

# Tanks Threaten to Cut Off Ruhr

A Good Easter Egg With a Soft-Boiled Heart



English children from a nursery near the 96th Bomb Group are initiated into another American custom by Sgt. George A. Crist, 96th cook, who paints eggs vivid colors for the traditional Easter morning egg-hunt. Rare items for the kiddies, the eggs were donated by men at the base.

## Troops Mark Easter Morn

Thousands of U.S. troops will bow their heads in Easter prayer in the cloistered antiquity of European cathedrals tomorrow morning. Soldiers on the line, however, will observe the holy day wherever the tactical situation permits.

In the U.K., Protestant troops will gather for dawn services at Hyde Park on Sunday at 6.30 AM. At 9.30 AM a Protestant communion service will be held at the Grosvenor Chapel.

Catholics will observe the holy day with dawn services at St. James Church at 6.30 AM, Sunday.

Catholic troops in Cologne are expected to attend the first high mass celebrated by Americans in a German cathedral during this war.

## War Dead Already Exceed Civil War's

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson announced today that 153,791 soldiers had been killed in combat up to Mar. 1. At the same time the Navy disclosed that 33,750 of its personnel had been killed.

Aggregate for the two services since Pearl Harbor was 189,541—more lives than were lost in the Civil War, previously the costliest in the nation's history.

Stimson said the Army's overall casualties had now reached 780,043. The Navy so far has had 92,819 casualties. Total casualties for both services were 872,868.

## 14th AF Evacuates Another China Base

CHUNGKING, Mar. 30 (Reuter)—The Americans have evacuated Laohow, 14th Air Force base 200 miles northwest of Hankow, and fighting is going on in its northeast outskirts, a Chinese military spokesman said today.

U.S. HQ announced earlier that the air base was evacuated Monday, since when American planes have bombed it twice. Seven Jap columns with mechanized units are taking part in the drive west of the Peking-Hankow railway, now in its ninth day.

## The Captain Had 35 Angels

## B17 Crew Went to Heaven

BOCA RATON, Fla., Mar. 30 (ANS)—The Army released today the adventures of an Army Air Corps officer who drifted for 16 days on a life raft in the southwestern Pacific and then landed on a tropical Paradise populated by 35 women and the island Chief.

Capt. Balfour C. Gibson, of Berkeley, Cal., and his B17 crew lived on mouldy K rations, sharks and sea gulls for more than two weeks after being shot down by the Japanese. Finally, Gibson related,

## Russians Take Danzig; Push for Italy Juncture

Danzig, great port and naval base on the Baltic, fell to the Red Army yesterday while, at the southern end of the Eastern Front, some of Marshal Tolbukhin's forces launched a new offensive toward Yugoslavia and a possible link-up with American and British forces in Italy as others crossed the Austrian border.

Expansion of the Hungarian front was announced in an Order of the Day—Marshal Stalin's third in two hours—which disclosed that Tolbukhin's southern columns had advanced nearly 40 miles to points ten miles from the Yugoslav border and only 130 miles from the Trieste Gap leading into Italy.

In an earlier order, Stalin announced that Marshal Rokossovsky's troops had routed the German garrison at Danzig and carried the city by storm. The Polish national flag has been hoisted over Danzig, Stalin said.

Forty-five submarines fell into Soviet hands, along with 140 tanks and large quantities of other equipment.

In his first Order, Stalin announced that Marshal Malinovsky's northern army, taking the offensive on a 40-mile front in southern Slovakia, had made a 31-mile advance. Malinovsky's troops, according to this, were only 48 miles from Bratislava and under 80 from the Austrian capital.

The Soviet communique last night disclosed that Tolbukhin's northern force had crossed the Austrian border north of the town of Koszeg, capture of which was announced by Stalin Thursday.

The Germans earlier admitted that these troops were driving ahead toward Wiener Neustadt and Vienna. The Russian air communique also said that Wiener Neustadt was raided last night by Soviet bombers. 15th Air Force bombers raided Vienna yesterday.

In Silesia, Marshal Koniev continued his assault to break through the Moravian Gap into Moravia. Once through this gap, these Russian forces would be in position to drive toward Prague, Bratislava or Vienna.

On the central front due east of Berlin, a United Press dispatch said Marshal Zhukov was putting the finishing touches

(Continued on back page)

## Senate Okays Nine '4-Stars'

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)—The promotion of nine lieutenant generals, including three ETO commanders, to full generalship was unanimously confirmed by the Senate yesterday.

Roosevelt nominated Lt. Gen. Alexander A. Vandergrieff and Vice-Adm. Russell R. Waesche, Marine and Coast Guard chiefs, respectively, for elevation to four-star rank.

The new generals include Carl A. Spaatz, USSTAF commander; Omar N. Bradley, 12th Army Group commander; and Jacob L. Devers, 6th Army Group commander.

The others are Brehon B. Somervell, ASF chief, Joseph T. MacNarney, Deputy Allied Mediterranean commander; Mark Clark, 15th Army Group commander; George C. Kenney, Far Eastern Air Forces commander; Walter F. Krueger, 6th Army commander in the Philippines; and Thomas L. Handy, U.S. Army Deputy Chief of Staff.

Senate confirmation of the nominations of Vandergrieff and Waesche would place four-star officers at the head of the Marines and Coast Guard for the first time in history. Congress recently approved a bill making the two ranks possible.

The President also nominated three vice-admirals to be admirals.



VANDERGRIFT

## Move Clock 1 Hr. Ahead

Before hitting the sack Sunday night, remind the CQ to put the clock an hour ahead. That is, if you prefer chow to an extra hour's sleep. For Double Summer Time is here again. Official explanation from the British Home Office is that the clock at present is one hour in advance of Greenwich mean time. Starting Monday at 1 AM it should be two hours ahead—one hour ahead of what it is now.

## U.S., British Link-Up Looms; 1st and 3rd 200 Mi. from Berlin

Spearhead U.S. 1st Army tanks were reported last night to be about 50 miles short of a juncture with British 2nd Army armor in a vast pincers sweep to seal off the Ruhr from the rest of Germany. Tankmen of both Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' 1st Army and Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd Army, operating closely in the sector east of the Ruhr, were less than 200 miles from Berlin. Only on the 7th Army's front along the Main River was enemy resistance noteworthy. Most of the Allied operations were still under a security blackout.

A dispatch from the 1st Army said units of the 9th Armored Division, in a 28-mile gain, reached Fritzlar, 15 miles southwest of Cassel, German steel center, and that other elements had reached Treysa, 29 miles southwest of Cassel. A correspondent with the 3rd Army said one 6th Armored Division advance column was in the Treysa area after a 21-mile drive in four hours. Another 6th Armored task force and some units of the 4th Armored Division were about 40 miles south of Cassel.

These were the other operations reported in last night's dispatches:

**U.S. 1st Army**—Tanks of the 3rd Armored Division, after dashing east to Marburg, which fell unopposed, turned north and reached Paderborn, 57 miles northeast of Dortmund and 58 miles southwest of Hanover, yesterday morning. These units, sweeping around the southern and eastern ends of the industrial Ruhr, were only 50 miles from a link-up with British armor driving eastward north of the Ruhr into the open, undefended north German plain.

Tanks of the 7th Armored Division reached the Eder Dam area and Frankenkau, 5 1/2 miles south, after traveling 25 miles since 5 AM yesterday. Infantry, clearing pockets left behind by the armor, Thursday took 11,266 prisoners.

### Incapable of Mounting Attack

Dispatches from the 12th Army Group said it was considered there that the Germans were incapable of mounting a counter-offensive anywhere along the Western Front. On Thursday War Secretary Henry L. Stimson said the German Army on the Rhine was beaten beyond "hope of anything but unconditional surrender or piecemeal collapse." He said, however, he thought the enemy might set up a temporary line for an inner core of resistance when the Allies reached the end of their extended supply lines. He said the Germans had lost 1,120,503 prisoners from D-Day to Mar. 23, not counting killed and wounded.

**British 2nd Army**—Three British armored divisions were reported chasing

See Map on Back Page of Warweek

the Germans 40 miles east of the Rhine, but exact positions were undisclosed. Only in the northern sector were the Germans showing fight. Canadian troops had cleared all except snipers from Emmerich, beyond which German paratroopers were battling hard. Thursday's British gains averaged 10 miles. Tactical planes, going in low under clouds, attacked trains bringing up German tanks and supplies to the battle area.

### Record Prisoner Bag

**U.S. 3rd Army**—Troops of the 3rd Army took a record bag of prisoners Thursday—22,400. One correspondent with the 6th Armored Division said the Germans on this sector were giving up without a fight. A German flak regiment gave up to 5th Armored Division troops clearing a pocket northwest of Frankfurt, which was completely cleared late Thursday.

Units of the 11th Armored entered Rothenbergen, nine miles northeast of Hanau, on the Main River. Infantrymen were 14 miles north of Frankfurt in the direction of Bad Nauheim, to the northeast.

**U.S. 9th Army**—Armored units, breaking into the clear Thursday night, ran off the maps at press HQ. It was disclosed that, prior to the

(Continued on back page)

## Allies Make 29-30th, Philippine Landings

MANILA, Mar. 30 (ANS)—Elements of the American Division have landed on the small islands of Mactan and Cauti in the central Philippines near Cebu, capturing an enemy seaplane base on Cauti and the main city of Opon on Mactan, Gen. MacArthur announced today.

The two islands—29th and 30th invaded by American troops in the Philippines—are less than a mile east of the captured capital city of Cebu. On Cebu itself, the Yanks seized a two-strip airdrome one mile north of Cebu City and the town of Naga, 14 miles to the south, moving swiftly against disorganized Japanese resistance.

## 1,400 Heavies Strike 3 Big German Ports

Delivering its mightiest punch at German ports, the 8th Air Force yesterday sent more than 1,400 Fortresses and Liberators and 900 Mustangs and Thunderbolts to raze the three great Reich ports of Wilhelmshaven, Bremen and Hamburg. Submarine yards, docks, naval vessels and an oil storage depot tumbled under the loads dropped by the heaviest force of bombers since Feb. 22 and the greatest combined bomber-fighter force dispatched this year by the 8th.

It was a momentous occasion for the Liberators which plastered docks and other harbor facilities in Wilhelmshaven, where the battleship Tirpitz was built. It was here that heavies of the 8th first bombed Germany, on January 27, 1943, when 53 Fortresses attacked the harbor with a loss of one and a bag of 22 Nazi planes.

### Just Slight Reminder

But yesterday some 350 to 400 Libs boomed over the city as a pointed reminder of what the U.S. has to offer after slightly more than two years. Recent reconnaissance photographs had shown numerous submarines and other naval vessels in the inner harbor, where the Libs laid their bombs. Heavy clouds made bombing difficult, but some groups reported visual bombing through sharp breaks in the overcast.

At Bremen, Forts attacked the Blohm and Voss submarine yards, a fairly regular objective for the 8th, and a large petroleum storage depot. Here, as at Wilhelmshaven, nearly all bombing was done through heavy clouds.

Fortis over Bremen, however, enjoyed good visibility and here the Deschmag shipbuilding yards, which turn out 740- and 1,200-ton submarines, and a highway bridge being converted for rail use were the objectives.

The 900 fighters represented the strongest fighter escort put out since Feb. 14, when 900 protected 1,300 heavies in their severe blows on Dresden, Chemnitz and Magdeburg. Five enemy jet planes were shot down.

## British Join Ryukyu Attack

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HQ, Guam, Mar. 30 (ANS)—Disclosing that "some of the most powerful ships in the British Navy" had joined in the air-sea bombardment of targets in the Ryukyu Islands south of Japan, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today that Pacific Fleet units sustained their offensive through its seventh day Thursday.

The communique, ignoring confused but persistent Jap reports that Allied landings were made early this week in the Keramas, part of the Ryukyu chain, said the task force "continued on Mar. 29 to attack shore installations in the Ryukyus with carrier aircraft and surface gunfire."

The British task force, which includes the 35,000-ton battleship King George V and the aircraft-carrier Illustrious, is under the operational command of Adm. Raymond A. Spruance, U.S. 5th Fleet commander.

Unconfirmed Tokyo broadcasts told of supplies from 20 to 30 Allied transports pouring ashore to troops already landed in the Keramas. A new Superfort raid on Tokyo yesterday also was reported by Tokyo Radio.

The broadcast said 150 planes, including waves of B29s, attacked the capital, using a new type of incendiary and starting fires at several points.

The 20th Air Force, meanwhile, announced two B29 raids—one in small force on Nagoya, Japan's third city, and the other on Japanese oil stores on Bokum island off Singapore.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

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THE B BAG



NOTE: Lack of space forces us to limit all letters published to not more than 200 words.—Ed.

Experts from the Front

To the B-Bag: I agree with the many GIs who say that in fairness to all soldiers we need the thinking of members of the Armed forces while we are seeking to devise ways and means of making another war impossible.

We have so-called experts at home, but we need the help of experts from the front. In the solution of any great problem there is no substitute for experience.

The victors of war must not be vanquished in spirit as they were in the last war. I certainly hope that the delegation to the world security conference at San Francisco includes GI soldiers who are giving their lives for such a cause.—S/Sgt. J. D. C., SCS.

[At least one delegate to the conference, Sen. Arthur Vandenberg, of Michigan, is actively supporting soldiers' suggestions. He not only is having proposals in letters from servicemen analyzed to present to the American delegation, but also has proposed to the War Department that a committee of GIs attend in an advisory capacity.—Ed.]

Enough Stripes

To the B-Bag: Perhaps J. H. L., who wants Hershey bars for sailors, also would like to wear his Boy Scout ribbons on his dress jumper. We would like to know what he thinks the U.S. Navy uniform stands for—Sunday afternoon cruise? No, we have enough stripes to scrub now.

Stock Market Jitters

To the B-Bag: This is in reference to the article in yesterday's Stars and Stripes, "Stock Market Down," saying that the recent Allied advances on the Western Front revived FEARS of sudden cancellations of war contracts. Once before you had a statement similar to this one, but then the German breakthrough in the Ardennes came.

To us this simply means that the longer the war lasts, the better these bastards like it. Why not give these SOB's rifles and bayonets without ammunition and put them on the front lines just to give them a better idea of what fear really is and to make the war end sooner.—Two D-Day to Roer River Vets, Hosp. Plant.

Tolle's Reply

To the B-Bag: It seems that those 24 Joes who answered my letter in your March 3 issue doubt my word as a combat infantryman. How many of them have the Silver Star?

I'll admit that standing retreat symbolizes respect for the flag and that TS details are rough. If they think they can do this and still get the boys' mail out on time, then we'll gladly trade places with them.

And they're not the only ones who sweated out their mail while bullets clipped the hair just above their ears. I don't know what outfit they were in, but mine did not pull back out of range of the 88's once in four and a half months.

I didn't worry about my mother, wife and kids or girl friend, but kept my mind on my business of fighting a war and trying to get it over with so I could go home in one piece.

These Joes have been without mail for seven weeks. Well, isn't that just too bad? I have been without mail for seven months, the only stuff I got was what was sent back from my outfit in France.

Since writing my first bitch to B-Bag, I've found out that I not only won the Silver Star, but also a battlefield promotion to S/Sgt. How many of those Joes can say the same?—S/Sgt. Alvie C. Tolle.

Hash Marks

Easter Greetings to all! Here's hoping it's your last "powdered Egg" Easter! And in keeping with Easter, this column will continue to lay eggs—as usual.

Tribute to the Allied Air Forces. Residents of Berlin are now singing, "Nobody Knows the Rubble I've Seen."

Drama on the Home Front. Doctor: "It's a girl, sir!" New Papa: "What—another mouth to buy cigarettes for!"

Tony Cordaro, our photographer, sez that after working at The Times, in Lon-



don, for months and months he thinks he's entitled to a tea-leaf cluster on his ETO ribbon.

Overheard in the Blackout. "Tell that man to stop kissing you, dearie." "Tell him yourself—I don't speak to strangers."

Ye gods! Another unsigned verse left in our typewriter.

Yesterday upon the stair I took a step that wasn't there. It wasn't there again today. Someday I'll break my neck that way.

Another fan letter (?), this one from Lt. William Newberry, with profound apologies to Robert Burns. From ghouls and ghosties Long leggedy beasties And things that go bump in the night, And JCW's "Unsigned verses left in typewriter" Good Lord, deliver us!

Our spy on the Home Front reports that polygamy would never work in America. Think of six wives in a kitchenette!

Daffynition of the Week. Romance:



What girls sit down to talk over man to man.

Overheard in a Restaurant. "Imagine that—he's a member of the signal corps and he can't even catch the waiter's eye." J. C. W.

UP FRONT WITH MAULDIN



"It's best not to speak to paratroopers about saluting. They always ask where you got your jump boots."

An Editorial

We Cannot Afford to Fail



"If ye break faith with us who die, we shall not sleep..."—In Flanders Fields, by John McCrae.

REP. Emily Taft Douglas (D-Ill.) placed this peace plan in The Congressional Record. It was written by Pfc Robert Osterberg, 19, of Chicago, who died in action in Germany on Nov. 27. They were the ideals of one American soldier, and Mrs. Douglas said she believed they were shared by many American fighting men.

"There can be no portion of the world isolated from any other portion.

"There should be friendly commercial intercourse of nations.

"There should be equal opportunity for all in the field of education, which must be compulsory and in which a common universal ideal is taught.

"Each nation will have the right to choose its own form of government... but regulated so that this

government remains within the limits of its own boundaries.

"There should be a great reduction in armaments and an international police force composed of all nations.

"A world court will settle disputes justly and peaceably.

"There must be tolerance of nations, creeds, races, colors, faiths and ideals.

"A group of the most brilliant doctors and scientists will work together in a body for the betterment of world health.

"Our world must be one of construction and not destruction—tolerance and not intolerance. The future world will eulogize less the feats of war and more the arts of peace.

"The future of the world rests largely in the hands of young America. We cannot afford to fail."

Nice as Nice Can Be

Doughs Having a Wonderful Time In Riviera's GI Recreation Camp

By Paul Green

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

NICE, Mar. 30—With the mud of Germany on their combat boots, the feel of Germany in their hearts, and talk of Germany on their lips, nearly 600 doughs from every part of the Western Front pulled into this Riviera fairyland yesterday.

This was the first mass invasion of frontline combat troops to hit the U.S. Riviera Recreational Area, as this big-time rest camp is officially known.

Representing the 1st, 3rd, 7th and 9th Armies, the doughs left their outfits somewhere east of the Rhine from the Ruhr way down to the Saar. These outfits are now roaring across Germany headed for the nearest Russian.

"When we return, we're liable to meet them on their way back from Berlin—we hope," was the general feeling.

Packed into the train for three nights and two days, and 21 hours overdue, the foxhole-happy GIs arrived before dawn, piled sleepily into trucks and were driven to their hotels.

The first thing most of them did was

to dive into bathtubs and loll luxuriously in the steaming water, then crawl into the real, live beds and feel the softness of clean, white sheets.

By then it was breakfast time and they trooped downstairs to the dining-rooms for their first meal, which was served at tables by pretty waitresses.

Afterwards they sighed disbelievingly as they baked in the hot sun along the shore, lounged on the promenade, or window-shopped in the classy stores along the main drag.

The keys to the city were handed to them without strings, at the only formation of the week. USRRA officers told them, and meant it, too, "Our job is to serve you. There are no regulations in this town, so get going."

Ahead of them lay seven days of what soldiers dream of in foxholes—sports by day, including sailing, bicycling and tennis, and a choice of half a dozen swellegant GI clubs by night. Everything would be done to please them, including the placing of a copy of The Stars and Stripes under the door every morning and having their combat boots shined overnight on those occasions when there is sufficient shoe polish.

One dough, hungrily eyeing the slick chicks with their short skirts and upswept hairdos, cracked, "All this"—throwing out his arms in a gesture that embraced all Nice—"and no non-fraternization policy, too!"

Human Torpedo Effort Blew Up

By Bud Hutton

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

REMAGEN BRIDGEHEAD, Mar. 19 (delayed)—"Human torpedo squads" of Germans were thwarted in a suicidal attempt to blow American bridges across the Rhine.

Shoving buoyant containers of explosives, the men swam 15 miles downstream to the Remagen bridgehead area in rubber suits. They were spotted just south of a pontoon bridge by an American patrol and forced to surrender by point blank fire.

Some of the "human torpedoes" were stunned when the shellfire touched off the load of explosives they were shoving toward the bridge. Half paralyzed by cold and shock, they crawled to capture by a squad headed by Sgt. Robert D. Metzlar, of Greensburg, Pa.

Clad from head to foot in sleek rubber suits, with webbed shoes and rubber gloves, the suicide unit swam downstream with the task of reconnoitering American supply lines to the Remagen bridgehead. They had orders to destroy what bridges they could with their explosives.

Supplied with oxygen to last an hour and a half, the swimmers went underwater above the bridgehead area but were spotted by the cavalry EM guarding the banks. Pfc Lyle J. Howay exploded one man's box of explosives with M1 fire. Others detonated the rest as 1/Lt. K. L. Stempel, of Templeton, Ind., sent patrols to round up the swimmers.

American Forces Network

American Forces Network—with the AEF on the Road to Berlin

On Your Dial 1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc. 218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.

Saturday, Mar. 31

- 1200—News. 1205—Duffie Bag. 1300—Headlines—Grand Old Opry. 1330—Army Radio Orchestra. 1400—World News. 1410—Intermezzo. 1430—Miss Parade. 1500—Headlines—American Dance Band. 1530—On the Record. 1630—Strike up the Band. 1700—Headlines—Melody Roundup. 1715—Service Dance Band. 1745—Hawaiian Serenade. 1800—World News. 1805—Mark up the Map. 1810—American Sports Roundup. 1815—Interlude in Blue. 1830—GI Journal. 1900—Headlines—Bandwagon. 1915—Music from the Movies. 2000—Headlines—Combat Diary. 2015—At Ease. 2030—Charlie McCarthy. 2100—World News. 2105—Soldier and a Song. 2115—Swingtime. 2130—Saturday Night Serenade. 2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A. 2205—Jubilee. 2235—Latin American Serenade. 2300—News. 2305—One Night Stand. 2330—Sign off until 0755 hours, Sunday, Apr. 1.

Sunday, April 1

- 0755—Sign On—Program Resume. 0800—Headlines—Combat Diary. 0820—Easter Hymns. 0815—Music for Sunday. 0900—World News. 0910—Spotlight on Louis Prima. 0925—Family Hour. 1000—Headlines—Radio Chapel. 1010—Hour of Charm. 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A. 1106—Morning After (Charlie McCarthy).

- 1135—Showtime. 1200—News. 1205—WAC's Works. 1225—Sports. 1230—Clear Lower Decks. 1300—Headlines—Atlantic Spotlight. 1330—Sammy Kaye. 1400—World News. 1410—Combat Quiz. 1425—Jack Payne Orchestra. 1455—Sports. 1500—Headlines—Contemporary Composers. 1530—Information, Please. 1600—Headlines—Serenade for Strings. 1615—Easter Carols. 1630—Hall of Fame. 1700—Headlines—Melody Roundup. 1715—AEF Special. 1800—World News. 1805—Mark up the Map. 1810—American Sports Roundup. 1815—Andre Kostelanetz. 1845—Raymond Scott. 1900—Headlines—Jack Benny. 1930—U.S. Army Band. 1945—Top of the Evening. 2000—Headlines—Combat Diary. 2020—At Ease. 2030—Connee Boswell. 2100—World News. 2105—Mail Call. 2135—Guy Lombardo. 2200—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A. 2205—Music from the Pacific. 2230—American Album of Familiar Music. 2300—World News. 2305—Suspense. 2330—Sign off until 0755 hours Monday, April 2.

Monday, Apr. 2

- 0755—Sign On—Program Resume. 0800—Headlines—Combat Diary. 0815—Personal Album with Ginny Simms. 0900—Music in the Modern Manner. 0910—World News. 0925—Spotlight on Eddie Oliver. 0930—James Melton Show. 1000—Headlines—Morning After (Mail Call). 1030—Strike up the Band. 1100—Headlines—Home News from the U.S.A. 1105—Duffie Bag. On the Continent listen to your favorite AFN programs over the Allied Expeditionary Forces Program: 583 kc. 514m. Also shortwave: 6.195mc. (49m. band) between 0800 and 1900 hours.

# Warweek

Surrender is a Stumper for the Nazis  
Bonn's Fall a Tactical Masterpiece  
A Gestapo Prison Where Death Revelled

Saturday, March 31, 1945



Col. Gen. Ludwig Beck—His conspiracy plot against Hitler fizzled.

**G**ERMAN armies are pressed in by Allies driving for the kill. From reports leaking out of the Reich the situation seems hopeless. Still they fight. By simple reasoning, the Nazi General Staff should be seeking peace in hopes of saving what little remains. This, the inside story of last summer's attempt on Hitler's life, tells why . . .

## They Can't Give Up!

By John J. Christie  
Warweek Staff Writer

**T**HE last hope of Germany laying down its arms voluntarily ended with the unsuccessful attempt on Hitler's life last July 20. This was an event that cannot be dismissed as merely failure to get one man—Hitler. Rather, it must be viewed as having been the occasion for liquidating, or completely shackling, all Nazis capable of arranging peace or accepting surrender. Details of what actually happened on that sultry July day filtered through rigid Nazi censorship for weeks after the event and its real significance was pretty well surmised. However, the true and complete inside story of the affair and actual extent to which it eliminated all possibility of an earlier end to the war were told for the first time this week by one of the conspirators found hiding in a town seized by 1st Army troops.

Reliability of this informant, who not only handled minor details of the plot but was an intimate friend of prominent personalities involved, is a matter of record because of his past dealings with Allied and neutral sources dating back to the start of the war.

### Hitler's Speech 'Canned'?

From contacts in touch with Hitler's private physician, the informant claims to have learned that der Führer's injuries far exceeded what has been claimed by other sources. He says Hitler suffered a partial speech paralysis which may have become chronic and resulted in deafness in one ear.

As further evidence of the speech impediment he cites Hitler's famous speech of Jan. 30, the first in several months, as being a recording. Proof, he said, lies chiefly in the fact that it was broadcast without the customary introduction by Berlin radio. Also, he claimed that the grating of the needle could be detected in the radio reception in Germany.

The weapon with which Gen. Von Stauffenberg, the actual would-be assassin, was equipped was a special high explosive bomb no larger than a hen's egg and containing a time-fuse device. What later proved to be an "unfortunate" feature of the gadget, said the informant, was that



it was designed for use in an air-raid bunker which customarily served as Hitler's CP.

Von Stauffenberg had business July 20 at Hitler's field headquarters near Loetzen, in the Mansurian Lakes district. It concerned a visit scheduled for that day by Mussolini for the purpose of formally turning over two Italian divisions for service in the Wehrmacht. It was Mussolini's visit that led Hitler to use the summer lodge that day rather than the air-raid shelter. The much less confining quarters of the large meeting room in the lodge tended to lessen effectiveness of the explosive.

The General carried the explosive in his brief case along with the manuscript of the report he was to make. As he approached Hitler's desk he placed the case at his feet before rendering the party salute. Hence, the brief case was beyond Hitler's range of vision and Von Stauffenberg was able to plant his charge undetected. He did it by sliding the bomb out of the case with his report and, with the same motion, flicking the fuse mechanism. As he read the report he

slowly moved the gadget unnoticed with his foot toward where Hitler sat.

The informant said the report was timed approximately for ten minutes with a little leeway for formalities on leaving and that the bomb was set for 20 minutes.

As Von Stauffenberg prepared to leave, Hitler arose and strolled over to a closet where he kept his personal belongings. The General waited a safe distance from the house until he heard the explosion. Then he rushed back inside. He found Hitler half buried beneath burning rubble. Others in the room appeared either dead or seriously wounded. He shook Hitler, made a hasty check and, believing him dead, rushed to his waiting plane.

### Awaiting Hitler's 'Death'

A provisional central government headed by Col. Gen. Ludwig Beck, the Nazi General Staff's "master mind," assembled in Berlin to await arrival of Von Stauffenberg for details of Hitler's "death." Plans called for immediate arrest of Nazi higher-ups in Berlin on orders signed by Beck, and prompt transmittal of orders to all command echelons of the German Home Forces directing the arrest elsewhere in the Reich of key Nazis' both military and civilian. And ready to take over control of civil administration in each political sub-division of the country were persons politically prominent in pre-Nazi Germany.

Without further checking, Von Stauffenberg had announced to the new provisional government on his arrival in Berlin that Hitler was dead. As a result, the conspirators began carrying out their plans.

Among the first slated for arrest in Berlin was Goebbels. The bungling of this phase of the plot did as much as anything else to blunder the whole venture.

Sent to make the arrest was a conspiring major on the staff of Gen. Hase, commandant of the Berlin area. His orders were simply to tell Goebbels that Hitler was dead, that a new government under Beck had taken over. Then he was to arrest the half-pint propaganda mouthpiece without further ado.

### Goebbels' Long Shot

The sly, quick-witted Goebbels took a long shot by flatly denying the report and offering to prove it false by calling Hitler's headquarters. All lines from Goebbels' office were to have been cut, but a private line leading to Hitler's CP was overlooked. Within hearing distance of the major, Goebbels got his connection, Hitler had regained consciousness sufficiently to say a few words.

With this defeat, the major lost his nerve and fell into the hands of the suave propaganda minister.

"This major was a very poor choice," said the informant, "because he was not one of the traditional German military caste of the type who engineered the plot but one who owed his rise in the Army to the party,



Aside from the fact that he became awed by Goebbels and the phone call to Hitler, he failed to perform his duty. That was to take Goebbels into custody without question or discussion."

The result was that Goebbels assigned his personal guard to accompany the major to where the provisional government was assembled. The guard escort was ordered to round up all the members. Several of the conspirators, including Von Stauffenberg, were killed when Goebbels' men swooped down on the place. Beck attempted suicide—but failed. He was finally shot to death at his own request by his chief, Gen. Fromm.

Meanwhile, transmission of Beck's conspiracy orders was already in progress in the signal center at Army Personnel Headquarters. However, when messages arrived discrediting the report of Hitler's death the communications center was thrown into confusion and many of the teletype operators refused to transmit orders of the conspirators.

According to my informant failure to obtain confidence of signal center personnel—particularly the teletype operators—was a blunder perhaps even worse than the mishandling of Goebbels' arrest. He contends that if the orders had been transmitted the plot might have worked despite all Goebbels could do to squelch it.

### Flatly Rejected Orders

Only a few of the commanders who came into possession of communications signed by Beck tipped their



hands. Preferring to await further developments, they had managed to be away from their CPs even to the extent of riding aimlessly around the front. A few flatly rejected the orders.

The commander who committed himself to the limit was Gen. Stuelpnagel, then military commander of Paris. He went so far as to arrest the entire SD (Nazi Security Police). By the time he realized the plot had failed, he had no alternative but to flee. His fate was that of all the conspirators who left Paris in his big

limousine. Accompanied by his chauffeur and an aide, he drove to Verdun where, as a young lieutenant, he had fought his last battle for Germany in the last war. Leaving his car, he walked to the edge of a canal and shot himself through the temple. Hearing a splash in the water, his chauffeur and aide ran to the scene and managed to fish his body out of the canal. Stuelpnagel had blinded himself in his suicide attempt and was later hanged with a bandage still over his eyes.

According to my informant, Hitler's vengeance reached an all-time high. He said that by November, between 1,200 and 1,500 persons were executed in the determination to wipe out everyone even remotely connected with the plot.

### A 'Breather' for World War III

The Nazi Party immediately exerted rigid control of the armed forces all the way along the line to prevent further attempts by old-guard military men to get out of line. In addition to the hundreds executed, scores of lesser lights politically active before the Nazis came into power were thrown into concentration camps. He reported that generally these camps were mined so that, when the staffs were forced to flee, the prisoners would be killed before Allied troops had an opportunity to capture them.

My informant claimed to be well acquainted with Beck's aims. He said the purpose of the provisional government simply was to create a bargaining agent for the discussion of armistice terms. He said it was hoped the Allies could be sold on the idea that a reliable government had replaced the Nazis and that armistice terms would be preferable to having to battle all the way through Germany. He also contended it was Beck's conviction only the Army high command could accept responsibility for military defeat in order to escape repetition of the charge that Germany's defeat was due to a stab in the back by a political minority at home.

"It's pretty difficult to figure just what would have happened if the plot had succeeded," the informant said in conclusion. "However, from your standpoint it may be well that it failed despite what Beck had said about the high command accepting responsibility for defeat. Now there is absolutely no grounds for it ever being claimed the German Army was not defeated but sold out by traitors. Also, the conspirator, reluctantly admitted to admit against his better interests that the provisional government was actually a traditional military-industrial clique which hoped to save what it could and preserve itself for a future German comeback."



Hitler huddles with Musso and cohorts after assassination attempt last July. Left to right: Musso, Adm. Doenitz, Hitler and Goering.

# "Call It Professional"



By Ralph Harwood  
Warweek Staff Writer

THE Rhine river city of Bonn fell fast and hard and the speed of the victory can be set down as a tribute to savvy and tactical boldness. The operation, its conception and execution, was an almost perfect example of the American soldier's ability to size up a situation fast, determine upon a solution to the problem as recognized and carry it through to a victorious conclusion. The 1st Division did a job on Bonn—a nice, clean military job. You could call it professional.

If the place had been but hastily defended then it would have been a different matter. But there was a long-standing plan of defense for Bonn. There were troops to execute it and the approaches to the city were sticky with fast-firing anti-aircraft guns, as many a pilot who had flown too close to this erstwhile flak nest would testify.

All these guns—clip-fed 20, 75 and 88-mm. pieces emplaced on the high ground from two to four miles put around the city—could also fire flat. The direct fire of such stuff on exposed roads can be murderous. Bonn had the makings of a tough nut to crack.

Usually an outfit drawing a job the size of an assault on Bonn has plenty of time to pore over maps and intelligence reports in advance. On Mar. 6, however, 1st Army, acting swiftly to exploit the situation west of the Rhine following the Cologne collapse, made some shifts in units and objectives. In the course of these shifts the 1st Division sector was widened to include Bonn, and the division originally slated to take the city was pulled southward.

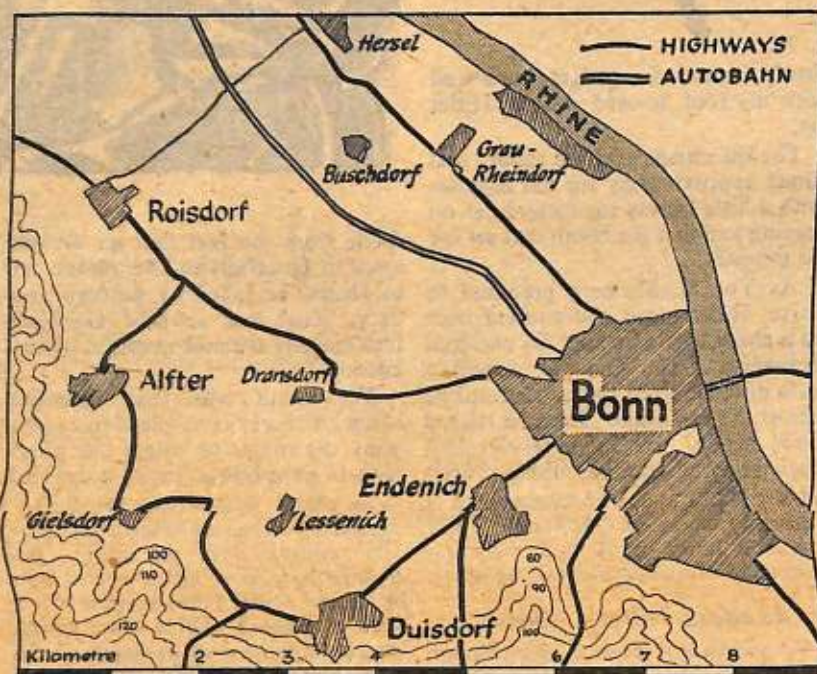
### Systematic Tactics

Prior to its new assignment, the Fighting First, which had swept eastward from the Roer River in a sustained series of night attacks while protecting the flank of the corps which took Cologne, had had little to look forward to since completion of its principal mission. Cologne had fallen, and it simply remained for the division to close up to the Rhine in an area which included little more than a few villages and, of all the breaks, the Bonn sewage disposal plant.

So the powers of the 1st Division welcomed the change in plans, short notice or no notice. The First is a proud outfit, and the name of Bonn would go well alongside the name of Aachen. The division had delivered plenty of times before on fast orders,

and probably would again. No one was going to get very excited on that score.

Besides, anticipating a possible revision of plans, the 1st had sent



DEATHBLOW TO BONN delivered through area shown on map. Assault columns stabbed into city from Roisdorf and Duisdorf.

back to Army for the latest air photo maps of the Bonn area the day before. Thus it was that, within a few hours of receiving the order to take Bonn, two regiments of the division, the 16th and the 26th, had begun the job of cleaning off the series of low hills protecting the city from the west.

### Taking 'em by Surprise

By the end of the 7th, the 26th Infantry had knocked off six villages northwest of Bonn and wiped out the last resistance in the sizable town of Bruhl. A cavalry group, attached to the 1st Division when its sector was widened, mopped out the area west of Bruhl and fanned units into the flat country to the east bordering the river north of Bonn. The northern flank of the division was secured.

In the division's center, west of the doomed city, the 16th Infantry in the same period swept through 14 more villages and small towns along the low hills, taking over Roisdorf and Alfter. At the bottom of the arc the 18th Infantry, the 1st's other regiment, moved in to take over the high ground southwest of Bonn which had been won and was being held by the 60th Infantry of the 9th Division.

The notorious Bonn ack-ack defenses proved every bit as rough as expected when the division closed in on them during the 7th, and elements of the 9th Division which bored in earlier west of Duisdorf had anything but easy going. The tacticians of the 1st, while having no intention of butting the outfit against any more of this automatic fire than could be helped, still could not see waiting for the artillery to take out the Kraut emplacements one at a time before moving on into the city.

So they decided to slash through the German defenses under cover of darkness in the type of move the enemy would least expect under the circumstances. That's where the business of savvy comes in. If there is any outfit that knows the German inside and out and is able to figure what he'll do or not do at any given



Two 1st Division doughs cautiously look toward the blasted bridge in distance which spanned the Rhine at Bonn. The knocked-out Kraut Mark VI, at the right, was still hot after burning.

U.S. Army Signal Corps Photos

moment, it's the 1st. They've earned this insight in innumerable battles and brushes from Africa to the Reich's "sacred" soil itself. They had out-guessed the enemy before; they could do it again, they felt.

During the night of the seventh and the early hours of the eighth two bat-

Speed was the keynote of the attack on Bonn. The enemy was never given the chance to recover from the crippling blow dealt him when a flying column raced boldly through the heart of his defenses at the beginning of the assault. What might have been a costly siege—costly in time and lives—was turned into a swift mopping-up operation.

talions of the 16th Infantry quietly coiled their vehicles into column in Roisdorf and waited. At last, in the hour before dawn, scores of exhausts shattered the stillness as one, and the column began to move—straight out the main highway toward Bonn.

As the line of vehicles reached open country—German-held country—the drivers floor-boarded it. There was some wild fire, but the surprise was working beautifully. The column didn't pause until it had knifed completely into the city, and then only long enough to shoot away and roll up what little startled resistance was encountered.

### The Jump-off

Pressing steadily, the two battalions passed from one block to another until, by 0900, they had units solidly on the Rhine some 400 yards north of the then still intact bridge. The 16th's mission of taking the northern half of the city was well on the way to being accomplished.

The 18th Infantry, whose mission was to take the southern half of Bonn, moved from its high ground southwest

of the city at the same time as the 16th jumped off on its dash from Roisdorf. Their plan was the same: to barrel it through Duisdorf and Endenich, if possible, and on into the city proper.

At Duisdorf, however, a stiff fight developed. The enemy was set up there in considerable strength, and the regiment had no choice but to clean him out before continuing on toward Bonn. This took until 0900, after which one battalion was sent east to block the roads to the south and secure the division's right flank against an undetermined number of the enemy in the direction of Bad Godesberg.

A second battalion was sent on to Bonn to carry out the 18th's mission. The remaining battalion stayed in Duisdorf for the moment, letting the situation in the vicinity clear a bit before it, too, went forward.

### A Policing-Up Job

By mid-morning by-passed enemy elements south of the highway traversed by the fast-flying 16th, as well as the dual-purpose batteries to the northeast across the Bonn-Cologne autobahn, had belatedly recovered from their surprise and were trying to make up for their remissness. Any vehicle that showed on the Roisdorf-Bonn road now drew plenty of everything from small-arms and light automatic fire to the 20mm. and heavier automatic artillery stuff.

Far from considering the men already in Bonn as isolated, however, the remaining battalion of the 16th merely got going with the business of policing up the area, as men of the 1st call it. By mid-afternoon the by-passed enemy in the Roisdorf-Duisdorf-Bonn wedge was smoked out, and artillery and assault parties accounted for several of the guns which were laying direct fire on the 16th's highway.

Farther south one local counter-attack was launched in the afternoon by some 200 of the enemy equipped with several self-propelled guns toward Duisdorf. It could have been embarrassing in view of the 18th's extended situation at the time, except that division artillery caught the Germans in the act. And that was the end of their effort.

### Two Battalions in Bonn

By early evening two battalions of the 18th had penetrated into Bonn—the battalion from Duisdorf having followed in as the outlying area quieted. Shortly after nightfall they tied in to the 16th on the north within the city and to the 18th's road-blocking battalion on the south.

During the night of the eighth, the 1st made an attempt to seize the Rhine bridge and had armor poised in case the Germans pulled another Remagen boot. The charges were detonated in time, however, and at daybreak of the ninth it could be seen that the spans were hopelessly wrecked.

The situation developed swiftly within Bonn during the morning of the ninth. The whole plan for the defense of the city had obviously been

punctured by the 16th's stabbing drive to the river the morning before. Both regiments went ahead with cleaning out their sectors—eliminating scattered, last-ditch resistance and rounding up prisoners. Among the 1,700 Krauts taken within the city was the colonel who had commanded—the defense of the northern sector of the city. He was not a happy man.

In the flat along the river to the north the cavalry group had cleaned out resistance to within a couple of miles of the city. The 1st's heavy reconnaissance outfit, Task Force Davison, moved in to clear up this last troublesome pocket in the Bonn area. Thirteen more 88mm. AA guns and 12 20mm. pieces were added to the division's bag of Bonn's artillery defenses.

By mid-afternoon of March 9 the city was declared cleared, all organized resistance having ceased. At approximately 1900 the division was reported out of contact with the enemy throughout its sector.

### Planned—Fought—Finished

Within 72 hours of the time the division was notified of its assignment to take Bonn the battle had been planned, fought and finished. It was a strictly business-like job, which shows up, as under a spotlight, what the "secret" American weapon of resourcefulness—combined—with initiative can do.

Position maps of the Pacific Theater tell a story of the same sort. Out in the islands, by-the-book Japs have been dying by companies and regiments simply because they can't seem to come through in the clutch and improvise a clean, fast, soldierly solution to a new situation. American soldiers can. That's one reason why they are winning both in Germany and the Pacific.



A Frau totes armful of shoes—loot from blitzed Bonn shop.



A dough—and Beethoven—survey Mars handiwork in fallen Bonn.

# The Gestapo Prison at Cologne Was a Nazi Death House



A Living Hell Was the Lot for The Starved, Tortured Victims Inside These Bleak Stone Walls

By Dan Causin  
Warweek Staff Writer

THE warden of the Staats Gefangt in Cologne was a pudgy man of medium height with a florid complexion. And when he drank heavily his face became splotchy, the tiny veins in his heavy jowls looked almost purple and his eyes were bloodshot and watery.

The messenger clicked his heels smartly, saluted and turned to leave. The warden leaned back in his chair and mulled the plan over in his mind. The clock on his desk ticked along toward seven—that gave him four hours' leeway—and the box of hand grenades had been locked in the closet.

Before 11 o'clock the warden was to remove all of the prisoners who could walk. There were at least 75 that couldn't walk and the grenades were for them. One in each cell—and the Americans would hear no rumors of Gestapo methods when they reached the prison.

There was plenty of time. He would have a drink. The armagnac was in the closet next to the grenades and there was a water glass to drink from. He poured half a glass of the stuff and gulped it down. He sat for a moment breathing heavily, his face flushed with drink, and filled the glass again.

### The 11th Hour!

Three hours passed and it was after 10 o'clock. The warden stirred drowsily and fumbled in his pocket for the key to the closet—had to get the grenades ready. The key wasn't in his pocket. He stood up unsteadily and fished through his other pockets. Then he decided to have another drink. He would force the lock.

A few minutes before 11 o'clock he knocked the empty bottle of armagnac from the table, rose and reeled toward the door. In the halls the guards were scurrying through the cell blocks, unlocking the cells and ordering the prisoners to assemble downstairs. The Americans were minutes away.

The warden glanced at the closet where he had kept the grenades,

Photographs by Jack McNulty, Warweek staff cameraman, who followed First Army infantrymen into the Gestapo's Staats Gefaengnis in Cologne.

shrugged and stumbled down the stairs and into the cool night air. He would get away.

Minutes later, Lt. Col. Jack Bowles, Ft. Smith, Ark., led a patrol of 3rd Armored Division doughs into the walled courtyard past four newly-dug graves and into the building. One wing was still standing intact after months of bombing.

The young colonel and his party hurried through the steel gates and into a long hall, flanked on either side by long rows of numbered cells. Glancing upward you could see a skylight, affording the only view the prisoners had of the outside world. On each of the four floors were more than 50 steel cages.

### You Have Come . . . !

In the first cell was an emaciated little man, slumped against the wall on the cold stone floor, staring blindly at the opposite wall. He was in a coma and his wrists were bleeding from the bonds which had been cut an hour before when the guards unlocked the cells.

Lt. Col. Samuel B. Frank, Cleveland, O., Army medical inspector, examined the bruised and battered man, then bandaged his wrists where

the twine had cut deep into the flesh.

The party continued down the corridor to a cell marked "42." The room was less than nine feet long and four feet wide. A single dirty cot was the sole piece of furniture. On the cot were two young girls, so thin their bones bulged through the skin. A man sat on the edge of the cot, eyes sunken and glazed.

As the Americans entered, the man looked up uncertainly—as though expecting a beating. He hesitated, his lips quivering with emotion, and then cried tearfully in broken English: "You have really come! You, Americans, have come at last! Thank God! Thank God!"

The colonel assured him that the doctor would be around in a moment to attend to them.

### Slow Death

"Help them, please," the man said excitedly. "The blonde girl is my wife," he blurted. "The other is my sister—she is only 17. They have starved us. They tried to kill us slowly."

The doctor hurried into the cell and examined the two unconscious women. Their stomachs were so shrunken from the single slice of black bread and the bowl of watery soup which was the daily diet at the Gestapo prison that they could take no food directly.

Their lives, the doctor said, might be saved by feeding them intravenously. It was a miracle, he said, that they remained alive at all. The average person would live only two months on such a diet. The victims could feel themselves die slowly, horribly, and they could watch the others around them.

The systematic Germans had devised a systematic means for dealing with those who opposed their ideas and doctrines.

Here is the story the man told: "We lived in Roermond, Holland,



A wooden cross, a newly-dug grave—refuge from inhuman Nazis.

and we were brought here by the Gestapo at the end of January because we had been hiding three escaped Russian slave laborers. When we got here we were kept standing in the halls for several hours. Finally, one of us asked where we were to go.

### One Died Each Week

"With that, the guards set upon us with whips, shouting: 'We will gladly show you where to go—this way, please!' Then they chased us up and down the four flights of stairs, flogging us at each landing. Finally, we were thrown, bloody and exhausted, into our cells."

The Dutchman said that the Germans refused to allow him to see his wife or his sister in prison. He was thrown into a cell with eight other prisoners. There was not enough space to lie down and sleep. One died each week—last week's victim had been an old man. He died without seeing his son who was in a different cell on the floor above.

The doughs were suddenly startled by wild shrieking in the hall. Several of the Americans rose to look into the corridor. A gaunt, wild-eyed man was running down the stairs and screaming hysterically.

### It Was Tragic

"Pay no attention to him," the Dutchman said. "He has lost his mind. They tortured him and he is crazy now like the old professor in cell 84."

That was how it was all through the Gestapo Prison in Cologne. We found them there and heard their stories because the warden drank the armagnac and forgot to kill the 83 who were left half-alive the night the doughs came.

They all told grim stories of torture, starvation and brutality. It was tragic and touching to the Yanks—like the case of the pretty Belgian girl in Cell 10 who was too weak to walk and asked to be carried to a place where she could see the Americans coming into Cologne.

She had lived in Charleroi and had been imprisoned for her activities in the resistance. In an effort to extract a full confession from her they bound her wrists and ankles, and for three weeks administered regular beatings. The scars caused by the whippings remain on her back. "Failing to get a confession in that

way," she said, "they took me to the cellar, stripping my clothes from me and placed me on a table.

"There was a cask of ice water in the room and they dipped bedsheets into the freezing water and placed the saturated clothes over my nude body. The cold sheet was changed every five minutes for a colder one. Each time I fainted they would revive me and begin all over again. They tried that for three days and forced me to go without food for an entire week.

"I was near death by that time so they suddenly began treating me very well. I was given plenty of food for eight days and they tried to cajole and humor me into talking. I refused, so they again stripped me, beat me with whips and threw me into a dirty cell to starve."

And there was another girl, Marie Walbrique, who was pregnant. Her body was covered with bruises and cuts from the many beatings. She realizes her baby will never be born alive.

And there were the several cases of typhus—emaciated men and women, wracked with fever and shaking violently. Men and women who were forced to live in filth and slime under the New Order in Europe.

Eight of the prisoners who were alive when the Americans entered the prison died the first day. They were buried in the courtyard, near the other four freshly-dug graves—and a cross was erected with the inscription: "Here lie eight accomplishments of the Gestapo."

The GIs were stunned at what they saw.

They had heard about things of this sort that the Germans did—Lidice, Oradour, Lublin and the others—but seeing it first-hand was different than reading about it.

One of the doughs stood in the courtyard looking at the graves and mumbling, "Why those dirty b—s!" And he just stood shaking his head as though he was trying to forget the odor, the filth and the horror of the Staats Gefangt.

The Americans finally saw it for themselves because a warden who drank too much armagnac forgot the time and then couldn't find the key to the closet where he was keeping the grenades with which to obliterate another sordid chapter in the story of Greater Germany.

Several 3rd Armored Division men welcome the chance to write part of the final chapter of that story.



Death Row—last mile for many. Prisoners were herded into these cell blocks to die like flies. The "New Order" hit an all-time high in barbarism. A blood-splotted mattress, a crumpled heap of clothes—mute testimony of a young woman's death on this bed after torture by Gestapo henchmen.

Seven Walked In—Kept Walking

'Little Trip' Across Rhine Won Keys to Duisburg

By Ernie Leiser

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 9TH ARMY, Mar. 28 (delayed)—Seven doughs took a little trip across the Rhine today to the suburbs of Duisburg—and were greeted with the keys of the city by the war-weary civilians from the formerly great Ruhr industrial center, which had a pre-war population of 431,000.

The Germans in Ruhrort, the industrial suburb of Duisburg, didn't surrender—because the Army says civilians can't surrender—and according to S/Sgt. Melvin Renner, of Crete, Neb., one of the doughs, "they told us that the regular soldiers defending Duisburg had pulled out this morning, and when the soldiers pulled out, the Volkssturmers threw down their arms."

The civilians didn't surrender, but they kissed the feet of the "conquerors," followed them in throngs of thousands through the city, begged for the artillery and bombings to stop and said they were tired of the war and the Wehrmacht.

The fabulous story of the storming of Duisburg, a story which sounds more like the "Pied Piper of Hamelin" than modern warfare, began a couple of days ago when troops posted along the west bank of the Rhine, south of the bridgehead, noticed a few white flags hanging out of buildings on the opposite bank. Today, the white flags went up again. One was even hung atop the church steeple in Ruhrort.

Battle-commissioned 2/Lt. Frank W. Pew, of Framingham, Mass., Fox Co. platoon leader sitting out the watch on the Rhine—saw them. He had orders to patrol across the river. This, he decided, would be a fine time to patrol.

He picked out six men, and split them into two groups. With him, on the right flank, he took Renner, Sgt. Robert Waldo, of Pittsboro, Wis., and Pfc Walter F. Graf, of Chicago. In the other group were S/Sgt. Steve Stepien and Pfc William Cole, both of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Pvt. Adrian Huckabee, a medic from Fort Worth, Tex.

The 'Enemy' Couldn't Wait In telling the story of his group, Pew declared, "we went along the bank until we found an old boat and a pair of homemade oars. Graf rowed us across. It took so long that the crowd gathering on the other side started stamping its feet."

"When we finally reached the opposite bank, two jokers in snazzy uniforms and a corpulent, official-looking guy were waiting for us. One of them grabbed the line of our boat. The other two snapped into a salute. They were in regular uniforms but they said they were only military policemen.

"The one who grabbed the line said, 'Good afternoon, gentlemen,' in English, and led us ashore. I sent Graf and Waldo back with the other two and Renner and I went on into the city with the one who grabbed the line. He said he was a town official of Duisburg.

"I felt like the 'Pied Piper.' Every time we passed an intersection more people would fall in behind us. After a quarter of a mile there were thousands of people following Renner and me. A guy with a red cross on his arm came up and told us—Renner speaks German—that there were hundreds of wounded civilians in the town.

"He took us to an air raid shelter, and we went down three flights of stairs to a stinking room where there were 80

wounded people. There wasn't anything we could do so we went upstairs again.

"The corpulent Joe opened the door of an office and four SS characters snapped to attention. It was the damndest thing. They started a 'Heil, Hitler,' and ended with a kind of broken-down American salute. They said they were not soldiers at all, only policemen, too, so we left them. Not that I believe them, but there wasn't much we could do.

Treated Like Celebrities

"By the time we got upstairs there were more thousands of people around, it looked like the Boston Commons on tea party day.

"I decided it was time for me to make a speech, so I made one—in French. There were some forced laborers from France there and they translated it to the crowd.

"I told them I thought they wouldn't be bombed and I guessed they wouldn't be shelled any more. By then the crowd was so thick these policemen and ex-army men were keeping them back away from us, like they would from civilians.

"The artillery cubs and the fighter-bombers flew over just then and, boy, did we keep our fingers crossed. If a bomb or shell had come in then they would have murdered us.

"Anyhow, we decided we'd better get back, so we went down to the river, ordered them to get us a couple of boats and headed to our side. Renner in one boat and this official in my boat."

Stepien, in charge of the other group, had a shorter but just as exciting a story to tell. He said:

"A civilian came to the river's edge to meet us. On the other side, we were greeted by the mayor, police chief and postman of this suburb. A big crowd surrounded us.

"They took us down to their air raid shelter, too. Meanwhile, people were kissing our feet and pretty gals were waving handkerchiefs out of the window and people were smiling. Just like France.

"They took us to an air raid shelter, too, where 3,000 holed up. They'd been living like that for months. There were 30 of them wounded, so Huckabee set an aid station right there, helped by two Catholic sisters. By this time Cole had come out with a couple of German soldiers.

"I decided we had about enough excitement, so we left the shelter, got into the boat and came back with our prisoners. We got rid of them and slipped into chow."

Where the Festung May Try to Fester



The end-of-the-war Allied thrust into central Germany revives a widespread belief that trained corps of Nazis will fight after organized resistance ceases. This map shows how a dispersed war economy favors this German plan. Resistance centers have been reported in the Black Forest, Thuringia, northern Bavaria, mountainous parts of Tyrol and the wooded districts of Austria. Specially trained units now allegedly comprise 120,000 men skilled in sabotage and harassing tactics. The U.S. 3rd Army drive, linked with the Soviet armies' spearhead into Austria, might frustrate the German retreat into the south.

Have a Liberated Pickle?

By Howard Byrne

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 7TH ARMY, Mar. 30—On the west bank of the Rhine a jocular engineer was passing out big dill pickles to the tankmen and truck drivers after they crossed.

He said: "The boys liberated themselves a pickle factory last night. Have a liberated pickle."

Bensheim, like other German towns the Patchmen passed through, fluttered with white flags. Facetious doughs had hung a sign on the town hall which pretty much summed up what was happening in Germany.

The sign said: "Under New Management."

Capt. Daniel Kagey, of Greenville, O., shooed a couple of tow-headed kids out of the kitchen where he was shaving and talked about the way his boys crossed the river.

He said: "I guess we were the first outfit over. The Jerries didn't have their pants buttoned up when we came so we didn't run into much. But when the third and fourth waves crossed they ran into fire from 15 flakwagons along the east bank. A lot of assault boats were smashed and quite a few of the boys got hurt but in the end we knocked the flakwagons out. That was all they had."

Capt. Martin F. Schroeder, Able Co. commander, was in one of the unlucky boats. The swift Rhine carried him half a mile downstream before he was hauled out. The first six men to hop from the assault boats were Pvt. Alphonse Popowski, New York; Pfc Mickey Becket, Philadelphia; Pvt. Henry Kraszeksi, Wilmington, Del.; S/Sgt. Lindele Newingham, Maryville, Ill.; Pfc Herman Teems, Lafayette, Ga.; and S/Sgt. Michael J. Commiss, Astoria, L.I.

The boys worked with clockwork precision when they got out. They knew exactly where to go and what to do because Lt. Col. Raymond F. Huft, of New Orleans, had crossed the night before in a rubber boat to look the land over.

"The thing that worries my men most is mines and I wanted to see for myself whether we were going to hit any or not," Huft said. "We stomped all over that beach and we didn't find one. That's why the boys didn't waste any time. When they landed they went."

Sgt. John McCartney, of Brooklyn, assisted the Colonel on the recon job.

The Colonel said: "That boy was at the head of the line when they were handing out guts."

The Colonel is "quite a guy himself," said the Sergeant. "As a matter of fact, he went AWOL from the hospital in order to cross the Rhine first."

See Patton Foiling Hitler in South

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)—Military observers said today Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd Army may be able to prevent Hitler from making a last-ditch stand in the mountainous southern Reich.

Patton is in a position to drive northward toward Cassel or eastward to the south German plains toward Nuremberg, Munich and Vienna for a junction with the Russians.

Observers said the eastward course could cut Germany in two, barring the Nazis from moving their armies in the north down to the rugged country in southern Germany where Hitler reportedly is planning a fanatical back-to-the-wall stand.

Navy Hitting Japs With Stronger Avenger

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)—That Japs have little in common with Yanks is by now a well-established fact. But one thing they do agree on with a lot of us is, "Please to make mine a blonde."

The Leatherneck, Marine magazine, has disclosed that Betty Grable was the No. 1 pin-up girl in Jap headquarters raided on Peleliu, and that both she and voluptuous Mae West were found adorning many walls.

One snaky pose of the hip-swinging Miss West was found on Choiseul with the invitation, "Please to come up and see me if you are, ever in beautiful California."

Wine Was Good, But Flak Was Bad

Doughs Were Fooled Going Into Frankfurt

By Pat Mitchell

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 6TH ARMORED DIV. INSIDE FRANKFURT, Mar. 30—The men of Baker Co. were fooled by the smiling Germans and the proffered bottles of wine as their half-tracks rolled through the southern suburbs of Frankfurt toward the damaged bridge over the Main River, and the crack ack-ack gunners who had leveled their high velocity, high altitude guns for the first time in four years.

The lead 2nd platoon track swayed gently and its passengers commented, "The war is over for these people." The cobblestone roads leading toward the bridge were lined with German women, children and old men, some of whom ran toward the rolling column with bottles of Rotwein. The men said, "Hallo," and the young women smiled and waved because that's the way of young women.

A sergeant, his cheeks clean where wind and tears had washed off heavy road dust, reached down from a heavy machine-gun position and grabbed a bottle on the fly. After sampling it, he said, "It's okay," and passed it around. Then he turned to platoon leader 2/Lt. Richard G. Persotin, East Liverpool, O., and said, "Where are we going, lieutenant?"

Persotin was thinking of the casualties when he answered, "Into Frankfurt to help out Charlie Co. They're one block beyond the bridge Task Force LaGrew took two hours ago. It's a big town."

S/Sgt. Dave Broughton, of Lawrence, Mass., the squad leader, said, "Big towns are nice," and the tracks rolled on.

Two blocks from the bridge Baker Co. halted and dismounted and began to work its way toward the river. Sniper fire and long-range machine-gun fire forced them to hug walls and go through back gardens. Every building was chipped and many of the houses caved in from aerial bombs. Overhead trolley wires had fallen to the street and bricks and roof slate littered sidewalks.

The men started over the bridge and some didn't get very far. Flank observation on the 100-yard long reinforced stone bridge caught airbursting 88-mm. flak from the batteries posted on the hills north of the city.

The structure itself was so badly cratered that tanks or wheeled vehicles couldn't cross. When Lt. Col. Byrd Lagrew, of Lexington, Ky., took the bridge he had three tanks on the way over. The Germans detonated demolition



This was Frankfurt-on-Main, as it looked before the war visited it.

charges which knocked out two tanks, forced the third to go back and denied use of the bridge to all but foot troops.

Baker Co. got over, crawling low and moving fast. Able Co. followed and by dusk the complete 9th Arm. Inf. Bn. had cleared about ten blocks. Then it was Jerry's turn. Pitching 88-mm. air-bursting flak, direct high explosive 105 stuff, 120 mortar and 170-mm. shells, they slammed, according to T/Sgt. Sylvestia Swan, "the heaviest concentration I have seen for a long time," at the bridge and the southern suburbs.

Trucks were pierced by air-bursting shrapnel which fired their gasoline and made gutters rivers of fire that set aflame other vehicles parked in line.

Vehicle drivers who left the cellar shelter to get their jeeps and trucks under cover were sometimes nailed to their seats by the same flak that earned for Frankfurt the airmen's respect.

Platoon Leader Persotin, his men occupying the toe-hold on the Frankfurt side of the river, said, "they couldn't give us that air burst of flak because we were

on the line and they didn't want to shoot at their own nearby men.

"But they surer than hell gave the south bank of the bridge and the suburbs the greatest hell and thunder I ever saw."

You don't pause as you run into Frankfurt across the bridge. You have to go slow when you come to craters or sidestep the up-twisted trolley tracks. And then you see a small loose bundle of olive-drab clothes and a combat boot a few feet away.

There is a spare light machine-gun barrel on the bridge, too, and some cases of ammo, and lots of other important things that suddenly lost their importance when outracing the air bursts became a necessity.

On the far side of the bridge, eight feet from the safety of a building, another dead Joe lies half across the curb. Somebody tossed a blanket over him and when new arrivals come running in, breathing heavily under their load of mortar and extra ammo, they take a quick look at the Joe eight feet from life and duck into the building to get their wind back and think about Germans.

Jap Plan to Win War Is Just—Wait It Out

NEW YORK, Mar. 30 (ANS)—The Japanese have come up with a foolproof plan to win the war. All the Japs have to do, a Tokyo commentator said, is to sit tight and wait for Roosevelt, MacArthur, Nimitz, Churchill, Chiang Kai-shek and a few others to die and then they'll get a negotiated peace and win their objectives. FCC monitors heard the announcer admit that this may take 20 years or longer.

Lands Glider on a Dime Just to Show He Can

If you're speaking of pin-point landings, you might like to hear about Lt. John Brian, a troop-carrier pilot from Washington, Ky. Brian is reported by New York Radio to have won a challenge to free his glider from a transport plane at 2,000 feet and bring it to a halt with its nose resting on a dime. He had help though, the story goes. The dime was placed on a white sheet to increase its visibility.



**SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY**—An aged German woman stares pathetically at the ruins of her home as U.S. doughboys pass through a town on the road to Berlin.

U.S. Army Signal Corps Photos

# Oklahoma Aggies Whip In National Cage Final

## Angels Favored In Coast Race Opening Today

**SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 30**—Baseball observers from Seattle to San Diego predict one of the hottest races in Pacific Coast League history this year, draft boards notwithstanding, and are giving the nod to Los Angeles to sneak through for their third straight pennant. Lou Novikoff and Rip Russell have been sent out by the Cubs to strengthen the Angels' batting power, and with them went infielder Pete Elko and Pitcher Japhet Lynn.

The rest of the clubs seem evenly matched and the race which starts tomorrow may have another seven-way battle for runner-up positions.

Marvin Owen's Portland club, which finished second last year, will have to go without Marino Pierretti, 26-game winner now with Washington, and Owen hopes to compensate for Pierretti's departure with Jake Mooty and Wandell Mosser from Detroit and Jack Tising, who has been in and out of the majors for years.

Bill Skiff's Seattle Rainiers have added batting power to a formidable pitching array which always distinguishes Skiff's teams and must be considered tough, but down Frisco way things aren't so good. The Seals' pitching staff, which was their main strength in '44, has been greatly depleted and Lefty O'Doul will have to use all his savvy. Acquisition of Ken Brondell, Giants' hurler, and Ken Miller should help some.

**Oaks Big Question Mark**  
Dolf Camilli's Oakland Oaks are the loop's dark horses with lots of good youngsters coming along. Dolf has moved to the outfield and if the former Dodger can play regularly the Oaks should be in the thick of it.

The Hollywood Stars, managed by Buck Fausett, will have to get along without Shortstop Tod Davis and Outfielder Frank Kelleher, who were sparks on last year's club, and the team looks weaker.

The fate of the Sacramento Solons seems to hinge on whether Earl Seely can get action out of Gene Corbett and Jimmy Grant. Corbett, slated for first-base and the cleanup spot in the batting order, has not shown up, and Grant, a third baseman from Cleveland, will miss the early part of the season because of injuries.

Consensus on the coast is that Pepper Martin will lead the San Diego Padres into the league cellar. Last year's hill staff, the club's strong point, has gone and their main asset as the season opens is Pepper's undiminished pepper.

## Cleveland, Hershey To Tangle in Finals

**CLEVELAND, Mar. 30**—Final playoffs for the championship of the American Hockey League will start here Saturday night between the Cleveland Barons, winners of four out of six in their series against Buffalo, and Hershey, winner of four out of five against Indianapolis.

Cleveland qualified for the finals by defeating the Bisons, 6-4, last night in a race-horse game which saw the count tied three times in the first period and Tom Burlington provide the margin of victory with goals in the second and third chapters.

## Gil Dodds Coming to U.K. On Missionary Junket

**BOSTON, Mar. 30**—Gil Dodds, former U.S. mile champion, is planning to fly to England on a missionary tour and expects to spend about a month overseas, it was revealed here yesterday.

Back here after a two months' preaching tour, Dodds has been working out on the Boston College track and his former Coach Jack Ryder is enthusiastic over his condition. "Give him two weeks and he could beat his old indoor mile record of 4:06.4," Ryder said yesterday.

## Dodgers Ship Wyatt To Phils for \$10,000

**BEAR MOUNTAIN, N.Y., Mar. 30**—Whit Wyatt, right-hander whose 23 victories led the Brooklyn Dodgers to the National League Pennant in '44 and who at 36 is starting his 18th season in organized baseball, has been sold to the Phillies for a reported \$10,000.

Wyatt, who has had arm trouble for the past couple of seasons and last year won only two while losing six, this spring developed into an intractable holdout. Before bursting on the Florida bush scene he toiled at various times for Evansville, Detroit, the White Sox, Kansas City, Cleveland and Milwaukee.

## Canucks Rout Toronto, 10-3

**MONTREAL, Mar. 30**—The world champion Montreal Canadiens, faced with the necessity of winning three straight to remain in the Stanley Cup playoffs, turned on the heat here last night to slaughter the Toronto Maple Leafs, 10-3, and

**Stanley Cup Playoffs**

First-Third Series	Series			Second-Fourth Series	Series		
	W	L	T		W	L	T
Toronto	3	2	0	Detroit	3	2	0
Montreal	2	3	0	Boston	2	3	0

pull to within one game and two points of the Leafs in their semi-final series.

The Canucks' murderous front line of Maurice Richard, Elmer Lach and Toe Blake scored 11 points in the rout with Richard's four goals—three in the last period—and one assist pacing the attack. Lach had three assists and one counted and Blake had two assists.

Lorne Carr and Ted Kennedy hit the nets for Toronto in the opening frame and at the end of the canto the Leafs were trailing, 3-2.

## Wings Top Bruins, Take Playoff Lead

**DETROIT, Mar. 30**—Mud Bruneteau's second goal of the game at 17:12 of an overtime period gave the Detroit Red Wings a 3-2 victory over the Boston Bruins and moved the Wings out front three games to two in their eight-point semi-final Stanley Cup series here last night.

Bruneteau belted the puck past Paul Bibeault at 2:50 of the opening chapter with Joe Carveth and Carl Liscombe receiving credit for assists and Herbie Cain tied it up for the Bruins on a pass from Bill Cowley nine minutes later.

Flash Hollett put Detroit back in front at 14 minutes of the opening session, and it stayed that way until the final three minutes of the third stanza when Bill Jennings brought on the overtime with a backhand shot on a pass from Cain.

## LaBrucherie Succeeds Horrell as UCLA Coach

**LOS ANGELES, Mar. 30**—Bert LaBrucherie, halfback on UCLA football teams from '26-'28, yesterday was handed a three-year contract as head football coach at his alma mater, succeeding Babe Horrell, who resigned in January after six years on the job.

LaBrucherie, 40-year-old Los Angeles high school mentor, was chosen from among 59 applicants for the job, many of them big name coaches. The contract figures were not disclosed but it is believed he will get about \$7,500 a year against \$11,000 which Horrell received.

## Behind the Sp

**ROME**—Primo Carnera, former world heavyweight champion, is in trouble with the Nazis in northern Italy, according to reports reaching here, for putting the slug on several German soldiers in a bar-room brawl. Carnera's wife is reported to have been reprimanded by Germans in the saloon for talking a native dialect the Nazis couldn't understand and Da Preem started swinging, laying several of the "visitors" out cold on the floor.

**WEST POINT, N.Y.**—Ralph Branca, Dodger Pitcher, issued a walk with the bases loaded in the tenth inning giving the Cadets a 5-4 victory over the Bums. Ben Chapman hurled the first three frames for the Flock and gave up one run.

**ST. LOUIS**—Manager Billy Southworth told reporters that Shortstop Marty Marion had phoned from Atlanta to say he was satisfied with his contract and was on his way to St. Louis.

**ATLANTIC CITY**—First Baseman Nick Etten and Pitcher Bill Zuber have arrived at the Yankee training camp, bringing the squad to 28. Etten said he had a 2A draft classification for working in a Chicago war plant, but he will probably lose it now.

**WASHINGTON**—Senators' Outfielder Stan Spence, who hit .313 last year, and Shortstop Johnny Sullivan have been inducted into the Navy and Army respectively. . . . **CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo.**—George McQuinn, Browns' first baseman,

## Ticked Off the Global Wire

# Ike to Head U.S. Control In Germany, Clay His Deputy

**WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)**—Gen. Eisenhower will be top U.S. representative in the military government to run post-war Germany, the White House disclosed yesterday in announcing that Maj. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, assistant to War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes, had been named deputy to Eisenhower to handle civil affairs in occupied Germany. The announcement said Clay, for whom Eisenhower asked three weeks ago, would take over direction of German civil affairs "when Gen. Eisenhower, as Supreme Commander, assumes control under the arrangement agreed upon for the occupation of Germany."

The control commission, agreed upon at the Yalta Big Three talks, will be comprised of the supreme military commanders in Europe of the U.S., Britain and Russia and will have the final word on treatment of the German people, control of German post-war industry and administration of essential government services. France also will have a share in the occupation.

Clay's duties were not defined, but President Roosevelt was reported by the White House to believe him particularly qualified to handle administration. It was assumed Clay would administer civil affairs only in the U.S. sector of occupied Germany—that is, southern Germany. Clay is generally credited with having instigated many of Byrnes's recent decrees to make the home front more war conscious. Many have singled him out as responsible for the racing ban, the brownout, the entertainment curfew and other controversial regulations. A 46-year-old native of Marietta, Ga., Clay was in charge of material procurement for the Army Service Forces when Byrnes picked him as his assistant last December.

## Frisco Beckons Syria, Lebanon

**WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (AP)**—Syria and Lebanon have been invited to attend the San Francisco United Nations parley at France's suggestion, the State Department announced.

## Gromyko to Frisco

**MOSCOW, Mar. 30 (Reuter)**—Andrei Gromyko, Soviet Ambassador to the U.S., will head the Russian delegation to the United Nations conference at San Francisco, Moscow radio announced today.

## Heppenheim Case Arouses Congressional Wrath

**WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)**—Disclosure that 53 U.S. soldiers had died at the German Heppenheim prison camp because the American-hating Nazi commandant let them perish of starvation and medical neglect brought angry calls from Congressmen today for an immediate protest by the U.S. against what they termed an outright violation of the Geneva Convention, which provides for medical treatment of prisoners and food rations equal to those of the capturing army. Other members demanded strong action against "war criminals" such as those responsible for the atrocity.

There was no comment from the War or State Departments, which apparently awaited an official report. Persons familiar with conditions in German prison camps said the Heppenheim case revealed by the 7th Army's capture of the site—apparently represented an exception to the rule that U.S. prisoners generally have been treated by the Germans in accordance with the Geneva Convention.

## Caught in Crossfire

**STOCKHOLM, Mar. 30 (A) (AP)**—Crown Princess Ingrid of Denmark, wheeling her youngest daughter in a carriage along a street leading to Copenhagen's royal palace, narrowly escaped injury recently when she was caught in a pistol clash between Danish patriots and Nazis in which six persons were killed, the Free Danish press service reported yesterday.

## 'Keep Jap Islands'—Sherwood

**WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)**—Playwright Robert Sherwood, who has just completed a seven-week, 37,000-mile Pacific tour as a special assistant to Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal, announced yesterday he favored U.S. retention of captured Jap islands. "That's not imperialism, but a common-sense safeguard of the security of this country," he said.

## Flynn to Visit DeGaulle

**ROME, Mar. 30 (AP)**—Edward J. Flynn, President Roosevelt's special emissary, who has had three audiences with Pope Pius XII during his visit here, left Rome yesterday for Paris, where he will meet Gen. Charles deGaulle. He declined to discuss reports that he was seeking to effect an accord between the Vatican and Moscow, whence he came to Rome.

## Jap Envoys Leave Berlin

**STOCKHOLM, Mar. 30 (AP)**—Saburo Saguwara, Japanese Minister, and two other Jap diplomats in Berlin arrived here by plane yesterday.

**Help Wanted —AND GIVEN**  
Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, The Stars and Stripes, 20, Cavendish Sq., London, W.1, or APO 413, U.S. Army. Telephone U.K. Base HO. Ext. 2131.

**APOs Wanted**  
NICOLA BJELAJAC, Anthony ROGOWSKI, WAC Juanita PORTER, Parkersburg, W. Va.; T/Sgt. Donald and Cpl. Lawrence DEEMAS, Parkersburg, W. Va.; Pvt. Richard COUGHLIN and Louis RETTIG, S.D.; Sgt. Alfred WIRT, Vicks, Mo.; Pvt. Sarah OLIVER, A-810722.  
Turner Field Reunion  
REUNION Supper of Class 44D, Turner Field, Albany, Ga., at the Bethel St. ARC Officers' Club, Norwich, 7 PM, Apr. 4. Lt. T. O. Thoma.

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune

## Dick Tracy



By Courtesy of United Features

## L'il Abner



By Chester Gould



By Al Capp



By Courtesy of United Features



Around the 48 Yesterday

Post-War Industrial Peace Mapped by Labor Heads

WASHINGTON (ANS)—A charter designed to lay the foundations for post-war industrial peace in the U.S. was announced by CIO President Philip Murray, AFL President William Green and Eric H. Johnston, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.



ERIC JOHNSTON

The charter provided for recognition by labor and capital of each other's rights. Labor's right to organize and engage in collective bargaining as well as capital's right to "direct operations of enterprise" would be honored.

Foundation of the nation's economy, the charter read, was "the system of private competitive capitalism." Vastly increased foreign trade must be achieved through expanding markets and elimination of unreasonable trade practices, the charter urged.

The hazards of unemployment, old age and physical impairment must be constantly fought by both labor and capital, the charter said. It also stated that both labor and management were agreed that their primary duty now was to win the war.

CAPITAL RAMBLINGS: The House passed, 167-160, and sent to the Senate the compromise manpower bill which would permit War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes to "freeze" war workers in their jobs. Opinion was the Senate might reject the measure. . . . The Senate Banking Committee turned thumbs down on OPA's proposal for price ceilings on movies, barber shops and beauty shops.

A sharp increase in inter-government communications across the Atlantic was reported—a sign in the past that important developments were in the making. . . . President Roosevelt returned after a four-day visit to Hyde Park, N.Y.

No Ford Planes

DETROIT (ANS)—Spokesmen for the Ford Motor Co. reiterated that Henry Ford planned to abandon airplane production after the war. The same sources intimated that his Willow Run plant, now turning out Liberators, might be used to produce farm equipment on an assembly line basis—long a Ford desire.

Hero of Iwo Jima Dies

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (ANS)—Platoon Sgt. Ernest I. Thomas Jr., one of the Marines who planted the U.S. flag on Mt. Suribachi on the third day of the Iwo Jima invasion, was killed in action on the Pacific island several days later, the Marine Corps notified his mother.

People Do the Craziest Things—for Love

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE? The FBI in DETROIT announced the arrest of a former serviceman, John H. Buell, of Cloverdale, Cal., who allegedly poked his left leg under a freight car's wheel to escape foreign service. His sweetheart, Mrs. Gladys Riley, of Ardmore, Okla., also was held for joining him in seeking a disability compensation after Buell's foot was amputated.

A coroner's jury in COLUMBIA, S.C., recommended that Lt. Samuel C. Epes of the Army be tried for the murder of his wife last February.

Blonde Vilma Suberly pleaded guilty in SAN FRANCISCO on two of 11 counts of accepting military allotment checks to which she was not entitled. She added that she had been married at least seven times to servicemen. . . . Also in the Bay City, Francis Van Wie, the street car man convicted last week on three counts of bigamy and now being tried on his plea that he was innocent by reason of insanity, said he married so often (police say 12 times) because he didn't want to hurt the gals' feelings.

False To The Firemen

SCOBEEY, Mont. (ANS)—About 30 disgusted volunteer firemen crept back into bed after responding to a midnight false alarm—no one had told them the city authorities decided to help the entertainment curfew along by ringing the town fire bell at twelve o'clock.

Lloyd Recalled to Duty

HOLLYWOOD (ANS)—Cinema director Frank Lloyd, who served as an Army major in the Pacific for two years, was recalled to active duty by the USAAF to reorganize and re-equip overseas combat camera units.

Toni Takes It Off on a Global Scale

ET CETERA: Fruit and vegetable growers in the lower Rio Grande Valley of TEXAS asked the State Department to have Mexico release waters from the El Azucar Dam reservoir on the San Juan River to relieve emergency drought conditions. . . . In HOLLYWOOD, five movie stars including Toni Seven and Ann Miller put on a strip-poker act to aid the United Nations' drive for 150 million pounds of old clothing.

Most of the U.S. sweltered yesterday, with temperatures in the 80s quite general. . . . Thirty-three fires destroyed 800 acres of woodland in NEW JERSEY's Ocean, Burlington and Passaic counties. . . . A strike involving 1,100 workers spread through the Packard plant in DETROIT, threatening production of aircraft and marine engines.

In GREENVILLE, Tenn., Magistrate J. R. Sentelle ruled the collection of a poll tax was illegal and ordered the refunding of the tax and penalty paid by a landowner under protest. . . . Cpl. Ben Mitchell, of Atlanta, Ga., asked the USO in BOSTON to get his gal some flowers for Easter. The USO not only got the flowers but prevailed on Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles, of the 1st Service Command, to present them.

Still Looking for the Key

CHICAGO (ANS)—A woman who filed suit for separate maintenance was persuaded to attempt a reconciliation with her husband by the judge who said they should live up to their name. The couple's name—Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wedlock.

Bear Barked

WESTFIELD, N.J.—The imprints in the snow looked like bear tracks. So the natives formed what they called "the Union County bear hunt." The result: A police dog with shaggy paws was captured.

Say OPA Squeezes Packers

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (ANS)—The Office of Price Administration was told by the U.S. Emergency Court of Appeals today that its present price ceilings, even with government subsidies, did not allow packers producing only fresh beef to make an adequate profit or "indeed to break even."

The "non-processors," who turn out in addition to fresh beef such by-products as sausage, tallow and oil, handle about 85 per cent of the beef supply. The Court said, in effect, that the special subsidy of 80 cents a hundred pounds now paid to non-processors was inadequate to allow them to compete on an equal footing with processor firms.

Meanwhile, two Senate committees—Agriculture and Banking—insisted that the OPA patch up its differences with the packers, who contended they were being forced into bankruptcy.

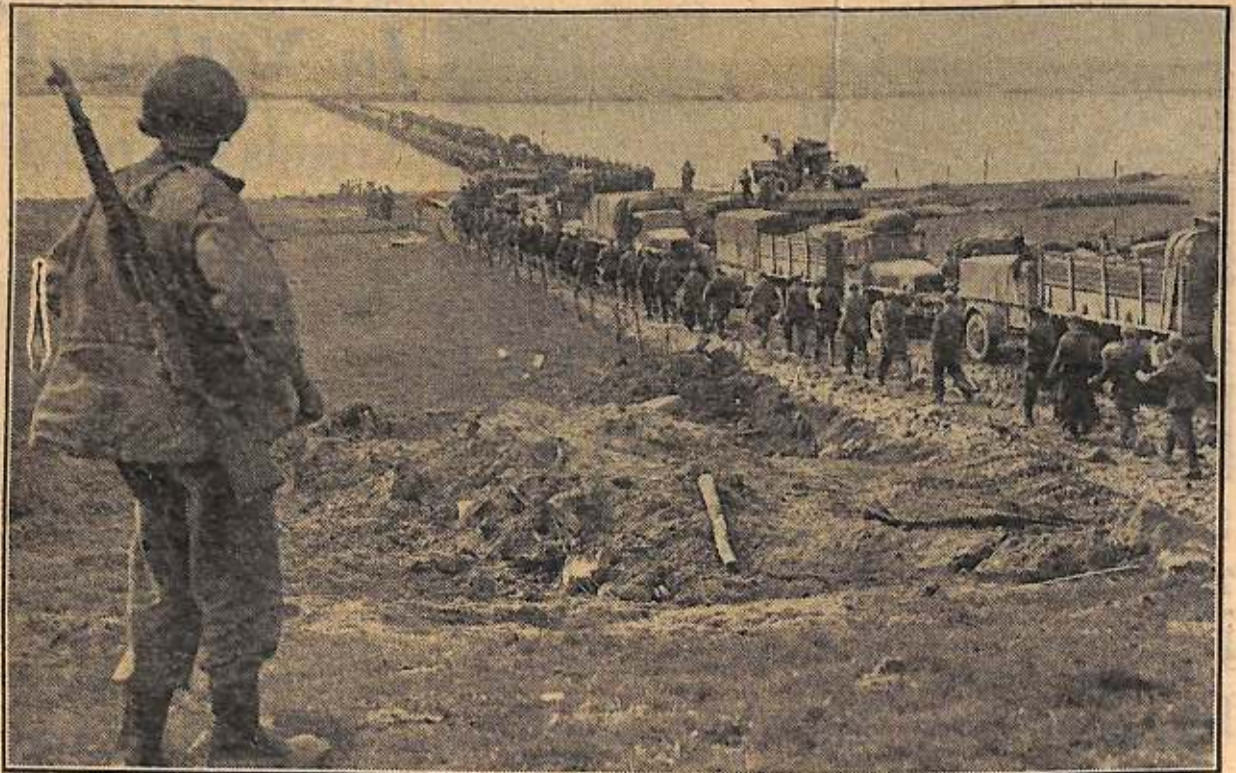
Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson

also entered the food picture, saying that the Army food supply was below the minimum safety level because "unfortunately, you cannot eat priorities."

Earlier, OPA chief Chester Bowles announced an increase of three points in the ration value of pork sausages, bacon and other products, effective Sunday. In all, consumers will have to get along with 2,000,000 pounds less meat next month than in March, Bowles said, adding that the public would not really begin to feel the pinch until May or June.

While the U.S. and Britain announced jointly that they were re-appraising the entire food supply and requirements problem, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt weighed in with this suggestion: "If we would just eat British rations for one month all over this country we would be much more satisfied with what we have."

Always Something Doing on the Other Side



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photos

The big heave is on, but the Rhine crossings continue, and in much different fashion than those of last weekend. Back across the river go Nazi prisoners (top photo) while supplies trundle eastward toward the front. And civilians trying to cross the river at Diez (lower) have to ferry their way across by rowboat because retreating Germans blew the town's only bridge.

Coal Squabble Dumped Into Lap of WLB

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (AP)—The War Labor Board today stepped into the tense soft coal wage negotiations after it had been handed the case by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins—a move seen by observers as the first step toward possible government control of the mines.

Miss Perkins' move followed rejection of her proposals by the operators for a new working agreement to replace the one expiring Saturday at midnight. The proposed contract embodied six of 18 demands of the United Mine Workers in one form or another.

President John L. Lewis of the UMW had accepted the proposals without qualification, it was disclosed. Pleading that they would not add one lump of coal to output, but would cost them \$18,000,000 a year and the buyer 30 cents extra per ton, the operators refused to accept.

While final reports of the strike vote arranged by the National Labor Relations Board were not yet in, indications last night were that the miners had voted overwhelmingly in favor of a strike if Lewis' demands were not met.

Danzig Falls; Drive On South

(Continued from page 1)

to his preparations for a drive on the German capital.

Moscow Radio also forecast a new offensive in this area by both Zhukov and Koniev.

At the northern end of the front, with Danzig and Gdynia now in Russian hands, all that remained to the Germans was a small strip of the coast along the Gulf of Danzig.

In East Prussia only Konigsberg and a small area northwest of the city were held by the Germans. Stalin, in an Order Thursday, announced that Marshal Vassilevsky's men had liquidated the German group southwest of the East Prussian capital, with 80,000 Nazis killed and 50,000 taken prisoner.

U.S. Has Proof Nazis Planned to Continue

WASHINGTON, Mar. 30 (AP)—Photostatic copies of German documents outlining "well arranged" plans to continue a Nazi propaganda campaign against the Allies once hostilities cease are in U.S. hands, the State Department announced today. "Some of these plans already are in operation," the Department said.

German industrialists and Army officers as well as the Nazis prepared the plans with the idea of encouraging Germany's post-war commercial projects and entrance into international cartel agreements, it was disclosed.

New Rocket Match for 'Tigers'

LUXEMBURG, Mar. 30 (Reuter)—Allied planes are now using a new rocket which can knock out German Tiger tanks, Luxembourg Radio said yesterday. The weapon is 24 yards long and weighs 150 pounds, the broadcast said.

West Fronts --

(Continued from page 1)

security blackout, tanks of the 8th Armored Division had turned back an enemy tank-led counter-thrust at the southeastern sector of the 9th's bridgehead.

Doughboys of the 79th Division were fighting into the northern built-up areas of the Ruhr, while the 1st Army and British troops swept around it. In captured Duisburg, the Americans bagged three German submarines in this big Rhine inland port.

U.S. 7th Army—Germans defending the approaches to Nuremberg were said to be putting up a stiff fight against the 3rd and 45th Infantry Divisions, which have a bridgehead six miles wide and two miles deep on the Main River east bank in the Aschaffenburg-Schweinheim area. Here the Germans for the first time since the sweep into Bavaria began have put up a co-ordinated artillery defense.

Troops entered the university city of Heidelberg, after crossing the Neckar River, on which it stands. Infantrymen of the 44th Division were last reported heading for the city from captured Mannheim. The 12th Armored Division and the 106th Cavalry Group meanwhile drove through the Odenwald, 30 miles beyond the Rhine.

Newfoundland-Scotland 5 1/2-Hr. Mosquito Trip

Riding the crest of a strong tailwind, a Mosquito of RAF Transport Command zipped across the North Atlantic yesterday from Newfoundland to Scotland in five hours and 38 minutes, covering the 2,184 miles at an average speed of 387.6 miles per hour.

The Canadian-built ship, piloted by F/Lt. H. C. Graham, of Glasgow and navigated by F/O F. C. Seidenkranz of No. Hamilton, Ontario, left Newfoundland shortly after breakfast and got its crew of two to Scotland in time for lunch.

Terry and the Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



By Milton Caniff

