, 35 miles due east of Budapest, the Berlin radio said today.

The reported loss of the bitterly contested city of 30,000 came after the Red Army wheeled upon the Hungarian capital from several directions and liquidated a German bridgehead east of the Danube and south of Buda. Some 1,000 Nazis and 20 tanks had been overrun.

Major General V. Matinovskiy's troops, holding fast to their posts within easy medium artillery range of Budapest on the south

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on Budapest from Southern Hungary last month, it was estimated.

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Americans On 3 Sides Of Enemy

Threaten To Cut Spear From Shaft

By C. YATES McDANIEL

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S

HEADQUARTERS, PHILIP-
PINES (AP)—American

fighting men today were on three sides of the Japanese Leyte Island spearhead thrust north from the port of Ormoc and threatened to cut the spear from the shaft.

In a strategic maneuver, infan-
trymen of the 44th Division swung

west to the west of the Japanese

front line regiment near Limon, while others until the 24th main-
tained pressure along the line from

the north. Captured Japanese

positions were closed in from

captured Hill 1525 and Mt. Cata-
baran to the east in a muckraking

move.

U. S. AIRS ROAR

In his communiqué today, Gen-

eral MacArthur spoke of the im-
portance of the spearhead below

Ormoc, the Namabata Line, below

Limon. He said American artil-
lery was giving the infantrymen

surprise effective close support

and capturing numerous Japanese gun

positions.

At the same time, American

long range guns were taking

the second and third lines of the

main counteroffensive. He re-
ported that Japanese sea and air

units suffered "severe losses."

His latest report indicated Japanese

correspondents and Red Army

agents had reached the Soviet

Union several times.

His last news indicated Japanese

correspondents and Red Army

agents had reached the Soviet

Union several times.

He said Japanese forces had

been driven from the Soviet

Union several times.

"The balance of power has

been strongly rebuffed."

The veteran Red Army officer

said the Pacific was no longer

the first state of Japan's well

planned and well-organized offen-
sive plan.

The American Seventh Division

at Dauinian on the west Leyte

coast, near the mouth of Ormoc

River, had advanced a mile and

captured a small open force

estimated to be from barges,

General MacArthur reported.

This was the first day of the

attack on the Ormoc Corridor,

American troops, marching out with con-
stant offensive punches, had

broken the Japanese barrier and

captured Gen. Tokuyoshi

Vasamatsu, from gathering

enough force in his forward

areas for a strong counter-
attack.

Elements of the Japanese division

are believed to be in the

Americans who hold high

positions in the Japanese

army, and the Americans are

advancing rapidly along the

east side of a narrow valley

leading south to Ormoc. On the

west side of the valley are more

high hills and an abrupt

end to the sea.

Principal fighting is near Limon

to which the Japanese have now

retreated from the Bantayan

Island Division, marching

along the Olonga road from Carta-
ba on Leyte, the north coast

of the sea.

British Cross

Montone River

ROMA, P. (UPI)—British Army Forces

crossed the Montone River

near the town of Montone, Italy,

today, to begin the final assault

on the Lido-Burna Road to Bologna.

The British forces, which had

been held up by the Germans

for two days, crossed the river

under cover of smoke and

firepower.

The crossing of the Montone

marked the beginning of the final

assault on the Lido-Burna Road.

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