

Slightly warmer today with possible light showers. Yesterday's temperatures: High, 67—Low, 40.

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Marines Hurt Third Division Into Iwo Jima; Third Drives Into Saarburg; Canadians Gain; Yanks Clear Last Jap Soldier From Bataan

Enemy Driven From Moyland Forest Sector

Yank Seventh Army Fights Through Streets Of Forbach

PARIS, Feb. 21.—(P)—The U. S. Third Army fought into Saarburg and closed up to the Saar river on an eight-mile front today, virtually eliminating all enemy resistance in the triangle formed by the Saar and Moselle rivers in climaxing an attack that in two days has gained ten miles and overrun nearly 40 German towns.

Between the Maas and Rhine rivers on the northern end of the front the Canadian First Army's drive toward Calcar and the Ruhr gained momentum with the help of hundreds of British warplanes. Canadian troops, using flame throwers, cleaned the enemy out of the small Moyland forest and there were signs the German defense line—built up to ten divisions there—finally was beginning to crack.

Far to the south, Doughboys of the American Seventh Army fought through the streets of Forbach, overlooking the important German steel city of Saarbrücken which now is only three miles ahead of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's forward elements.

The troops moving forward in all three of these sectors were given tremendous air support. More than 5,000 Allied warplanes roared through clearing skies and battered transportation and military targets backing up the German lines.

Armored units drove into Saarburg on the western bank of the Saar river after establishing contact with the 9th Infantry Division, which had paved the way for the swift new plunge into enemy territory by crossing the Moselle river in a two-day attack to the south. Today the Doughboys drove on a mile and a half beyond Onsdorf, which is three and a half miles northwest of Saarburg.

Between them, Patton's armored and infantry forces already had seized more than two-thirds of the Saar-Moselle triangle and had gained control of an eight-mile stretch of the Saar river below Saarburg.

Waves of American fighters and fighter-bombers tore at the broken enemy defenses in the sector and dispirited Nazi troops surrendered by the hundreds. Most of 500 sorties flown by the Tactical Air Forces were in close support of ground troops, pilots reporting destruction or damage to 238 enemy motor transports, 13 tanks and 15 gun emplacements.

The Third Army also registered smaller gains elsewhere along its 55-mile front, biting into both shoulders of an enemy salient between the two American wedges driven through the Siegfried Line in the Pruem and Echemnach areas, and Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch's Seventh Army farther south fought into Forbach and pushed to within three miles of Saarbrücken.

British empire forces gained the initiative on the 5-mile northern assault front after two days spent repelling fierce German counterattacks and drove forward up to a mile toward the vital Ruhr. Scots troops crushed the last Nazi resistance inside the rubble-fortress city of Goch after two days of bloody house-to-house fighting.

With sunshine flooding the battle zone, Field Marshal Montgomery's forces drove the Germans back at points two miles from the road center of Udem and cut the Goch-Udem railway in a mile advance. On the west flank Scots pushed more than a half-mile across flat, open country south-east of captured Hommersum.

Canadians defended and jabbed at German positions outside Moyland, key to the adjacent stronghold of Calcar, whose capture would lay open a big stretch west of the Rhine. Fifty Nazi battalions—mostly elite troops—now had been identified on this front, but their counter-assaults had failed to halt the Allied drive.

The Roer river, behind which all or part of at least three great Allied armies await the signal to slam into the Reich, dropped two more inches in the past 24 hours and the speed of its current had increased 25 per cent in three days.

U. S. Marines Charge Ahead on Iwo Jima Island



Leather-necks of the 4th U. S. Marine Division charge over a rise along the beach on Iwo Jima at the start of their invasion of that island just 750 miles south of Tokyo.

Planning Board Chairman Impressed By Local Port

Capus M. Waynick, of High Planning Board group charged by Gov. R. Gregg Cherry with investigating Wilmington's request for State aid for port improvement, said yesterday afternoon, after a

SENATE RESTORES WORK BILL TEETH

Military Committee Action Surprising; Held Obscure

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—(U)—Drastic penalties were restored to the work-or-jail bill today, a complete flip-flop of the Senate Military Committee's previous attitude.

The committee action was surprising, and not immediately clear, either.

It was brought about by an unusual coalition of friends and opponents of limited National Service, those who want to force men into 45 into war work and those favoring voluntary controls.

Members of the committee were unable to agree even whether the penalties would apply to both employers and employees. The bill was so jumbled a state that its approval in its present form was doubtful, to say the least.

Written in was an amendment making violators of the act subject to a year's imprisonment or a \$10,000 fine. It was offered by Senator Austin (R-Vt.), an advocate of full National Service legislation. Its effect was obscure.

Chairman Thomas (D-Utah) told reporters he interpreted it as applying to both employers and employees. So did Senators Chandler (D-Ky) and Revercomb (R-W Va). Senator Kilgore (D-W Va) declared it would affect only employers. Austin declined to interpret his own amendment.

Thomas said the amendment carried by a "substantial" majority, without a record vote. Others reported the vote was 7 to 5. Chandler said frankly that he voted for the Austin Amendment so he could justify voting against the entire bill. He also cast a proxy vote for Senator Murray (D-Mont).

The final vote on the amended substitute bill was put off until tomorrow. There were strong indications that an effort would be made at that time to reconsider the Austin amendment, and also one adopted earlier in the day reaffirming Congress' previous expressed directive against drafting farm workers for whom no suitable replacements are available.

The sudden reversal of sentiment on the work-or-jail principle was a complete surprise. The committee had all but perfected a substitute for the House-approved

CHURCHILL FACES DEBATE ON POLES

Many House Members Critical Of Big Three Decision

LONDON, Feb. 21.—(U)—Sharp dissatisfaction with the "Big Three" decision on Poland was voiced in the House of Commons today in a series of questions directed by both Conservative and Laborite members to Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Inasmuch as the Crimean conference will be debated at length next Tuesday and Wednesday, Eden gave his questioners very brief answers today and Churchill contented himself with defining the Atlantic Charter as "a guide, not a rule" when critics pressed him.

The preliminary skirmish in next week's debate indicated that a considerable number of members may be dissatisfied with some phase of the Yalta decisions and that they will not be backward in voicing their criticism. One member charged today that Churchill had surrendered to "power politics" in agreeing to the decision on Poland.

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Conference To Ignore Argentine At Present

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 21.—(P)—A determination to prevent any move towards recognition of the present government in Argentina materialized as the Inter-American Conference got underway today.

Mexican Foreign Minister Ezequiel Padilla, chairman of the conference told the Associated Press that if any of the delegates wished to fight on Argentina's behalf, the "conference is prepared" to go into a detailed exposition of what the Argentine government has done.

The Argentine issue was launched almost immediately after the preliminary meeting this morning opened. Paraguay demanded an important position on the Agenda for the Argentine case.

The chiefs of delegation, sitting as a steering committee, turned this down and relegated the Argentine question to the end of the meeting.

Padilla refused to go into details on the record that would be brought out on Argentina if some delegations wished to drive for a resolution favorable to the Argentine government.

Last Of Japs On Rock Near Annihilation

Foe Resorts To Extreme Savagery In Small Intramuros Pocket

MANILA, Thursday, Feb. 22.—(P)—Not a living Japanese soldier is left on Bataan and the enemy garrison on Corregidor fortress has been "practically destroyed," Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

He said the enemy garrison in south Manila was compressed into an area measuring about 700 yards by 500 within the ancient Intramuros, and the destruction of this force has been slow only because of the American desire to save the lives of civilians inside the walled city.

The Japanese on Bataan were estimated several thousand strong when the Americans invaded the southern shore just a week ago to form a death vise in conjunction with a strong Yank force moving down from the north.

On Corregidor, invaded last Friday, MacArthur said more than 1,700 Japanese dead already had been buried and the count was only partially complete. The main tunnel has been blocked at both ends by explosives.

MacArthur described the Japanese within south Manila's medieval Intramuros as resisting with "savage barbarism . . . seldom displayed in a more repulsive form."

Howitzers and cannon are attempting to breach the outer wall of this medieval citadel to make an entrance way for tanks and infantrymen seeking to clean up this final enemy stronghold in the Philippine capital and liberate an estimated 7,000 civilians held as virtual hostages.

MacArthur said final destruction of the Japanese garrison "has been slow due to the desire to limit civilian casualties as far as possible." He went on:

"It is in no sense a measure of the special skill or tenacity of the enemy, whose savage barbarism has seldom been displayed in a more repulsive form."

Japanese marines and naval defense forces make up the bulk of the Intramuros garrison.

MacArthur announced the enemy on Corregidor fortress "has been practically destroyed, with more than 1,700 dead already having been buried with the count only partially completed."

He said only isolated Japanese holed up in caves remain to be mopped up there.

On Bataan, the general declared, not a living Japanese soldier can be found.

He said the Americans had occupied the city of Bagac and had finished "combing" the area.

Heavy bombers dropped 50 tons of explosives on airdrome and barracks installations on southwestern Formosa and sank a small freighter off the east coast. Another freighter was damaged.

A 1,000-ton freighter was sunk near Hong Kong as reconnaissance planes swept the China coast.

A 144-ton bombing of northern Borneo was concentrated in the Miri and Jesselton airdromes on the northern end. Runways were severely cratered and many fires were observed. Fabuan airdrome at Bruei Bay, Borneo, also was bombed.

Taking up the Argentine question at the start would have meant giving it precedence over security, economic and political issues on the agenda.

Today's session was a preliminary gathering of the heads of delegations to fix the agenda, elect a president and establish rules for the meeting.

Mexican Foreign Minister Padilla was named president of the conference, his nomination having been placed by Bolivia and seconded by U. S. Secretary of State Stettinius.

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Hitler's Berchtesgaden Raked By Yank Bombs

Rocket Firing Thunderbolts smash At Mountain Retreat; Rail Cars and Locomotives Blasted; No Data On Leader's Home

ROME, Feb. 21.—(P)—Hitler's Bavarian mountain retreat, Berchtesgaden, well within the Reich's "inner fortress," has been subjected to its first air attack of the war, it was announced today as heavy bombers of the U. S. 15th Air Force completed their ninth consecutive day of attacks on Nazi communications in southern Europe.

The raid on Hitler's private stronghold yesterday was followed up today with an extensive bombing of the Vienna rail yards which were reported handling a great volume of military traffic destined for the Eastern Front.

Rocket-firing Thunderbolts of the U. S. 12th Air Force made the smash at Berchtesgaden, the Fuehrer's hideout in the Bavarian Alps. Sweeping in from their Italian bases, they pumped their rockets from low levels at rail tracks, cars and locomotives and other targets in and near the town of Berchtesgaden after they found impossible flying conditions over their primary assigned target.

The original target, although it was not announced, might have been the main Udine-Tarvisio-Salzburg railroad, which passes about five miles east of Berchtesgaden.

The town itself would be of real importance as an air target only if it were being used by the Nazis in building up the inner Bavarian citadel for prolonging the war. It has been among the spots mentioned in foreign reports as a possible last-ditch refuge for topflight Nazis after Berlin falls.

Hitler's strongly guarded residence is at the edge of Berchtesgaden on Obersalzberg (upper Salt Mountain) and other high Nazis have homes in the neighborhood.

There was no official comment on the raid, but one Air Force officer observed that since Berchtesgaden was known as Hitler's retreat, "one guess is as good as another" as to what the railroad cars hit by the raiders might have contained.

The announcement of the raid gave no indication that Hitler's home itself was hit and there is no information available as to whether he was there at the time of the American attack.

Returning pilots reported they ran into heavy anti-aircraft and small arms fire approaching Berchtesgaden, which perhaps is one of the most strongly fortified spots in Germany, but not a single shot was fired at them when they were over the town itself.

Soviets Reach Junction Of Oder, Niese Rivers

LONDON, Feb. 21.—(U)—Russian troops reached the confluence of the Oder and Niese rivers 49 miles southeast of Berlin today, drove to within 17 miles of Cottbus, an

outer bastion of the Nazi capital, and in swift advances hammered to the Niese 54 miles from Dresden.

Advancing along the west bank of the Oder river, Marshal Konev's First Ukrainian Army reached the confluence at a point only five miles from a bridgehead on the Oder's west bank reportedly held by Marshal Zhukov's First White Russian Army.

Making gains of up to nine miles through forest defenses, Konev's troops captured more than 50 towns and villages along a 60-mile front in the German provinces of Brandenburg and Silesia, Moscow's operational communique announced tonight.

Konev's troops were only seven miles south of the Oder fortress of Fuerstenberg, on the shortest road to Berlin.

Russian troops, plunging toward strategic Danzig, seized the big Polish Corridor rail and road center of Czersk while Nazi broadcasts reported that Soviet shock troops had expanded bridgeheads on the west bank of the Oder river 33 miles northeast of Berlin.

Sixty miles southeast of Berlin, Konev's troops captured the big communications town of Pfoerten, in a nine-mile advance from last reported positions.

The drive to Pfoerten carried Russian tanks and infantry 17 miles due east of the American-bombed industrial city of Cottbus, 47 miles southeast of Berlin. Capture of Pfoerten flanked 10 miles on the south the twin bastion of Guben, key guardian of the 23-mile gap to Berlin between the Oder and Spree rivers.

The Third Marine Division, under Maj. Gen. Graves B. Erskine, reinforced the Fourth Division under Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates and the Fifth under Maj. Gen. Keller E. Rockey.

Thus approximately 45,000 Leathernecks may have been committed to an operation against Japanese estimated in a Navy communique to have totaled 20,000 when the island was invaded Monday.

The Marines, having captured their main objective, the big Motoyama bomber airfield No. 1 Tuesday, were checked during an enveloping drive toward the island's other airfield to the north.

"Intense mortar, artillery and small arms fire is being encountered by our troops and in some areas extensive mine fields are slowing the advance," Nimitz said.

"During the afternoon (Wednesday) there was no appreciable change in our lines," he reported.

"On the south, flamethrowers and tanks are being used against well entrenched enemy troops in the Mt. Suribachi area," Nimitz added. "A counterattack launched by the enemy east of Mt. Suribachi shortly after noon was thrown back. Numerous land mines have been encountered in this vicinity. Four of our tanks were knocked out of action."

The five-star Fleet Admiral, who earlier disclosed that Marine casualties up to 8 a. m. Wednesday—embracing 48 hours of invasion activities—exceeded 3,600, said in today's communique that more than 850 Nipponese dead had been counted. He made it clear this was an incomplete count, made during the heat of the most bitter battle yet fought on a Pacific island.

All during Wednesday, battleships, cruisers and destroyers poured their shells into enemy strongpoints, thus building up a bombardment total which in the first six days exceeded 8,000 tons.

The all-important battle of supplies was being won. As new supplies hit the beaches, the admiral was able to report that mortar fire on the beach area was diminishing.

He added however, that loose volcanic ash was impeding the movement of equipment. In some places it prevents the passage of particularly heavy stuff.

Iwo's No 1 airdrome was captured the second day of the flaming battle. The Japanese are headed presently toward the second one some 700 yards to the north.

The Fifth Marine Division on the southwest coast is on one flank of the two-runway field. The Fourth Division is making a frontal assault after its capture of the three-runway bomber field.

Meanwhile there was no attempt by Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz' headquarters to play down the toughness of the fight. The admiral's communique did not divide the casualties, but his report that 3,663 wounded had been evacuated indicated the dead totaled some 600.

Yanks Halted In Tracks By Fanatical Foe

U. S. Casualties In First 48 Hours Figured At Over 3,600

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Gu a m, Thursday, Feb. 22.—(P)—A Third Marine division, increasing the invasion force to possibly 45,000 men, has been thrown into the furious battle for Iwo to fill gaps caused by casualties already exceeding 3,600.

Disclosing the fresh commitments in a communique today, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz acknowledged that Japanese resistance rose to such a high pitch Wednesday afternoon, third day of the invasion, that the hard-fighting Devilids virtually were stopped in their tracks.

The reinforced Leathernecks, holding a wedge across the south third of the island, stormed the slopes of a volcano on the south tip with flamethrowers and tanks. Although unable to advance appreciably, they hurled back a counter-attack in the vicinity.

On the north end of the wedge, Nipponese mine fields and intense mortar and artillery fire temporarily halted a drive toward an airfield in the center of the island.

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Tar Heel Officer Describes Rescue From Nazi Prison Camp By Russians

BY LT. JOHN N. DIMLING, JR. (U. S. Army officer of Winston-Salem, N. C., captured a year ago on the Anzio beachhead in Italy and freed by the Red Army drive through Poland, where he was held with other Americans in a Nazi prison camp.)

MOSCOW, Feb. 20.—(Delayed)—One year ago I was in no-man's land outside of Anzio beachhead when a German counterattack cut me off and I was taken prisoner. It was a mighty tough moment.

But last month sitting in a black-out Polish farmhouse behind

what was the enemy's line, I had the thrill of my thirty-year life. Off in the distance a bunch of us American officers who had eluded German guards that morning could hear the rumble of tanks.

"Lord, they can't be Jerry tanks," I told my side-kick. "They sound like M-4—Shermans."

The rumble came nearer, then right past on the road a hundred yards from the farmhouse. It blended in with people's voices shouting and screaming with joy in Polish.

A Polish farmer burst into the room where we were lying low. "Rusky, Rusky," he yelled, I

don't know when news like that could ever sound better. Then and there Marshal Zhukov became our favorite army commander.

The Poles, men, women and children, crowded in and embraced us. They sang one of their hymns. "I sang, 'God Bless America,' and how we meant it!"

Soon a Russian tank poked his head in briefly just for a few seconds' chat with our senior officer, a colonel who used to be with the armored force himself.

The Russian through our interpreter said he was very pleased

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