

Cloudy and warmer today with moderate northeast to southeast winds. Yesterday's temperatures: High, 65—Low, 48.

Wilmington Morning Star

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First Army Tanks Drive Mile Into Cologne; Reds Capture Stettin's Outer Defense Ring; Six Japanese Divisions Destroyed On Luzon

Other Soviet Units Strive To Trap Nazis

Kolberg, Site Of U. S. Prisoner Camp, Also Under Russian Fire

LONDON, Tuesday, March 6.—(AP)—Russian troops, anchoring the Pomeranian flank securely on the Baltic coast, yesterday wheeled toward Stettin and captured that port's outer bastions of Stargard and Naugard, while other Soviet forces to the northeast cut deeper into two pockets where possibly 200,000 Germans were trapped.

Overwhelming Stargard in a vicious street battle that cost the Germans 4,000 killed, the Russians pushed on toward Altdamm, east bank Oder river crossing town just opposite Stettin and 15 miles west of Stargard. Altdamm and other localities ringing Stettin, Pomeranian capital and Berlin's main port were reported under Soviet artillery fire.

Naugard, 22 miles north of Stargard, also fell as the Russians folded back the Germans into an 1,800 square-mile pocket in which the enemy was battling with his back to a 45-mile waterline formed by the lower Oder, Stettin Bay, and the Dievenow river.

Kolberg, on the Baltic 65 miles northeast of Stettin, also was being stormed by Soviet troops "under cover of a blizzard," Berlin said. The enemy broadcast claimed that the Russians had been held in the fringes of the town, site of a large American prisoner of war camp.

Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First White Russian Army and the adjoining Second White Russian group under Marshal Rokossovsky captured a total of 230 towns and villages yesterday in 10-mile gains, Moscow announced. A third major stronghold topped by Zhukov's men was Polzin, 52 miles northeast of Stargard. It had been bypassed earlier in the race to the Baltic coast.

Rokossovsky's troops seized Gross-Tychow, site of a large American prisoner of war camp 18 miles south of captured Koeslin on the Baltic, but the fate of the Americans was not immediately determined. It was possible they had been moved westward before the twin Russian breakthroughs to the Baltic, although the American military mission in Moscow believed some of them would be rescued.

East of Pomerania in the Polish "Corridor" below Danzig the east-

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BUCHAREST VIOLENCE

Pro-Fascist Element Reported Rioting In Romania

MOSCOW, March 5.—(AP)—A Tass news dispatch reported today that pro-Fascist bands were rioting in the streets of Bucharest and tearing pictures of United Nations leaders from buildings in the Romanian capital, which has been without a government since that of Prime Minister Radescu resigned a week ago.

The Tass report quoting the Romanian newspaper Mumental said that bands of Legionnaires, protected by Radescu's ministry of the interior, were racing through the streets in automobiles, shooting up the homes of democratic leaders and spreading panic among the population.

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2,050 Marines Killed On Iwo; Forrestal Cites Isle's Value

Latest Total Compiled Through Saturday; Jap Dead Estimated At 12,864; Enemy Believed to Have Divisions for Combat and Navy Secretary Warns They May Be Able to Raise That Number

WASHINGTON, March 5.—(UP)—Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal revealed today that there were 2,050 Marines killed on Iwo Jima as of last Saturday. He did not know the latest figure on Marines wounded. The last totals given by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz were 5,732 casualties, of which over 60 were dead. Latest totals on enemy dead were 12,864 up to 6 p. m., Saturday on the 13th day of the fight. Forrestal revealed the figures at a press conference soon after his return from a tour of Pacific battle fronts including Iwo Jima. He disclosed also that the Japs are estimated to have altogether 70 divisions of combat troops, in addition to maintenance and garrison troops—estimated in all at about 5,000,000.

He said there have never been more than 12 American divisions facing the enemy at one time and that was in the Philippines. While the casualties on Iwo were severe and costly, the overall results were highly successful, he said. "The fact that any American dies is not easily faced, but these casualties are not out of proportion to the importance of taking that island," he added. He said the Japanese defense of Iwo was the most thorough and skillful that the Marines have faced in the Pacific. He described caves 300 feet below the surface with numerous galleries branching out. He told of one series of caves which had nine entrances and a main passage 600 yards long. He described the capture of a

water distillation plant in another cave which had a capacity of 300,000 gallons. Taking of the plant seriously hampered the Japs who are believed critically short of water. Forrestal spent five days in the vicinity of Iwo Jima. He went ashore, visited hospital ships lying off shore and observed the general operations. He traveled 21,000 miles by plane and had a "more uneasy journey" in a destroyer, he said. He emphasized that despite the 70 days of bombing and three days of pre-invasion Naval bombardment, there were still a great many pillboxes and guns left on Iwo. He said that the total shell weight expended in the three days prior to invasion and the following week came to about 10,000 or 12,000.

Marines Break Up Jap Counterattack On Iwo

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Tuesday, March 6.—(AP)—U. S. Marines grimly pressing Iwo Jima's strongly-entrenched Japanese toward the northern and northeastern cliffs made no major attack Monday but broke up a number of enemy attempts to infiltrate American positions.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said in his communique today the battle lines remained substantially unchanged as the three divisions of Marines, who hold two-thirds or more of Iwo, consolidated their holdings elsewhere on the small but vital island where fighting now is in its 16th day.

"The enemy made a number of attempts to infiltrate, and subjected the Marines to heavy small arms and artillery fire," Nimitz said in his communique. "All efforts were broken up. There was no appreciable change in the lines on March 5 (Monday)."

No mention was made of the positions of the Third, Fourth and Fifth Marine Divisions last reported pressing the Japanese toward cliffs on the north and northeast edge of Iwo.

Improved weather conditions facilitated unloading operations in Iwo's beaches. Chichi Jima in the Bonin Islands immediately to the north was bombed Sunday by Liberators of the Seventh Army Air Force, while torpedo planes hit the Palau Islands with the loss of two aircraft. Navy fighters swept Ponape in the Carolines.

Desperate Japanese infiltrating the American lines even wore American uniforms. Five Japanese, wearing full American Marine battle dress, were killed by 24th Regiment pa-

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Fred Vinson Nominated As Federal Loan Chief

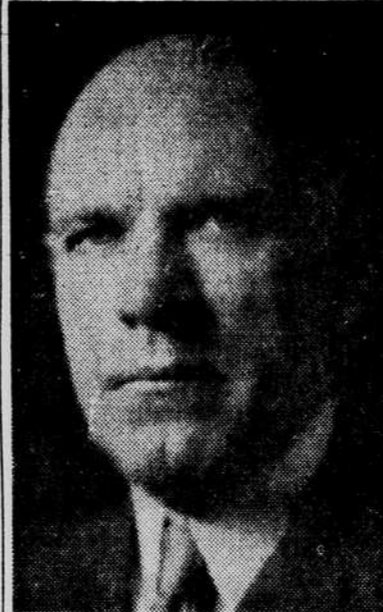
WASHINGTON, March 5.—(UP)—President Roosevelt today nominated Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson to succeed Jesse Jones as Federal loan administrator in a move that won swift approval of Congress and rang down the curtain on the long-standing feud between Jones and Henry A. Wallace.

Labor was pleased that Vinson will be removed from the realm of wage control. It withheld direct comment temporarily but he has blocked all attempts of the War Labor Board to grant wage increases requiring price hikes. Whether his successor—and one has been chosen—change that policy, remains to be seen.

White House Secretary Johathan Daniels said that Mr. Roosevelt has decided who will get Vinson's post, but there will be no announcement until the Senate confirms Vinson. His nomination was referred to the Senate Banking Committee.

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BRYAN FUNERAL SERVICE TODAY



Former Judge And Prominent Lawyer To Be Buried In Oakdale

Funeral services for Judge Egbert Kedar Bryan, 75, former North Carolina Superior court judge and a prominent attorney in the State since 1891, who died Sunday at his home, 11 South Fifth street, will be conducted from the residence at 3:30 p. m. today.

The Rev. William Crowe, Jr., pastor of the First Presbyterian church, will officiate. Interment will be in Oakdale cemetery.

Active pallbearers will be Thomas W. Davis, P. R. Smith, Major Harry Stovall, T. E. Brown, C. B.

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Enemy Force Declared In Bad Position

Approximately 215,000 Nipponese Troops Killed In Islands

MANILA, Tuesday, March 6.—(AP)—Six Japanese divisions—perhaps 90,000 troops—of the ten divisions defending Luzon have been destroyed together with considerable war materials, and the remaining forces bottled up in the mountains are under continuous attack by ground and air.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur today announced that Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita's forces still on this largest island of the Philippines were "split into a number of divergent groups," and "their position is critical."

Only yesterday, MacArthur announced that thousands of Japanese had been cleaned out of Ilocos Norte province, on Luzon's northwest corner, by guerrillas operating under an American Army officer, Col. R. W. Volckman.

On bloody Leyte Island, south of Luzon, more than 125,000 Japanese have been killed. This makes a total for these two islands alone of more than 215,000 Japanese troops killed, including some of the empire's best.

MacArthur announced: "The remaining enemy forces are split up into a number of divergent groups which are bottled up in the mountains where supply is difficult, movements restricted and control and communications present insuperable obstacles."

"These forces are being subjected to continuous attack by our air force while the pressure of our ground forces compresses them into a smaller and smaller maneuver space."

"Our guerrilla forces constantly harass their lines of supply with our naval and air forces blocking their route of evacuation. "Their position is critical."

Luzon was invaded January 9. The largest single engagement in which the enemy sustained heavy losses was in the three-week-old battle for Manila.

Slow enveloping movements against Japanese mountain positions north and east of Manila and progress of other Yanks moving toward the Cagayan Valley were reported today.

North of Manila, the 38th and 43rd Divisions closed on Nipponese in the Zambales mountains. East of Manila, troops of the 14th corps enveloped enemy positions along the Antipolo-Wawa line. This line, in the Marikina watershed, has been well-prepared defensively by the enemy and considerable resistance has been encountered.

Other Yanks advanced along the Villa Verde trail and the Ambiyabang river in the eastern extremity of Pangasinan province toward the Cagayan valley. This is at the northeast end of the central Luzon plain and due east of the Lingayen Bay sector where the Luzon invasion opened.

Further detailing accomplishments against Yamashita's army.

TOKYO ADMITS RAID

Japs Say Yanks Bomb Homeland And Amoy

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Dog Hero Dies in Iwo Fighting



With his Marine pals he gave his life on bloody Iwo beach—a U. S. war dog, killed when a Jap shell exploded near him. One of dogdom's many war casualties, this stout-hearted fighter was charging up the beach with U. S. forces during the invasion. (International)

British Armor Threatens Entire Jap Hold In Burma

CALCUTTA, March 5.—(AP)—British armored units, cutting across the Irrawaddy river valley in an 85-mile dash, have severed the main Japanese land, air and water links between Mandalay and Rangoon and have seriously threatened the entire enemy position in Burma. Allied Headquarters said today.

With the aid of British airborne infantry, flown in at the climax of the operation, the armored column seized eight airdromes intact, killed more than 1,600 Japanese, captured 40 guns and destroyed enough enemy supplies to feed a Japanese division for 10 days. The important communications center of Meiktila, 70 miles south of Mandalay, was captured.

In a long sweep through central Burma American fighter pilots gave the ground units support from the air and the column, which was partially self-sustaining, received some supplies from cargo planes.

The main Japanese forces defending Burma now are virtually cut off from the south. Their only clear escape roads run generally southeast through mountainous country into Thailand (Siam). It is believed, however, that the Japanese will put up a desperate fight for Mandalay before beginning a retreat.

The drive across the valley began February 23 when the powerful British armored column broke out of the Padokku bridgehead, on the east bank of the Irrawaddy near the Burma oil fields, and drove directly east on a fairly good road. Pakokku is 70 miles southwest of Mandalay.

In its first clash at Taungtha, 23 miles east of Pakokku, the column killed eight of the enemy. With its armor pushing on two abreast to save time the column smashed southeast to Mahlaing, where 70 more Japanese were killed.

Four hundred Japanese were killed when the column drove through an enemy supply dump near Mahlaing and destroyed thousands of artillery shells.

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Nazi Dream Shattered For Cologne Residents

By DON WHITEHEAD NEIDERAUSSEN, Germany, March 5.—(AP)—In deep brown mud along the roads outside Cologne straggled stragglers of men, women and children today, bearing their little bundles of food and clothing—and the misery of defeat.

They were returning to their homes—or in most cases to piles of rubble and debris that once had been home. They could not get on the roads, for roads were jammed with tanks, trucks, jeeps and guns moving forward. So they walked in fields and ditches soaked by a cold dismal rain.

Fall Of City Appears Near As Foe Flees

Paris, March 5.—(AP)—The U. S. First Army sent tanks plunging more than a mile into Cologne today, seized more than one-fifth of the city in assaults from the north, south and west, and the fall of the largest German metropolis ever stormed by the Allies seemed near at hand.

The Germans apparently wrote off the fourth largest city in the Reich, for they blew the big Hohenzollern bridge and began shelling it from the east bank.

Field dispatches said the Germans were fleeing across the Rhine by boats, and one staff officer estimated that only 1,000 enemy soldiers remained to garrison the city.

Prisoners said these forces were falling back into the old part of the city, which represents only one-fourth of Cologne's area of 25 square miles.

The Third Armored Division, now within two miles or less of the heart of the city, was the first to enter at 7:10 and the 104th Infantry Division came in from the west at 9:23 a. m.

The Eighth Infantry Division, hard on the 104th's right flank, pushed into the city from the south. Cologne was shrouded in a pall of smoke from the fire of massed artillery laying down a terrific drum fire.

All three divisions were meeting half-hearted resistance, indicating the German army had no intention of obeying Hitler's orders to make a Stalingrad-like stand inside Cologne.

Cologne is the largest city in Rhenish Prussia with a normal population of 786,000 and is loaded with factories which once turned out weapons for the German war machine. Now the civilians cowered in cellars while the battle swirled about them, or they streamed back to the American lines carrying their household possessions.

Besides blowing the bridge at Dueseldorf, the Germans destroyed three bridges at Duisberg before the charge of the U. S. Ninth Army, which overran the coal and synthetic oil city of Homberg and smashed into Rheinfelden in gains of as much as six miles.

By blowing all the serviceable bridges between Bonn and the Dutch border except the road and rail bridges at Wesel and a makeshift structure at Rheinberg, the Germans sealed the fate of many of the more than 50,000 troops still on the Rhine's west bank.

The Canadian First Army captured one ferry crossing at Rees, 11 miles northwest of the western Ruhr city of Wesel, and the Ninth captured another at Orsoy, five miles north of Homberg.

The Canadian First and the U. S. Ninth pressed the Germans back into an area 10 miles long and six miles wide, and the U. S. First Army held sway over 70 of the 90 miles of the Rhine's west bank between Cologne and the Dutch border.

Supreme Headquarters estimated (Continued on Page Three, Col. 3)

NAZI RIOT REPORTED

Sweden Tells Of Battle Between SS And Sailors

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