

# Yanks Gain 27 Mi. East of Rhine



Stars and Stripes reporter Bud Hutton took these pictures of U.S. paratroopers at a Troop Carrier Command base just prior to the airborne invasion of Germany. L-R, a barber shaves a head clean, except for an Iroquois scalp lock, while kibitzers look on; two troopers sharpen their battle knives by whittling; they

make a last-minute check of their rigging; and finally the carrier's ready for loading and for the fateful trip across the Rhine and into Nazi-held territory. For other stories and pictures of new Reich crossings see pages 4 and 5.)

New York London Edition Paris  
**THE STARS AND STRIPES**  
 Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces Vol. 5 No. 122—1d. in the European Theater of Operations MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1945

## B29s Fire Jap Aircraft Plants

### 250 Deliver 'Worst Blow'; Shell Ryukyus

Two hundred and fifty Superforts roared in low over the mammoth Mitsubishi aircraft engine factory near Nagoya early Sunday morning, 20th Air Force HQ announced yesterday, and started at least 15 fires in the greatest demolition raid of the war against Japan. The Nagoya area was bombed for the tenth time with "good" results just one day after U.S. Pacific Fleet units rounded off a full week of carrier attacks against enemy air and naval targets with a raid on the Ryukyu islands, 300 miles southwest of the Japanese homeland. The Marianas-based B29s switched from the incendiaries used in five recent raids on major Japanese cities to 500-lb. demolition bombs in an attempt to knock out the Mitsubishi factory which, together with the Nakajima plant near Tokyo, accounts for about three-quarters of the Jap's combat plane engines.

**Closest Action of Kind**  
 Coastal objectives on four islands of the Ryukyu chain were raked by shells from U.S. battleships in the closest surface action of its kind to the Japanese homeland on Friday and Saturday, while carrier-based planes hunted down nearby Japanese shipping and aircraft.

No details of the latest damage inflicted were released, but in the four-day attack on Japan proper, which lasted through Wednesday, at least 731 enemy planes and 17 warships were destroyed or damaged and seven major air bases badly battered on Kyushu, most southerly of the Japanese home islands.

One American destroyer was seriously damaged and one large ship suffered minor damage. Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific Commander-in-Chief, also announced that the escort carrier Bismarck Sea was lost to Japanese aerial action off Iwo Jima Wednesday. Most of the crew of 1,500 were saved. It was the 11th U.S. carrier lost in the war.

Philippine-based bombers struck new blows against the Japanese-held island of Formosa, off the China coast, and against Cebu, the only major central Philippine island not in U.S. hands. Heavy rain and fog hampered ground operations.

## Blazing Hellfire Into the Foe They Jumped Into Hell

By Bud Hutton  
 Stars and Stripes Staff Writer  
**ISSEL RIVER LINE, Germany, Mar. 25**—American paratroopers today drove eastward from the island of bloody ground they took and held to spearhead the Allied thrust beyond the wrecked gliders, past the black skeletons of fire-raised transport planes, and away from the German fields mottled with the colors of their clutes. The paratroopers, remnants of U.S. and British units, struck at enemy forces routed in yesterday's airborne attack. They were back fighting as doughnuts, but even if they should stay earthbound they will always be the guys who jumped across the Rhine and opened the road to Berlin—the hard way.

The C46 was burning when we hooked up and shoved for the door. Bob Reeder and the rest of the carrier's crew never said a word. They stayed in there and kept us level and we went over the side into a weird sky of bursting flak, lazy tracers and colored silk. Flak hit the next man in the air and he

## They Joined the Navy—to See the Rhine



A Navy assault boat loaded with 3rd Army men and equipment swirls across the Rhine in the climactic river crossings of the weekend which saw land, air and sea forces combine for the great operation.

## Russians Advance in South, Peril Austrian, Czech Plants

Marshal Stalin announced last night that Marshal Malinovsky's 2nd Ukrainian Army had launched a new offensive west of Budapest, adding the weight of a third Russian army to the massive assault toward the great industrial installations in Austria, Czechoslovakia and southeastern Germany. Malinovsky's troops, Stalin revealed, broke through strong German defenses in the Vertes Mountains, advanced 27 miles and captured more than 200 inhabited localities.

Farther west, the Soviet communique said Marshal Tolbukhin's troops, driving across the Hungarian plain, had captured Mocs, 89 miles southeast of Vienna. The Nazis said these troops were advancing on Gyor, only 65 miles from the Austrian city.

While Tolbukhin threatened to drive through to Vienna from the southeast, Marshal Koniiev's army pushed south toward Moravska Ostrava, the German stronghold guarding the Moravian Gap, gateway to Czechoslovakia.

German reports yesterday indicated that Koniiev's front was over 100 miles long and broadening steadily.

There were no reports from Marshal Zhukov's central Oder River front except German claims that more Russian divisions were being brought up for the expected assault toward Berlin. The Germans previously had reported fighting in Klessen and Gelzow, west of the Oder, about 30 miles from Berlin.

These German admissions have not been confirmed by Moscow. At the northern end of the front

(Continued on back page)

## Vets to Get 2 Coupons For Civilian Shoes

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25 (ANS)—Because GI clodhoppers aren't suitable for civilian wear and the shoes the GI left in his closet the day he entered the service usually don't fit by the time he's discharged, the Office of Price Administration—as part of its program to assist veterans in their return to civilian life—announced today it will issue two shoe coupons to ex-servicemen instead of only one as in the past.

## 4th Armored Leads Swift Push After Airborne Landings

Troops of three American armies were reported last night to have broken out of their Rhine River bridgeheads for the thrust into central Germany. Greatest advances were scored on the 3rd Army's front where the lightning 4th Armored Division, on the loose again behind the enemy's front, had driven 27 miles beyond the Rhine and captured a bridge intact over the Main River, which loops in an irregular north-south "U" southeast of Frankfurt. The exact site of the bridge was not disclosed.

At the same time, doughboys of the 30th (Old Hickory) Division, first 9th Army outfit across the Rhine in the 21st Army Group's week-end thrust over the river north of the Ruhr valley, have "broken into the open" after shattering the German defenses in one of the most brilliant infantry attacks of the war, a front-line dispatch said. The troops were eight miles from their starting point on the Rhine east bank and were pushing ahead in a sector where enemy resistance appeared to be disintegrating, it was said.

Also on the move were Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges's 1st Army tanks, whose crews opened a new drive yesterday morning through the rugged hills out of the Remagen bridgehead and gained up to six miles, putting them 14 miles from the Rhine at the deepest point. The push began slowly because of unexpected German resistance along a 30-mile front before the bridgehead, but once the enemy lines were pierced the advance gathered momentum and the Germans were pushed back all along the line.

While his forces struck eastward from the bridgehead established late last week below Mainz and north of Worms, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton sent still other forces over the river at several points between Coblenz and Boppard, eight miles to the south.

These new crossings were north of the original bridgehead, and were made at a most difficult point, dispatches said. The river at the new site was 1,500 to 1,800 feet wide, with 900-foot cliffs frowning down upon the river on either side. One group of infantry crossing in assault boats was caught in German crossfire. Enemy resistance ranged from moderate to heavy, reports said. One bridgehead was said to cover about 4,000 yards along the east bank while another crossing site, farther north, was 2,800 yards wide.

While the 4th Armored covered 40 road miles in its gain of 27 miles beyond the

(Continued on back page)

## 8th AF Aided Paratroops

Having culminated its role in the Rhine crossing Saturday with blazing bomber and fighter sweeps up and down enemy territory, activities of the 8th Air Force fell off sharply yesterday as approximately 250 Liberators and some 250 Mustangs and Thunderbolts attacked three underground oil storage depots near Brunswick and Hamburg.

But on Saturday, the 8th put together a mighty procession of bombers and fighters which flew 3,000 sorties in cooperation with the troops streaming across the river. The bombers, which had been devastating enemy airfields east of the Rhine for three days, plastered 16 more and dropped weapons and supplies in a daring low-level operation to paratroops immediately after they had landed.

From dawn to dusk Thunderbolts and Mustangs patrolled the battle area, riding troop concentrations, supply columns, rail yards and airfields. Only 66 Nazi fighters were met, an indication of the results of the bombers' relentless attacks on Luftwaffe fields, and 53 of these were shot down. The 8th lost 22 bombers and four fighters during the day.

Liberators which dropped supplies to the airborne troops bore the brunt of

(Continued on back page)



An Editorial

# A Word to the Wise



take of assuming the Germans are rendered."—Roosevelt on the State of the Union.

“THE doomed enemy hurls his last forces into action, resists desperately in order to escape stern retribution. He grasps and will grasp at the most extreme and base means of struggle. Therefore it should be borne in mind that the nearer our victory, the higher must be our vigilance and the heavier must be our blows at the enemy.”—Stalin, in a recent Order of the Day.

“It is always in the last lap that races are gained or lost. The effort must be forthcoming. . . . This is no moment now to slacken.”—Churchill to the British people.

“We must never make the mis-

## Hash Marks

It's tough all over. Before the Yanks kicked the Japs out of Guam the Nips told the natives that things were so tough in the U.S.A. that President Roosevelt had to stand in line for his rice ration.

Alibi of the Week. Asked how he got his black eye, a corporal replied, “I stepped up to a crowded bar and said, ‘Just a little stout.’ Just then a buxom dame walked by, overheard me and slugged me.”

Sights in the Night. A gal, looking a little green and shaking her head while perched atop a bar stool. “Hey, whassa-



matter?” asked her escort. “Nothin’,” she mumbled, “except I got a funny feeling my collapse is coming before Germany’s.”

From the Bom-Bay Messenger: “To be popular with the girls, a soldier has to know when to do the wrong thing at the right time.”

Afterthought. Every dog has his day but the nights are reserved for the cats.

Drama on the Home Front. “Young man,” said the irate father looking at his watch as his daughter and a boy friend stepped from a car, “how could you drive so long on an ‘A’ ration card?”

This little verse about a traveling salesman brings back memories of pre-war life in the good old USA:

In Atlanta it was Mabel,  
In Mobile her name was Flo,  
In Cincinnati it was Dolly,  
Betty Jane in Buffalo.  
In old Philly it was Mary,  
Down in Tampa it was Jean,  
But on this week's expense sheet  
It was “meals and gasoline.”

Overheard in the Blackout: “I married to free myself from my mother's apron strings only to be lassoed by my mother-in-law.”

Memo to the Home Front. The only kind of strikes the American fighting man wants to hear about for the duration



(plus) are those called by the umpire from behind the plate with the visiting team at bat.

Excerpt from a fan letter: “The only thing that can possibly rival Iowa's corn production is Hash Marks.”

J. C. W.

## THE STARS AND STRIPES

Printed at The Times Publishing Company, Ltd., for U.S. Armed forces, under auspices of The Information and Education Division, Special and Information Services, ETUSA.  
Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors; subscription 26 shillings per year plus postage. ETUSA edition. Entered as second class matter, Mar. 15, 1943, at the post office, New York, N.Y., under the Act of Mar. 3, 1879. All material appearing in this publication has been written and edited by uniformed members of the Army and Navy except where stated that a civilian or other outside source is being quoted.  
Editorial and Business office—The Times, Printing House Sq., London, E.C.4 (Tel. Cen. 3000). District Offices: Bedford 2184; Swindon 3424; Sutton Coldfield.—Four Oaks 268.  
Vol. 5, No. 122, March 26, 1945

## THE B BAG



BLOW IT OUT HERE

### Tribute to a Doc

Mar. 19, 1945

To the B-Bag:  
Often in the past we hospitalized Joes, as front-line troops, have minimized (in no uncertain terms) the value of rear echelon installations. Here in the hospital plant some of these cynics have made a revision of their opinion. The responsible factor has been the ward surgeon. Though a major, his words and, more important, his actions have proved that he is FIRST OF ALL what the Army commissioned him for—a scientist whose knowledge and vast experience is a benefit to wounded men. His continuous consideration of others and the brilliancy of his surgical work have won him the admiration of the men whose futures often depended on him.

We are like any other group of GIs—bitter, cynical and a bit envious of our more fortunate brothers-in-arms. We know the ways of the Army, with its monumental evidence of inefficiency, but we pause for a moment to take off our hats to one example of proper assignment—Maj. H. G. Dumphy, who is leaving us tomorrow for a new assignment.

All the boys of Ward 9 join in to say “thanks for everything” and to wish you, Maj. Dumphy, the best of luck.—Joes of Ward 9, Hosp. Plant.

### Battle Jackets

Mar. 1, 1945

To the B-Bag:  
This is my pet gripe and I'm glad the Air Corps sergeant, who complained about the officers wearing the enlisted men's battle jacket, gave me a chance to air it.

Well, ground officers would prefer to wear the regular officers' battle jacket, but the officers' clothing store in London will not sell them to us as they reserve all the green jackets for Air Corps officers. Consequently, we buy an enlisted man's jacket or wear a field jacket while on pass from the hospital.

Maybe the sergeant can persuade the powers in the U.K. to release authorized clothing to wounded officers who have returned to the U.K. for hospitalization.—Capt. O. F. B., Hosp. Plant.

[Incl. “A” to ETUSA circular letter 13, dd Jan. 28, 1945, designates the green battle jacket for A/C officers only. The other, commonly known as “enlisted men's jacket,” is authorized for GIs and for purchase by officers of all other branches. And, incidentally, it is the jacket Gen. Eisenhower wears.—Ed.]

### Education for Marriage

Mar. 17, 1945

To the B-Bag:  
The naval officer could probably offer many suggestions concerning marriage to Sgt. T. L. S., but would the sergeant be sympathetic? Trial marriages are proposed for persons who jump into marriage without considering its responsibility. One writer asks, in effect, what in heaven's name people think they are doing when they get married!

Too many people believe sex the only factor to be considered. Dr. Pierson can tell the sergeant that normal people are sexually adaptable. Why, then, the necessity for such proposals as “trial marriage”? There can be no reason that is not adequately covered by old-fashioned courtship.

The source of the trouble is in the schools. Too little stress is placed on the sanctity of marriage by modern educators. Sex knowledge is emphasized over, and sometimes in place of, morals, and too many young people regard marriage as something they can enter into and exit from at will. So long as teaching is so lax and laws so loose as to encourage the whims of weak characters, “trial marriage” or any other proposal to decrease the number of divorces is destined for failure. The major in today's Stars and Stripes missed the boat, too.—Y/2c James M. McPhadden, USNR.

### Fala's Love Life

Mar. 20, 1945

To the B-Bag:  
In my opinion The Stars and Stripes has never been a first class newspaper, but several recent articles degrading the sacrament of matrimony by referring to the recent activities of the presidential mutt as marriage is a new low. If you have no better news to print, then save the paper until you do.

And in reply to Major Darling: PPA advocates the scientific spacing of children by the use of contraceptives. Since the primary function of sexual intercourse is propagating the human race and not amusement I fail to see much difference between prostitution and marriage as advocated by PPA.—S/Sgt. R. B., Hosp. Plant.

[It was Mrs. Roosevelt, not The Stars and Stripes, that described Fala's love life when she told her press conference “We hope he's having a wedding.” We only quoted the First Lady.—Ed.]

## Heroes of the Sea Become Heroes of the Land-ings

# Navy Was 9th's Secret Weapon to Cross the Rhine

By Ernie Leiser

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

EAST OF THE RHINE, Mar. 25—The 9th Army used a secret weapon to cross the Rhine—a navy.

Between the first waves of assault troops and the completion of bridges across the 1,000-foot river there would be a gap in time—disastrous if it were impossible to get guns, vehicles and supplies across.

That was where Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson pulled the navy rabbit out of his helmet.

The navy task unit, commanded by Lt. Cmdr. Willard T. Patrick, of Long

Island, N.Y., had been in training for this single operation since Nov. 10 along the Maas River in Holland.

During the crossing rehearsals, the navy worked under an engineer group—the Army outfit running the show. The Navy men—landborne and OD-clad—made the practice assaults right along with the soldiers who were to go over with them during the real thing.

The LCMs—which carry a tank or 60 men and have a crew of five sailors—came up from the sea. They were unloaded at Antwerp and run up the Albert Canal. The LCVPs—built to carry up to a three-ton truck or 46 men and a crew of four—were set ashore at Le Havre and brought up on giant trailers.

An even greater problem was to get the LCMs from the Maas to the Rhine. Trucks were the only means of transportation available. Considerable reconnaissance was necessary before a route could be found where the houses were set far enough back from the road to let the cumbersome craft pass.

## A Coupla Phone Calls And Pee wee Was Free

By Ed Lawrence

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 36TH INF. DIV., Mar. 25—Harassed Lt. Raymond Sandoval, of Galveston, Tex., picked up the phone and said “Hello.”

“Hello, Lieutenant, this is Pee wee,” came the voice of Pfc Loreto Preciado, of Heber, Cal. “Our outpost is surrounded.”

“That's tough. So is the company CP. Do the best you can.”

A little while and the phone jingled again.

“Me and Pvt. Gooley are prisoners now, Lieutenant,” said Pee wee. “The German captain says we shouldn't shell this building because they're using it for an aid station.”

“Okay,” said the Lieutenant. “But make sure they don't use it for anything else.”

The fighting continued. Pee wee called again.

“Some German soldiers came in here to get away from the mortars, but I told them they'd have to get the hell out of here with all those guns,” he reported.

The Lieutenant signified his approval and hung up.

Pee wee didn't call any more because the Germans discovered the telephone which they had missed in the earlier excitement and cut the wire. But the Americans advanced and the Germans fled, leaving the moon-faced little Mexican and his pal, Pfc Bill Gooley, of Amsterdam, N.Y., free to go back into the line.

## Engineers Planned, Trained the Navy

WITH 9TH ARMY, Mar. 25—Five months of planning, tens of thousands of tons of assorted crossing equipment and all the sweat and ingenuity U.S. engineers could muster went with the 9th Army across the Rhine.

The Rhine crossings began last November when Army engineers started planning the greatest inland amphibious operation ever conceived, even before Supreme Headquarters had decided the where and when.

Air and ground reconnaissance, study of currents, river bottoms, flood data and crossing sites came first. Then gathering all the equipment necessary, scrounging from then inadequate supplies of hard-to-get engineering equipment and hasty day-and-night replacement and salvage of material used in intervening operations. Then establishment of a giant trucking operation, rivaling the Red Ball highway system, to bring equipment frontside.

Finally, last-minute assembly of tons of equipment at the Rhine's edge, the use of deception dumps to conceal assembly points, and the massing of as much as 16,000 tons of stuff in a single dump during seven days. Then—

R-Day on the Rhine. The crossing into the heart of Germany, over the last real terrain obstacle to the center of the Reich.

## Storm Boats Went First

First went the storm boats. Speedy craft powered by 55hp outboard motors that took the first wave of infantry across at 25mph. Each was crewed by two engineer-trained soldiers. To get the best boat operators available, GI screened the personnel data of a whole army to find the men best qualified to handle

notoriously temperamental outboard motors.

Next went the assault boats—not operated by paddle alone like the boats that struggled across the surging Roer, but also by outboard motors that chugged them across at a steady 11 mile-an-hour rate—double assault boats that held 15 infantry and used a crew of three engineers. They, too, required special selection and special training. They, too, got it in week after week of rehearsal along the Maas River.

All details were carefully worked out. Motors were warmed up in advance to minimize the number of balky ones, then covered to take over the tiller in case something happened to the crews.

After the assault boats came the LVTs—landing vehicles, tracked, called Alligators. They brought up reinforcements. Their crews came from a whole battalion of tankers trained especially for the job. After the Alligators came the Navy with its LCVPs, which hauled men, guns and jeeps across.

At the same time the LCVPs were making the Rhine look like the scene of amphibious landings in the Pacific. Engineer rafts—made from sections of pontoon or Bailey bridges—were hauling the first tanks and heavy vehicles across, tugged by power boats on clumsy-looking 38-ton Sea Mules and operated by an Army Harborcraft company.

Then came the rest of the Navy—the LCMs which moved the tanks across the Rhine at 15mph to open their jaws and discharge them on the opposite bank.

## Lads Take Pop For a Ride-Home

By a Staff Writer

WITH 9TH ARMY, Mar. 23 (delayed)

—Pop was going home. Less than five hours before his outfit—Easy Company—was to shove off across the Rhine, they had phoned down from battalion that he was leaving tomorrow morning. That meant he wouldn't be in on the crossing.

Pop was a relative newcomer to the company—only there since January. But he wasn't a newcomer to the Army, and he'd been overseas for 31 months. He'd been in four D-Days—Africa, Sicily, Italy and Normandy. No one begrudged him a 30-day furlough back in the States. By God, he had earned it.

But down in the cellar where the third platoon was holed up, waiting to take off, they were riding Pop. Saying he was walking out on the company just when they needed him, calling him a deserter.

Pop—his name is Pfc Delbert Tompkins, of Yreka, Cal.—isn't really old. He's only 35. But he's got false teeth and is kind of bald—so everyone naturally calls him Pop.

## Just Sits and Grins

He just sat there and grinned while they kidded him. “Hey, Pop,” S/Sgt. Chester Biggs, of Washington, D.C., called out. “You're gonna miss all them good German cigars on the other side of the Rhine.”

Pop just smiled. Pvt. Maurice Swanson, of Sidney, Mont., asked, “How about seeing my girl in Los Angeles when you're home, Pop?”

Across the room someone yelled, “How about taking care of my old lady?” Everyone laughed. Pop grinned again. S/Sgt. Garland Hall, of Hillsdale, Va., Pop's squad leader, came in and said:

“He's just quitting me. That's what Pop is.” He added: “I bet you're gonna get drunk every night you're home.”

Pop didn't answer. The medic, Sgt. Jack Ward, of Pensacola, Fla., passed some aspirin—as if it were candy—just for the hell of it.

“I'm not even going to offer you any, Pop,” he said. “You haven't got the right to have a headache.”

Then someone asked Pop how he felt about going home. Pop hesitated a long time, and then said slowly, “Christ, doc, how would you feel?”

Not a soul answered. A dead silence fell over the room.

You could almost hear every man in the room thinking it, saying it to himself. “How would you feel about going home?”

They stopped riding Pop. A couple of them went outside to watch them bomb across the Rhine. A few more lay down and tried to get some sleep.

The rest just sat there, thinking.

## HUBERT by SGT. DICK WINGERT



“Your Rehabilitation Program may be O.K. Lady, but since we'll probably be sent back to the front, I personally can't see it!”

## AFN Radio Program

- On Your Dial  
1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.  
218.1m. 215.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.
- Monday, Mar. 26
- 1200—World News.
  - 1205—Duffie Bar.
  - 1300—Headlines—Serenade for Strings.
  - 1315—Music from the Movies.
  - 1400—World News.
  - 1410—A-E-F on the Spot.
  - 1430—Village Store.
  - 1500—Headlines—Strike up the Band.
  - 1530—Combat Diary.
  - 1545—On the Record.
  - 1630—Fiesta.
  - 1700—Headlines—Melody Roundup.
  - 1715—Music Parade.
  - 1800—World News.
  - 2305—Mark up the Map.
  - 1810—American Sports Roundup.
  - 1815—GI Supper Club.
  - 1900—Headlines—Lynn Murray Chorus.
  - 1915—Strings With Wings.
  - 1930—Duffy's Tavern.
  - 2000—Headlines—Combat Diary.
  - 2015—Johnny Mercer's Music Shop.
  - 2030—Canadian Band of the A.E.F.
  - 2100—World News.
  - 2105—Top Ten with the R.A.F. Orchestra and Beryl Davis.
  - 2135—Comedy Caravan.
  - 2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
  - 2235—Merely Melodies.
  - 2300—News.
  - 2305—Merely Music.
- Tuesday, Mar. 27
- 0800—Headlines—Combat Diary.
  - 0815—Personal Album.
  - 0830—Dance Music.
  - 0900—World News.
  - 0905—Spotlight Band.
  - 0925—Music America Loves Best.
  - 1000—Headlines—Morning After (Duffy's Tavern).
  - 1030—Strike up the Band.
  - 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A.
  - 1105—Duffie Bar.

# U.S. Stays Sober Over Rhine Crossing; Legion, CIO Demand Jobs-for-All Plan

## Say U.S. Must Provide Jobs For 55,000,000

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25 (ANS)—Both the American Legion and the CIO today called for immediate action by the government on a post-war "jobs for all" program.

The Legion was the first to enunciate its opinion—that the nation's industries must hire veterans first when the fighting is over, adding "there must be a job for every man and woman seeking one."

"We must provide 55,000,000 jobs," the Legion declared.

CIO President Philip Murray sent a message to all CIO unions stating that U.S. productive capacity is sufficient to provide "jobs for everyone."

"We shall need first to make up our minds to use it," Murray added.

In order to discover U.S. productive capacity, Murray suggested a nationwide inventory of public and private resources to be carried out by local, State and regional committees whose work would be co-ordinated by a committee set up by Washington.

The Legion's statement demanded that "honest assurance" be given the American serviceman that a job "fitted to his abilities" is awaiting him on his return to civilian life.

"A realistic analysis of jobs available and of veterans' aptitudes, interests, ambitions, tastes and training" should be made, the Legion suggested. "As a result of such realistic appraisal, jobs and veterans should be fitted together."

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25 (ANS)—A compromise which would let War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes fix employment ceilings for individual plants and freeze workers to essential jobs was approved yesterday by a Senate-House conference committee.

## Choo-Choos to Be Fun



Here's what the inside of the new "day-nite" coach built by Pullman looks like. Seats are designed to conform with body contours. A full leg rest is released from the back of the seat ahead by pressing a button.

NEW YORK, Mar. 25 (ANS) Lounge cars which will serve as movie theaters or dance halls at night and double-deck commuter trains with card rooms at each end were shown yesterday in preview of what the public can get for its money on post-war trains.

The Pullman Standard Car Construction Co., in exhibiting designs to railroad executives, said such innovations as coaches with chaise lounge seats can hit rails five months after the war ends.

The chaise lounge coach seat has a leg rest which can be pulled out from the seat ahead. The company designed it for overnight travelers. Curtains are provided to shield travelers who want

to sleep from the lights of those who are reading.

To stretch travel dollars, low-cost Pullman cars will be built with three-tier berths which will sell at close to coach-travel price. "Roomette" cars will have every other seat above-aisle level to conserve space and bring the price of this accommodation within the range of the price now charged for lower berths.

The theater, dance-floor lounge car will be cleared for evening entertainment on long-distance trains by folding seats against the wall.

Jolts in the road bed have not been overlooked. New type trucks will put heavy springs under cars to absorb the bounce, vibrations and car sway.

## But Who'n Hell Started Rumor Of Surrender?

NEW YORK, Mar. 25 (ANS)—"It is not the time yet to exult as the last round opens, for there is still pain to be borne. . . Nor is there any occasion for rest or relaxation of effort, for with the end of the battle in Europe will come other and perhaps greater battles across the Pacific."

The New York Herald Tribune editorialized this morning on the latest crossings of the Rhine.

The sober approach—as contrasted with the optimistic editorial bubbling-over of last August—marked most U.S. newspaper editorial reaction today.

But at least three cities had the capitulation jitters. Newspapers in Boston, Chicago and Atlanta were swamped yesterday with calls from persons seeking verification of rumors that the Reich had surrendered.

In Washington yesterday, Congressman Andrew Jackson May (D.-Ky.) grabbed the House microphone and shouted, "Gentlemen, the American armies have crossed the Rhine."

Tumult followed as dignified representatives of the people began to cheer and applaud. Shouting still louder, May yelled, "The battle cry is 'On to Berlin!'"

When informed that her husband's troops had successfully crossed the Rhine yesterday, Mrs. George S. Patton Jr. said, "Wonderful, marvelous." She asked, "Did my husband swim across?"

Told that apparently his crossing had been by boat, she replied, "Well, if he had had to swim he would have done it."

## Frisco Group Gets GI Ideas

NEW YORK, Mar. 25 (ANS)—Americans soldiers' views on world peace are being analyzed and will be reported to the U.S. delegation at the San Francisco world security conference, Sen. Arthur H. Vandenberg (R.-Mich.) said today.

"I think the viewpoint of our servicemen should be a prime consideration in connection with our peace plan," the Senator declared. "Since I invited them to write to me, I have heard from a large number of them. I am having all their answers analyzed and they will be reported to the American delegation."

Vandenberg disclosed he had turned over to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr. a memorandum prepared by Joseph W. Frazer, chairman of the Graham Paige Motors Corp., urging that a committee of enlisted men attend the conference in an advisory capacity.

## War Workers Unite To Get Vet Rights

CHICAGO, Mar. 25 (ANS)—Civilians on the production front are forming a national organization to seek "equal rights with war veterans" in the reconversion period, the United Press reported today. Chartered as the War Workers' League of America, the organization plans to champion a "bill of rights for war workers," according to George M. Hodge, national superintendent.

"Our organization is going to be a workers' American Legion," Hodge said. "We are going to join the ranks of post-war veterans' parades as well as form a lobby in Washington to get legislation benefiting workers." Hodge added that, like existing service veterans' organizations, it plans to have some fun, too.

Members shun full uniforms, but are contemplating wearing high red, white and blue hats, Hodge declared.

## Senate Turns Down Williams

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25 (ANS)—The Senate rejected President Roosevelt's nomination of Aubrey Williams as Rural Electrification Administrator Saturday by a 52-36 vote—first Congressional rejection of a Presidential choice with the exception of one for postmaster since 1939.

Nineteen Democrats, most of them from the South, joined Republicans in defeating Williams after two months of heated debate, during which the former National Youth Administration head had been accused of Communism, a questionable religious attitude and mismanaging the NYA.

The rejection was foreshadowed by adverse action on the Presidential nomination three weeks ago by the Agriculture Committee, but the strength of the Democratic opposition surprised many observers.

Williams, described as an ardent New Dealer and a follower of the Henry Wallace school of thought, flatly denied charges of Communist connections, declared that his religious beliefs concerned only himself and God and pointed to the NYA record as proof that he was an able administrator.

### Busy

RENO, Mar. 25—Arthur Frenchy du Pont, Reno's marrying barber, announced he would make his 11th trip to the divorce court this week—this time to free himself from Mary Walser Beard duPont, of Chicago.

### What the Folks Are Reading

## This, Too, Was News in the States

TULSA, Okla. (ANS)—Local beer drinkers faced a drought as dealers threatened to close taps unless OPA approved higher ceiling prices to absorb recently-increased State taxes of from two to seven dollars a barrel.

NEW YORK (ANS)—The Bronze Star "for meritorious service" was presented to Maj. Glenn Miller, noted band leader who was reported missing in action on a flight to Europe last December. Miller was director of the American Band of the AEF. The award was presented to Miller's wife at her Tenafly, N.J., home.

HOLLYWOOD (ANS)—Comedian Al Jolson told his friends that he and Miss Erle Galbraith, 21, were married in Quartzsite, Ariz., Friday. It was the fourth marriage for Jolson, who is 56. . . . Errol Flynn, while refusing to come right out and say that he was married to Nora Eddington, denied there was any chance of his being involved in a divorce suit soon.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (ANS)—The first

edition of the Sunday Tennessean wasn't printed when 20 pressmen struck over the failure to receive back overtime wages. The controversy was quickly settled, however.

SAN ANTONIO (ANS)—Robert Lewis Reagon, 17, nephew of Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific Fleet Commander, joined the Marines. Reagon said that Nimitz's brother Otto, a retired Navy captain, persuaded their sister (Reagon's mom) that the boy should pick the Marines over the Navy.

TACOMA, Wash. (ANS)—Lt. Kenneth Pinnon, of Portland, Ore., was just another soldier to his baby son whom he had never seen. But when Pinnon spoke, the child cried: "That's my daddy." The youngster recognized the voice from recordings his father had sent home.

NEW YORK (ANS)—Frances Alda, world-famous prima donna for a quarter of a century, must accept the role of defendant in a petit larceny case described as the "first of its kind in this country." Accused of stealing 300 red points from a discharged maids' ration book, she was held for trial despite her plea that ration stamps were not private property and hence could not be stolen.

DETROIT (ANS)—Walter P. Reuther, vice-president of the UAW-

## She Might Grow Up to Be—a Trumpeter



Victoria Elizabeth James huffs and puffs unsuccessfully to blow out the candle on the huge cake at her first birthday party as her mom and pop (Actress Betty Grable and Bandleader Harry James) thrill to the occasion. Neighborhood youngsters joined in the celebration.

## God's in His Texas, World's OK

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25 (ANS)—Rep. Mike Mansfield (D.-Mo.) strode to the well of the House yesterday and with a straight face said he thought that Texans, "like Californians," were too modest.

Therefore, Mike allowed, he thought somebody ought to give Texas due credit—even if it were over a Montanan.

"We all remember the furor created last year when a survey was undertaken among college students covering their knowledge of American history," Mansfield said.

"The results tended to show that our teaching methods were lax. This problem has worried me considerably and I find, after extensive research, that this survey did not include Texas, and furthermore, while we Americans did not have the answers, the people of Texas did."

To illustrate, Mansfield said that Fort Worth students gave these answers to questions in history:

1492—Columbus discovered America. He was a Texan. 1620—First Texan sets foot on Plymouth Rock. 1774—Texans organize Continental Congress. 1775—Paul Revere's ride. His horse was from Texas. 1776—Washington crosses Delaware, piloted by Texan. 1845—Union joins Texas. 1943—Texans fight Nazi

## Actors Vote Against Hollywood Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Mar. 25 (ANS)—Stars, featured actors and bit players voted overwhelmingly against participating in Hollywood's 12-day-old motion picture studio strike, a count of ballots revealed today.

Meanwhile, the strike continued with little apparent prospect of settlement.

## DC Data Crime Marks Fall Apart

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25 (ANS)—In a none-too-cheerful report to the U.S., the FBI disclosed today that 1944 set a record for rapes and assaults and added that there were 1,393,655 major crimes during the year.

What's more, the FBI said, every 24 hours in the country sees 30 rapes, 150 aggravated assaults, 120 robberies, 550 auto thefts, 746 burglaries and 2,176 larcenies.

The FBI had no comment, however, on a report in the Cleveland Plain Dealer that men sentenced to Federal jails for draft evasion were being paroled within 60 days and permitted to take jobs at salaries higher than Army privates' pay.

If any Naval personnel entertained the slightest hopes of being discharged on V-E day it ended today when Adm. Ernest King, C-in-C of the U.S. Fleet, announced there would be no partial demobilization after Germany was defeated.

"It is important for the people of the country to understand clearly that the Navy must use every ounce of its strength to hasten the end of hostilities against Japan, and any half-hearted measures will prolong the war here," King said.

RAMBLINGS: Headquarters of the Civil Air Patrol, now in New York, will be shifted to the Army Air Forces Training Command at Fort Worth, with the AAF supervising the CAP operations. . . . Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace took his first flying lesson last week, was described as a "normal student."

The Treasury Department disclosed that the U.S. now owes around \$1,700 for each man, woman and child in the country. . . . A German-language newspaper, by and for Nazi PWs in the U.S., will be published bi-monthly, according to the War Department. The sheet will take the place of individual publications at local camps.

KP NOTE: Put down your paring knives, wipe the tears from your eyes and give a couple of rousing cheers for the Agricultural Department. They've invented an onion peeling machine. Officials describe it as a "simple machine" which will peel onions with little difficulty, using jet steam which blasts off the outer skin.

THE House Rules Committee recommended that a regular veterans committee investigate the efficiency of the Veterans Administration and the operation of Veterans Administration facilities.

The committee turned down a proposal by Rep. Philip J. Philbin (D.-Mass.) for the creation of a special committee to investigate the treatment of veterans generally. The action coincided with testimony before the Veterans Committee by Veterans Administrator Frank T. Hines, who said he had started an investigation of his own. Hines said he would welcome any Congressional inquiry.

Philbin told the rules group the action would not permit a thorough investigation of reports of "intolerable treatment" of veterans generally but would limit the inquiry to the Veterans Administration.

The task of reaching a new wage agreement for the soft coal industry yesterday was turned over to a four-man committee with the hope it would reach a compromise before the government stepped in. The present contract expires next Saturday.

Representing the miners were President John L. Lewis and Vice-president John O'Leary of the UMW, while Charles O'Neill, of Altoona, Pa., and George Campbell, of Chicago, comprised the owners' delegates. Chief factor in the deadlock, it was said, is the UMW demand for a royalty of ten cents per ton.

Meanwhile, miners are to be polled Wednesday on whether they want a strike to enforce their demands.

PRESIDENT Roosevelt announced that Jonathan Daniels would become White House Secretary in charge of press relations. The President added that he was asking Stephen Early, who held the press job for years and now is anxious to return to private life, to remain temporarily on the White House staff pending the choice of a secretary in charge of appointments.

The now famous photograph of the Marines raising the U.S. flag on Mount Subirachi, Iwo Jima, has been chosen as the official symbol for the coming Seventh War Loan Drive. . . . Treasury agents have started a nation-wide crack down on black market operators and "free spenders" who are cheating Uncle Sam out of income tax. At the moment, agents are concentrating on Miami and Miami Beach.

Representing the miners were President John L. Lewis and Vice-president John O'Leary of the UMW, while Charles O'Neill, of Altoona, Pa., and George Campbell, of Chicago, comprised the owners' delegates. Chief factor in the deadlock, it was said, is the UMW demand for a royalty of ten cents per ton.

Meanwhile, miners are to be polled Wednesday on whether they want a strike to enforce their demands.

PRESIDENT Roosevelt announced that Jonathan Daniels would become White House Secretary in charge of press relations. The President added that he was asking Stephen Early, who held the press job for years and now is anxious to return to private life, to remain temporarily on the White House staff pending the choice of a secretary in charge of appointments.

The now famous photograph of the Marines raising the U.S. flag on Mount Subirachi, Iwo Jima, has been chosen as the official symbol for the coming Seventh War Loan Drive. . . . Treasury agents have started a nation-wide crack down on black market operators and "free spenders" who are cheating Uncle Sam out of income tax. At the moment, agents are concentrating on Miami and Miami Beach.



ADM KING



JOHN LEWIS



GLENN MILLER



JON HALL

In the Tow and Tug-of-War

# That 'One Last Heave' Began

By Ed Clark

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

## EAST OF THE RHINE WITH 17TH AIRBORNE DIV.,

Mar. 24 (Delayed)—It's hard to describe a glider landing, particularly when it's made smack-dab in enemy territory with fighting going on all around. Too much happens too fast.

Some lucky glider crews made it without a scratch; others, riddled with ack-ack and torn by artillery and small-arms fire as they hit the ground, became funeral pyres.

Lying on their bellies near the remains of their gliders while machine-gun, mortar and sniper fire rakes the farmyard landing fields, the lucky ones can see what happens to their less fortunate comrades.

**What Lucky** One glider, ripped with ack-ack, crashes deep into the earth. Not a man comes out. In a few seconds fire started by tracers roars through the fabric, and the framework crumbles into a smoldering wreck.

**Saw Was Far** What they see is not pleasant.

**From Pleasant** Then the lucky ones look up. Trying desperately to land before another hit finishes them, other gliders come winging dangerously close to the ditches and men on the ground. The new arrivals smash through fences, rip through wires, crash into grounded ships. One loses a wing as it collides with a telephone pole.

Men who are unhurt tumble out of the last ships. There are a few calls for medics, but not much that can be done about them.

Despite the losses, the number of glider troops is gradually

increasing. Those who have made it have the job now of trying to reach their prearranged assembly point.

Most of the men crawl toward what they think is the right road.

Some, not so wary, stand up, try to run for it. They were wrong, and paid for their error with death by sniper bullets.

At the road, those left check with others, ask for this or that CP. They want to know where Capt. Jones is, if Joe Blow made it okay.

Then they start to flush the Krauts out of the farmhouse strongpoints and nearby gun positions. Many prisoners are taken, many Krauts are killed, but sniper fire continues. Nobody bothers about it, but just goes ahead fast, shooting low.

There are a lot of chutes down the road, some free, others with men still in the harness. They are the paratroopers who dropped before the glider landings. Some of the men look at the faces of the dead paratroopers, others don't. A couple of others found a friend. His pants had been shot off, but he had made it to a hole. He hadn't had time to unhook his harness, but had fired a few rounds before dying.

German ack-ack opens up from across the fields and Liberators come swooping in at 50 feet, parachute loads of supplies breaking out of their bomb bays. Easier to hit than ducks, the big ships don't give a damn about what's coming at them. One of them gets it, crashes, burns quickly and brightly.

It's getting late in the afternoon, but outfits are beginning to find each other, and learn that, rough as it looked, many are still living. Almost happy, a few smile, and call out to each other. Then they dig holes for the night.

The boats were shoved calf-deep into the water before the men clambered aboard. Silently they started paddling as we got caught in the current.

## 3rd Found It Dry Crossing

By Pat Mitchell

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 3RD ARMY ACROSS THE RHINE, Mar. 24 (delayed)—For the first time in history the Rhine River was crossed by assault without benefit of bridges.

Pfc Joe Ricci, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., said, "It was a dry crossing."

K Company was first across at 10 PM Thursday under bright moonlight. Not a shot was fired as I Company followed K and was followed by other elements.

Within the first hour, doughs had established a bridgehead against scattered and surprised Germans and captured five prisoners.

When the trans-Rhine operation was 18 hours old the infantry had a firm bridgehead and had taken one small town.

The Germans came back soon after dawn today with Luftwaffe strafing and long-range artillery. Many German fighters were shot down.

Riding forward in one boat, T/Sgt. Lloyd Shouse, Hurdland, Mo., a platoon sergeant, said, "This is just another river and thank Christ it's quiet."

Pfc Joe Dinello, of New Haven, Conn., took off his helmet and wiped the sweat off his forehead and smiled back at the Rhine.

"I've crossed a lot of 'em and this was the easiest," he said.

Pfc George McKean, Murrayville, Ky., of an anti-tank company, summed up, "It's a good job and done while the Germans were still off balance."

The toll of PWs supported his statement. Within the first 18 hours 185 prisoners were processed through the division cage, many telling of their complete surprise by this Rhine assault.

## You'd Kiss a Guy, Too, If He Smelled Like Life

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 17TH AIRBORNE GLIDER TROOPS EAST OF THE RHINE, Mar. 25—Men kissed here this morning.

And it wasn't any pansy party.

It was the meeting between landborne and airborne forces east of the Rhine.

The junction was made by British tank destroyers which crossed the Rhine by ferry to join U.S. glider troops in the woods between Emmerich and Wesel.

The kissing took place as the air-doughs clambered up the sides of the first TD, one of the new model 18s, to come through the woods.

At the tiller of our boat, Pvt. Chester Dabrowski, of Minneapolis, fiddled with the outboard motor. It spluttered, died. The men kept paddling. It spluttered again, caught and hummed to a crescendo. We pulled our paddles in, and the boat veered left, then right, then straight across. In the bow, T/5 James Sorbert, of West Chester, Pa., flashed signals to Dabrowski with a fluorescent light.

As the boat headed across, we were swallowed in the smoke screen laid down on the river and the moon disappeared.

On either side came the hum of 55 hp motors racing 24 miles an hour through the smoke. The boat headed in, the motor was cut and we scraped the bank.

The doughs hopped out and headed toward the dike 100 yards from the bank. Sorbert yelled, "Take it easy, guys."

## They Jumped Into Hell

(Continued from page 1)

firsts didn't matter. They got out of their colored silk and started slugging.

South of us, Col. Edson Raff, who took the first American troopers into a combat drop in Africa, was on the ground with his 507th Regt. and clearing the way to a link-up with British who had crossed the Rhine in darkness. As Coutts and the main force fought southward, the regimental executive officer started out from the Nazi CP past the dead Americans and the dead Germans with what got to be known after seven hours of fighting as "Task Force Ryan." TF Ryan never had more than 40 men including medics, but

it took more than 100 prisoners.

The entire 513th Regt., from 10.15 when it hit until nightfall, took more than 1,100 prisoners. With enemy killed and wounded, that figured out to more than the regiment's strength.

The cost was one man out of every ten.

Side by side with the paratroopers fought the glider pilots who wheeled their craft down to the fields as the troopers started shooting. Some of the gliders crashed and some were hit by mortar fire and burned, even as the C46s which held their course until the paratroopers were away.

F/O Billy Hill, a gliderman from Brewster, Ala., grabbed a tommy-gun and tacked on to Task Force Ryan, "madder than hell because a mortar busted that lovely old glider after I got it down right."

Curtiss Waiters, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., organized the glider pilots of the 441st and 442nd groups into combat teams and took on German artillerymen. Some of the crews of the 46s which burned got off to help.

You'd have a hell of a time telling the 513th parachuters that the Air Corps isn't all man. The way it was, everybody fought through the morning and the afternoon and Jerry was scared but sometimes he fought like a guy defending his home and then a lot of brave men died.

A lot of brave men lived, too, and it's hard to tell about the thing the way it should be until you can get away from it. But you'll go from one end to the other of the island the paratroopers took and held in the middle of the German Army and there'll never be a braver man than old Doc Moir.

Doc Moir is a major and he comes from Medford, Wis. He's the regimental surgeon. They gave Doc Moir and the medics a red cross on their tin hats and an armband.

It's against the rules to shoot medics but a lot of them got shot yesterday. But all day from the moment he went out of another burning C46, Bill Moir was out where the Schmeisser fire popped loudest, walking among the hurt and making it easier for the ones he couldn't help.

Probably he didn't plan it that way but what Doc Moir was when the chips were down made the paratroopers better fighting men. The guys who charged German emplacements with gun butts and knives figure Doc Moir was a pretty brave guy.

## 9th Took It Easy Crossing

By Ernie Leiser

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 9TH ARMY EAST OF THE RHINE, Mar. 24 (delayed)—Easy Co. materialized out of the cellars and the shadows and scuffed down the road single file toward the Rhine. They were crossing in the first wave of storm boats.

A guy in front said, "All I hope is that those bastards on the other side know they're supposed to be losing." As he spoke, 700 artillery pieces, plus tanks, TD guns and mortars, all cut loose at once in a cyclone of sound. No one bothered to talk any more.

Over the shoulders of Capt. Warme Parker's doughs shone the full Spring moon. In front of them, on the other side of the river, shells painted the sky-line red and silhouetted the doughs, distorted figures in their life preservers.

They walked across the open fields to the Rhine, fields that stank of burned powder and rotted cabbages. They walked through their own artillery, through solid waves of thunder that shook the marshy earth.

In fits and starts, they moved up and reached the boats 300 yards from the river. The engineers who manned the assault craft were there, waiting.

Seven men to the storm boats, 15 to the assault boats, they heaved them over and slid them down to the open ground. In a long row they dragged and carried them the 300 yards that seemed like 3,000. Crouching as they rested, they watched the far bank pounded to powder.

At 0155, all the boats of the first waves were at the water's edge. The doughs and engineers knelt, panting, at their sides. Five more minutes to wait. Three more minutes. One.

It was H-Hour.

## Miniature Oil Furnaces Created Smoke for Monty

NEW YORK, Mar. 25 (ANS)—The 66-mile smoke screen which shrouded Field Marshal Montgomery's armies along the Rhine preparatory to Saturday's crossings came from hundreds of miniature oil furnaces—M1 smoke generators developed by the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, emitting oil fog resembling steam, it was disclosed yesterday.

The smoke screen, was made up of a petroleum derivative, a single particle of which cannot be seen by the naked eye. Two quarts of the petroleum mixture can produce enough vapor to cover an average city block.

# Men, Materials Breach



Tank destroyers of the 3rd Army being ferried across the Rhine.



Assault troops of the British 2nd Army (left) charge over a flood bank of the Rhine.

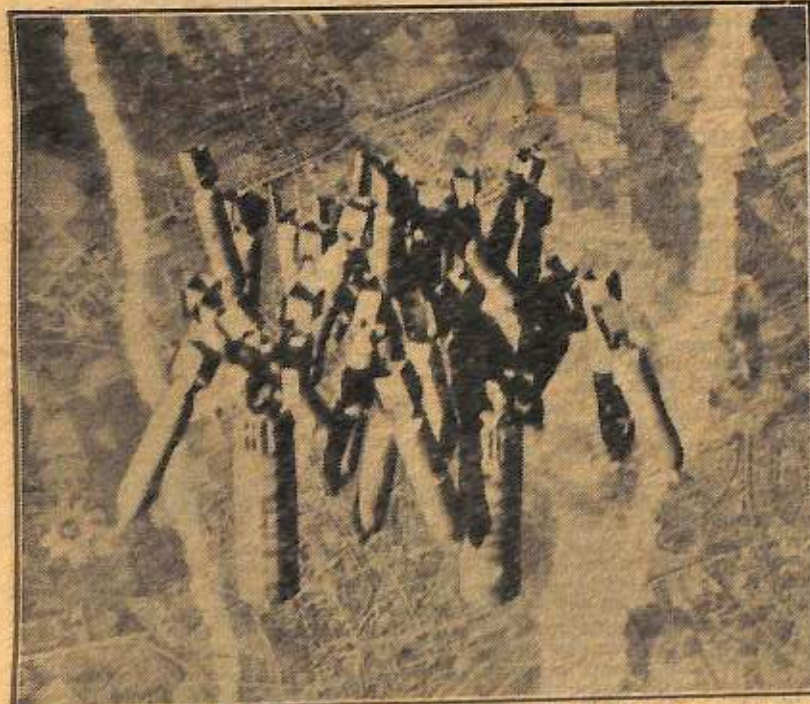


A 3rd Army jeep rolls ashore from a Navy landing craft.

## From Rhine Aid Station to



The veteran 31st Air Transport Squadron, an air freight and evacuation unit, landed in Germany to carry out another notable achievement. Landed on the Rhine, helped themselves carried on, as the above picture bloodstained first-aid bandage morning and within 12 hours, casualties, they were in hospital. In picture on right, Lt. Ruth Moines, listens to



Here is a small part of the destruction leveled on the Ruhr by 8th Air Force heavies in the great aerial attack that preceded the Rhine crossings. A cluster of incendiary and high explosive bombs hurtles down on the Gladbeck rail yards, attacked last Friday.