Served By Leased Wires

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High. 75-Low, 55.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1945.

FINAL EDITION ESTABLISHED 1867 Marines Inch Forward On Iwo; Lose 5,372; Patton Crosse Saar River At Two Points; 7,000 Allied Planes Hammer Nazi Railheads

Across Reich; 30 Towns Fall

Moselle-Saar Triangle Conquered In Whirlwind Offensive

across the Saar river at two points two Democratic Congressmen on talk of disciplinary action started. completed a whirlwind conquest of Germany's 80-square-mile Moselle

The Hoor of the sentatives today.

The contest: Saar triangle as 7,000 Allied war-planes struck simultaneously at white - thatchenemy rail lifelines.

A field dispatch said Third Ar- of Mississippi, my officers and men were in high who shouted spirits as they ripped across West- "C o m m u nern Germany's ramparts with a ist," and strapspeed reminiscent of their historic ping Frank E. dash in France, seizing the fortress Hook. N e w city of Saarburg and 29 other Reich Dealer from towns on a 55-mile front.

Saarburg, once a thriving city of 0,000, was deserted save for the city of the 10,000, was deserted save for 100 aged civilians.

This powerful thrust 18 miles as "God damndeep into the Reich collapsed all ed liar" but in enemy resistance in the triangle the press galand rammed a steel spearhead to lery above the a point five miles from Trier, for- fight most retified city of 88,000 population on porters heard it the mountainous route to the Rhine. as "dirty liar." In any event, the the Michigan man but that they

under Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's record. the Saar river. The attackers were confident the enemy soon would be driven from these new positions.

To the fury of the Allied air attack-a new technique under which swarms of battle planes unload their cargoes of destruction on communications centers-was added mies hammering at Germany's first line of defense.

Forty miles southeast of the Third Army, the U. S. Seventh Army capturde two-thirds of the French gateway city of Forbach,

north end of the front captured edge of Calcar, bitterly-defended controversial projects. highway center two miles souththe western Ruhr industrial basin.

two miles west of the latter town, bill last year. which is a vital feeder point for the enemy on that sector of the

On this spring-like day, the best flying day in months, five Allied Rankin (D-Miss). forces pooled their planes in a push from the east and west to a controversial amendment. crush Hitler's Reich.

fleets unleashed their bombs as year. flying artillery. Many targets were

It took Lt. Gen. Patton's hardver-Mahoning waterway, and the viously is entitled to seek a vote hitting veterans just three days to mop-up the triangle with a total of 38 towns after breaking through formidable Siegfried Line fortifications at the southern base. In all approximately 70 towns have been captured all along the front since the big attack began Tuesday.

Without giving the Germans time to rest, Patton's troops manned assault boats and crossed the Saar river south of newly-captured junction with the Moselle.

rig two and a half miles south

the Germans from the fortificationStudged With President studged Eifel incuntains east of work done there with President the duchy of Luxembourg. Roosevelt and "it is the Presi-

Two other Allied armies were dent's firm conviction that the rehammering at Germany's first sults of the Crimea Conference line of defense 175 miles apart. have greatly advanced the basic

Third Ripping Representatives Rankin And Hook Clash In Fist Fight On Congress Floor

Mississippi Lawmaker Strides to Opponent in Exception to Being Called a 'Dirty Liar'; Hair Pulling But Few Punches: a Draw

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.-(AP)

Here are some statistics on

principals in today's fight in the

Rep. John E. Rankin: Age. 63;

weight, about 140; height, about

5 feet 8 inches the says that's

with his hair standing up); Dem-

ocrat, born in Itawamba coun-

ty. Miss.; lawyer by profession. Rep. Frank E. Hook: Age,

52; weight, 195 (and I'm solid);

height, about 5 feet 10 inches;

Democrat, born in L'Anse

Mich.; former professiona!

wrestler; lawyer.

House of Representatives:

BY HOWARD FLIEGER PARIS. Feb. 22.—(P)—The ramShouts of "Communist" and "liar",

startled members separated them. paging U. S. Third Army brone exploded into a fist fight between

The Principals

Hook's remark

guns, artillery to the south tore at the fortified hills into which the blow landed but Rankin managed Germans had been chased east of to get in several short jabs at

Hook's flushed face before other As soon as the fight was over, into adjournment to ward off fur-

> some Demopel Hook when the House meets

> Reps. Cox (D-(D-Va) told reporters, however, that the ressimply ask that sured for his re-

While Trier's battlements came ugly word was stricken from the would advise against it. Cox predicted a resolution censure aimed at Hook would be hours.

(Continued on Page 2. Col. 5)

the shock of two other Allied ar- \$500,000,000 Bill Would Commons Members Believe spearheaded by more than 1,400 that "full victory over the Ger-Provide Work On Local Port

French gateway city of Forbach, two miles from the Saar basin's steel city of Saarbruecken.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 — (**)— R

Minister Churchill's government announced today that it will seek they broke up into wolf packs of a direct vote of confidence endors
The Canadian First Army on the said, but warned that Moyland and fought hearly to the fight that smothered an interest in Conference at the conclusion of and other rail targets in the heart has to be won in hard battles."

Already passed by the Senate, east and 15 miles from Wesel in the measure goes now to Presi-

u nique operation designed to paralyze all rail traffic in Germany and set the stage for the finel high and set the stage for the final big to change his mind about offering motion, which is certain of re-

These projects probably will be Eden said he would make a statesmall, hitherto unbombed rail put in a second bill to be conment on that question tomorrow. centers, whose importance have sidered by committees later in the Aneurin Bevan, Laborite and grown since many major rail points year. Among them are the Tennes- most vocal of the government's year. Among them are the Tennes- most vocal of the government "obsee-Tombigbee, the \$38,500,000 Bea- critics, said the government "ob-

Debate To Be Most Vital Of War

which members said will be the most important of the war.

Foreign Secretary Anthony Scottish Infantry severed the dent Roosevelt who is expected to Eden, government leader of the Goch-Uedem railway and were approve it promptly. He signed a House, said the debate will be on that followed a physical encounter comes the determination to mainbetween Reps. Hook (DpMich) and tain unity of action not only in achieving final defeat of the com-The fight, exciting climax of an mon enemy but thereafter in

The War Cabinet approved the ceiving overwhelming approval Previously, he had an amend though there will be sharp exment to add the \$66,000,000 Tenchanges over Poland. After hear-Eastern and Western fronts was nessee-Tombigbee waterway and ing the motion, several members divided into five sectors. Against perhaps other projects that held u suggested that the debate, sched-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6) (Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

holds a 25-mile stretch of the west tinius, Jr., said tonight that Amer-Patton was striking all along a results of the Crimea Conference. 55. mile front northward to the In probably the most important vicinity of the fallen fortress of speech he has yet made as Secre-

President, Prime Minister Church- next week's session. ill, and Premier Stalin at Yalta:

defeat of the aggressors.

3. Participation in guaranteeing to the liberated peoples of Europe their own government and five years are reached."

The hill also would provide for sovereign rights. In this "the Unit-

Enemy Transport LONDON, Friday, Feb. 23.-(P)-Allied air chiefs hurled an estimat-65 miles from the Rhine today and the floor of the House of Repre- Although leaders hurried the House approximately 100 Nazi communied 7,000 bombers and fighters at cations hubs yesterday ther flare-up, greatest simultaneous air assault in history-a supreme coordinated

resolution to ex- tinued into the night.

Altogether nearly 10,000 sorties were flown from the west and south before dark, but the peak olution would was reached at around noontime when through careful planning Hook be cen- and timing explosives cascaded down at an estimated average of

said there was On D-Day 13,000 sorties were much Demo- flown, but these were spread over cratic senti- a period of 24 hours while in this ment to expel historic new assault almost the historic new assault almost the STALIN SEES END forces in Europe was concentrat-

Some 30,000 airmen from seven Allied air commands participated n the great obliteration raids, the intent of which was to break up the entire network of enemy rail

ly new idea which Allied air chiefs had mapped and held in readiness Eighth Air Force.

fleet poured into Germany from lin that the Red Army's winter of WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 - (P) A LONDON, Feb. 22. (U.P) - Prime the north and a third attacked fensive already had cost the Gernext week's Commons debate- of Germany during the noon hour. the operation.

locked in a furious milling struggle \$1,000,000,000 postwar flood control this government motion: "This bombers and the attack was swell-fortress towns of Guben and Forst. ution in the rate of losses. house approves the declaration of ed by four Tactical Air Forces joint policy agreed to by the based on the Continent, including 51 miles southeast of Berlin, Mar-House passage of the rivers bill three great powers at the Crimea the U. S. 12th in Italy. More than shal Konev's First Ukrainina Ar- and up 18,182 for the week, the came on an apathetic voice vote Conference and in particular wel- 4,500 sorties were flown by these my drove to within two miles of it casualty figures were rising at a

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 2)

Aerial Attack Held Greatest

Blows Designed To Completely Knock Out

n War History

crats spoke of blow to knock out Germany's rail-introducing a way system—and the attack con-

The Berlin radio said 2,000 Russian planes also had battered targets along the Eastern Front. Ga) and Smith principally in East Prussia.

mark. They 100 tons a minute.

transportation at one blow.

The "buckshot blitz"-an entire-

15th Air Forces sent out heavy laid seige to the capital's outer which indicated little if any dimin-

Increased Pension Benefit

Where Over 600,000 Japs 'Wither on the Vine'



Map above shows areas in the Pacific war theater where more than 600,000 Jap troops have been by-passed by island-hopping Americans and left to "wither on the vine." In some places, the Japs are well-equipped, in others they are badly off physically and get no supplies. Most of the enemy forces in the Philippines are in the big southern island of Mindanao.

of ed against the enemy within a few OF REICH NEARING hours.

Russians Claim 1,500,000 German Casualties In Winter Push

Marshal Joseph Stalin, declaring Flying Fortresses and Liberators mans is near," announced last and 800 fighters of the U. S. night while Soviet forces were ripping into the Cottbus-Guben-Forst Two divisions of this gigantic defense triangle southeast of Ber-

House today in the wake of a fist ing the decisions of the Crimea mered at least 24 freight yards "victory never comes of itself; it As Stalin issued an order of the Eight bombers and 19 fighters day marking the 27th anniversary were missing from this phase of of the Red Army, his troops reached the Neisse river, the last nat- and Navy came out along with In addition the RAF and U. S. ural barrier before Berlin, and hints of impending big-scale action Closing in on industrial Guben,

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

Yanks Invade Capul Isle; Secure Manila-U. S. Route

LONDON, Friday, Feb. 23—(U.P.) U. S. CASUALTIES **BEYOND 800,000**

> Average Of 1.8 Men Lost every Minute Of Past Week

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22-(R)-Reported American casualties of by sea. World War 11 climbed past 800,-

000 today. The compilations by the Army

Representing a rise of approximately 100,000 in the past month, rate which would raise the total

past 1,000,000 within two months.

(This figure of 18,182 casualties for one week represents an averevery minute of the period.) The Army's total of dead, wounded, missing and prisoners since

For Policemen Is Proposed gregate of 801,162.

vidual names compiled here up to supplies.

He said 712 artillery pieces of all

taken as a hint of impending of the First Corps secured high It covered action up to Thursday fensives on a big scale. Pacific action, too, has been rising in fury. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

MANILA, Friday, Feb. 23.—(P)—Veteran Yanks of the Americal Division invaded tiny Capul Island in the San Bernardino Straits just off Luzon's long southern tip Wednesday in a move to clear the Japa-

*nese from the main shipping route from the United States to Manila.

ng and two wide at the middle, nesday. commands the strait through The three Marine divisions, the which the Japanese sent a war Third, Fourth and Fifth, inched vastion of Leyte last October.

and the northern end of Samar Island, which is practically in American hands. It is 260 airline miles southeast of Manila and about 325

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, announcing the invasion in a communique today, said "this island is the key to the straits, through which passes the main navigation route to Manila Bay from the United States."

The landing was made by the veteran Americal Division of the the action on the right.' Tenth Corps of the Eighth Army. MacArthur announced also that island, other Marines surrounded steady reduction of the remaining Mt. Suribachi "and strong patrols Japanese pocket in south Manila were moving up the cliffs under atwas continuing and said 11th Air- tack by the enemy, who was using for one week represents an aver-age of 1.8 men lost to combat along the west coast of Laguna de charges," the communique said. Bay, southeast of Manila, reached Heavy rains hampered the fightthe town of Muntinulpa.

MacArthur announced that in Pearl Harbor stood at 711,497, and the 14th Corps sector of Luzon-Secretary of War Stimson said the Americans had captured vast the Army's figures covered indi- quantities of enemy materiel and Navy said.

The land force report came out calibers and 705 machinegurs had

Admiral Says Yanks' Hold On Iwo Once Seemed Gone

-Terming Iwo Jima the "toughest

Section 1. That subsection 3 of forward areas in the Central Pa- est gunfire.

swung mortars and howitzers into place and shells began knocking

ADMIRAL NIMITZ' HEAD-jout U. S. tanks and causing cas-QUARTERS, Guam, Feb. 22.—(U.P.) ualties among the troops.

beachhead we've encountered in for a while our position on the in-the Pacific," Vice Adm. John H. vasion beach appeared doomed," penetrate the air screen thrown rectly on decisions made by the is expected to introduce it during and chapter 268 of the private American position there appeared same day we discovered an area doomed at one fateful hour on D- far to the south where we could penetrate through to the southern Hoover, who is commander of airfield out of range of their heavi-

parison, Hoover declared that Iwo, ualty report showed a rate of besides being the "heaviest forti- about 90 an hour. fied island we have yet encounter-

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 8)

Three hours later, however, they ed in the Pacific, possesses tre- the Third Marine Division, com-

Japanese Hurl Counterattack And Hit Fleet

Nimitz Says Navy Guns Appear To Have Broken Enemy Drive

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEAD-QUARTERS, Guam, Friday, Feb. 23.—(A)—The bloody cost of the battle for Iwo mounted to 5,372 Marines killed, wounded and missing by 6 p. m. Wednesday, the Navy announced today while reporting only minor advances through Thursday against fierce Japanese opposition.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz disclosed that 644 Marines had been killed. 4,168 wounded and 560 were missing at the end of the first 58 hours of the operation.

In the same period of time 1,222 dead Japanese had been counted. No invasion of the Pacific war for a comparative period has cost so many American casualties. At Tarawa, previously considered the bloodiest fight of the war, Marine casualties for its entire 72 hours slightly exceeded 3,000.

Nimitz in his last previous communique covering the casualty count up to 5:45 p.m. Wednesday reported 385 killed and 4,168 wound. ed. The later count left the wounded at the same figure, increased the dead by 276 and added the 560 missing.

Today's communique reported more of the same type of bitter fighting which has built up the casualty totals.

It reported gains Thursday afternoon too slight to affect the virtual The small oval island, five miles stalemate which developed Wed-

fleet to harass the American in- forward slightly on the north toward the enemy fighter base in the center of the island and con-It lies directly between the ex-tensive southeastern tip of Luzon the center of the island and con-tensive southeastern tip of Luzon the center lines around volcanic Mt. Suribachi on the south

tip.
The Japanese launched two powerful counterattacks on the flanks of the forces attacking the airfield. Significantly, Nimitz did not specifically claim either had been completely blunted.

supporting guns of U. S. Fifth Fleet warships "appeared to have repulsed the assault on the left." He added, however: "No reports were available on

Nimitz said that artillery and the

On the extreme south tip of the

Japanese planes, earlier acknowledged to have inflicted some damthe Navy's at 89,665, for an ag- in the northern and central part age on units of the Fifth Fleet, of the great central Luzon plain- continued their attacks Thursday, The raids were unsuccessful, the

Fighters and anti-aircraft guns shot down six rnemy planes. "There was little change in the position of the front lines," said In the southern Caraballo moun- the grim Thursday night commuropean battle situation in terms tains north of Manila, Yanks of nique of Adm. Chester W. Nimitz.

> "Some damage to fleet units" was announced by Nimitz in reporting the first successful attack by the Japanese air force on American warships supporting the invasion. Seven of the enemy aircraft were destroyed by air patrols and anti-aircraft fire.

Although Iwo Jima is only \$50 miles from Tokyo, and about 100 south of the enemy's bases on Chichi and Haha islands in the "It was a serious moment and Bonins, the Japanese had been about the fleet as it pounded Iwo's defenses. The enemy attack doubtless was aided by the heavy rains drenching Iwo and hamper-

ing the ground invasion. Landing Wednesday of the reinagainst their toughest assignment Calling Saipan "easy" by com- of the Pacifiic war. The latest cas-

Announcement that elements of

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 3)

Stettinius Says America Aims At Freedom For All retirement benefit it was explained by Charles H. Casteen. MEXICO CITY, Feb. 22 -(A)- objectives of United States for- it to Chief Casteen and City At-

Saarburg. The Third Army now Secretary of State Edward R. Stetbank of the Saar southward from ican foreign policy aims at an Atlantic Charter peace of "freedom One force went across near Ser
Indic Charter peace of 'freedom die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. idently basing some of them die from fear and want' for all men. That, he told the Inter-American of Saarburg, and the others forg-Conference here, is an essential ed across the stream a mile and a facet in a five-point United tates half farther south near Thaben- program which he asserted had Rodt been "greatly advanced" by the

eign policy."

year above the 20 year retirement a plan to provide retirement beneminimum which would be in addition to the 50 per cent of salary worked a minimum of ten years retirement benefit now in effect, and who are disabled. Under the it was explained by Chief of Police Former Rep. R. M. Kermon,

who originated the bill, forwarded torney W. B. Campbell last night

it was announced last night.

Chief Casteen pointed out that The "earliest possible of the aggressors. the present pension plan provides for an extra \$5 payment for each Section 1. That

The bill also would provide for "retirement in line twenty-one the voluntary retirment of a police (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3) officer without 50 per cent disabil-

150 targets there the great air passage of similar legislation last uled for Tuesday and Wednesday, R. M. Kermon for introduction in After 25 years service under the should be extended an extra day. the State Legislature would alter proposed plan, an officer could, on the present laws relating to the bis own volition request the perpension benefits of policemen and his own volition, request the penfiremen of the City of Wilmington, sion board to retire him and his at the Secretary's news conferbeen seized or destroyed there. name would be placed upon the ence in which he spoke of the Eu-The measure would provide Wil- pension list. This also would apmington police and firemen, who ply to any policewomen in the ser-have served 20 or more years with vice, Chief Casteen explained.

the City, an extra dollar for each Also included in the new bill is present plan, 20 years, service is required despite disability.

The complete bill follows: A bill to be entitled an act to amend chapter 55 of the private laws of 1915 entitled "an act to provide for the raising and man-These are the basic objectives for inspection before submission aging of pension funds for the police department of the City of Wilwhich Stettinius then set forth. Ev- er House. If the measure meets mington" as amended by chapter laws of 1939. The general assembly of North Day.

defeat of the aggressors.

2. Any steps necessary "to insure that neither Germany nor Japan will ever again have the mili
| The payment for the payment for the payment for included and the payment for including and the payment for including the payment for including and the payment for including the pay Pruein, and in gains up to three tary of State, Stettinius reported tary of industrial capacity to make one war."

Pruein, and in gains up to three tary of State, Stettinius reported tary of industrial capacity to make one war."

Pruein, and in gains up to three tary of State, Stettinius reported tary or industrial capacity to make one war."

Laws of 1923, be amended by in a broadcast that the Marines touch and go for awhile."

Laws of 1923, be amended by in a broadcast that the Marines touch and go for awhile."

Calling Saipan "easy" because the Japanese thought the parison Hower declared the parison Hower dollars if he works two years over section after the word "follows" because the Japanese thought the at the end of the first paragraph landing on the southeast beach down to and including the word was a feint.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)