

# Loss Of Iwo Jima Weakens Japan's Hold In Pacific; Next Landing May Be Easier

By MORRIE SANDSBERG  
IWO JIMA, March 18.—If you want to know what Iwo Jima's capture means, study the map carefully.

The Japanese mainland is only 700 miles away.

Almost all possible targets in future Western Pacific aerial offensives are within convenient bombing range. Haha and Chichi Jima in the Bonins are 139 and 163 miles northeast. The naval base of Tawao on Formosa is 1334 miles west and it is only a few hundred miles farther to the China coast.

Iwo was the strongest base in a string of islands Japan had built up as a buffer to possible aggression from the south. With its fall, all others were weakened to the point of passivity or complete uselessness. But it goes beyond that.

In Iwo and the Bonins, the Japanese had staging bases from which to strike American positions in the Marianas and conceivably to send planes into such by-passed and still potentially dangerous places as Truk in the Carolines. The Japanese no longer can retaliate in the air except against Iwo unless they risk their few remaining carriers.

Japan's defeat here almost forged a ring around the enemy's mainland. The ring begins here, touches U. S. occupied islands in the Marianas and Palau and ends on Luzon.

In a sense, all that the Marines and Army have captured for the United States in the Central Pacific has been made secure by the blow which won this most heavily fortified, most zealously guarded bit of Japan. From the standpoint of strategic positions, the empire now has far less than even before the outbreak of war—and the Japanese seized points as far East as the Gilberts.

By taking this one island, the United States has cut off the once formidable array of Japanese bases in the Gilberts, Marshalls, Carolines, Marianas and, now, Nanpo Shoto. Iwo was the last good shove that toppled the Japanese ladder in the Pacific.

Invasion of this volcanic stronghold also proved something which had been indicated all along in ocean-spanning amphibious operations—that American forces can land any place, any time, they choose.

This little black speck is 3,700 miles from Pearl Harbor. Its beaches were completely exposed. There was no harbor. Surf breaks on the island like an aquatic whip. Nature and the Japanese combined to make a hostile landing theoretically impossible, or at least an over-costly venture.

Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal was particularly impressed. He witnessed the landings from

Vice Adm. Richmond Kelly Turner's flagship. He noted that the small island left no alternative of surprise, such as was achieved at Normandy and in southern France. There was no flank here, he said, except the ocean.

Invasions to come undoubtedly will be tough jobs, but whether over the shores of Japan, China or intermediate islands, the defenses are not likely to be so intensive as on five-mile long Iwo. Some future landing targets probably will be large enough so that surprise will be on the side of the attackers.

"When bomber and fighter pilots gun their engines down the hard, brown runways of Iwo's airfields, the men who fought for those runways would like the words of their boss, Maj. Gen. Holland M. (Howlin' Mad) Smith, remembered:

"In seeking an objective like Iwo, only courage in the hearts of men and their willingness to give their all for their country makes victory possible. We bow our heads in humble appreciation to those who, never questioning, have made Iwo ours."

"You know," Rear Adm. Harry H. Hill, deputy commander of the Iwo attack force, remarked one afternoon, "we ought to set aside a special day to commemorate the taking of Iwo Jima—something like May Day."

## Obituaries

**MRS. J. S. HOLLAND**  
Funeral services for Mrs. J. S. Holland, 83, who died at 8:30 p. m. Saturday in her home on Market street, will be conducted at 3 p. m. today at the Yopp funeral home by the Rev. Sankey L. Blanton. Interment will follow in the Bethel church cemetery near Marion, S. C.

Mrs. Holland is survived by two daughters, Mrs. L. C. Hawkins, of Portsmouth, Va., and Mrs. T. S. Hampton, of Florence, S. C.; two sons, C. P. and W. M. Holland, of Wilmington; one sister, Mrs. Robert Carter, of Wilmington; 18 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Active pallbearers will be Mrs. Holland's grandsons, G. W. Holland, T. E. Holland, E. C. Hawkins, C. F. Hampton, W. E. Sears and J. E. Long.

**MRS. J. E. WILLOUGHBY**  
Funeral services for Mrs. J. E. Willoughby, 78, widow of the former chief engineer of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad, who died in Sarasota, Fla., at 5 a. m. yesterday, will be conducted from Trinity Methodist church at 5 p. m. Monday by the Rev. F. W. Paschall. Interment will follow in Oakdale cemetery.

Mrs. Willoughby is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Charles Hazelhurst, of Norfolk, Va., and Miss Ruth Willoughby, of Sarasota.

Active pallbearers will be William Hazelhurst, J. C. Christian, W. J. Turner, E. B. Register, A. B. Grimsley, D. B. Packard, R. S. Hall and A. C. Wessell.

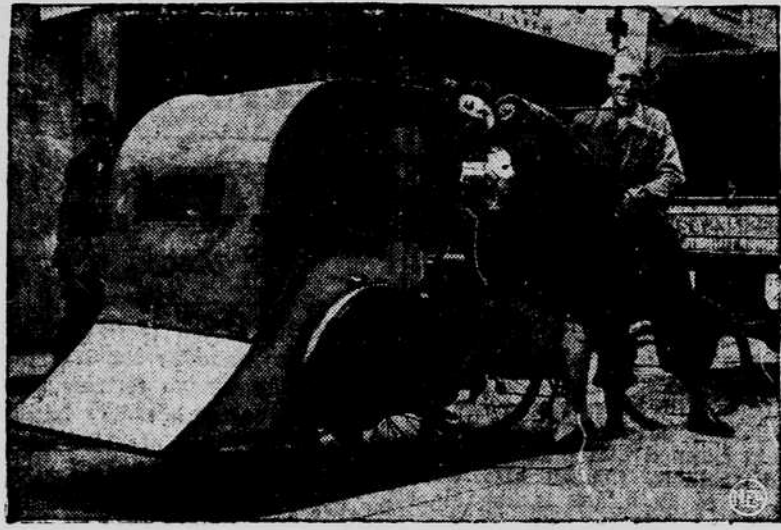
**MADISON M. MOORE**  
BURGAW, March 18.—Madison Monroe Moore, 70, died at his home in Currie at 6:30 p. m. Friday and funeral services were held at 3:30 p. m. Sunday at the late residence by the Rev. H. F. Brinson. Burial followed in the family cemetery near Currie.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Lula S. Moore, of Currie; five sons, Marion M. Moore, and H. L. Moore, all of Wilmington, and Pfc. Carl Moore, serving with the U. S. Army overseas; a daughter, Mrs. Rosa Lee Casteen, of Wilmington, one brother W. C. Moore, also of Wilmington; a sister, Mrs. Annie Mass of Rockingham, and 17 grandchildren.

Acting pallbearers were Elbert Moore, George Moore, Charlie White, James Malpass, Frederick White and Zachary Moore.

Honorary pallbearers were Willie Atkinson, W. D. Malpass, Franklin Rowe, Dr. N. C. Wolfe, B. W. Lockey and Sloan Bell.

## East Meets West—In 'Bicycabs'



The once-lowly bike has risen to be almost de luxe transportation, thanks to the motor and gas shortage. Photos above, taken on opposite sides of the world show, top, a Burmese couple, forced to flee by the Jap invasion, returning in style to their home near Sadaung, following its liberation by British forces; bottom, a swanky-looking bicycle taxi in Paris, hailed by Red Cross worker Marguerite Tickle, of Carmel, Calif. She's laden with gifts for Yanks.

## Third Pushes Nahe, First Plunges Eastward

(Continued From Page One)

to hold the bridgehead, now about eight miles deep.

It was known that Lt. Gen. Hodges had one pontoon bridge across, and this probably is supplemented by other emergency structures and ferries to keep men, tanks and guns rolling over the river.

Third Army troops were pouring into the Western Saar across the Saar river, and the quick fall of fortified Merzig, a city of 10,000 population, testified to the want of resistance.

Gen. Patton's first invasion of the Saar last fall ground to a stop in front of Merzig, which was a keystone in the Siegfried Line.

It was 28 miles north east of here that the Tenth Armored Division was driving 35 miles from a junction with the Seventh in the very center of the Saar.

The tanks roared into Birkenfeld, a highway control point 35 miles north of last reported Seventh Army positions south of the Saar city of Zweibruecken.

Thirty-five miles farther east, the German communique said the Fourth Armored Division had crossed the Nahe river, last natural barrier before Mainz, at Bad Muenster.

This is three miles south of where enemy broadcasts Saturday said the rampaging tanks had crossed at Kreuznach. Here, deep behind the lines of the German Seventh and First Armies, the enemy said the Third Army was hurrying up reinforcements for renewed blows.

To the west, the Eleventh Armored Division last was reported in the vicinity of the road hub of Kirchberg, six miles southwest of Simmern, through which the Fourth Armored Division sped in its breakthrough from the Moselle river bridgehead.

Patton was disclosed to have hurled an additional armored division into the battle, giving him a total of four in action, and was employing the blazing tactics which overran Fran.

Without regard to the flanks of

## 82,162 Pounds Of Paper Taken By Scouts, Jaycees

Yesterday's City-wide scrap paper drive, carried out jointly by the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the City troops of the Boy Scouts of America, netted 82,162 pounds of waste paper, it was announced last night.

This take fell nearly 10,000 pounds under that of the second collection, made six weeks ago, but was substantially greater than that of the year's first drive. The paper was sold to the Wilmington Paper Stock Co. and the proceeds given to the Boy Scouts for the purchase of a motion picture projector to be used for training purposes.

Eighteen trucks, furnished by agencies and commercial concerns within the City and manned by 30 Jaycees and 250 Scouts, commenced their sweep at 1 p. m., under a broiling sun. They garnered 38 loads of scrap from curb-piles built up by residents of the City, the suburbs and Carolina and Wrightsville Beaches, and brought them for baling and weighing to the yards of the North-South Coal Co., at Sixth and Campbell streets.

The complete yield had been handled by 8:30 p. m.

The co-chairmen of the drive were Harley Kenan, for the Jay-

cees, and Courtland Baker, for the Boy Scouts. Earl Biggs directed routing, Graham Russ managed personnel, Carroll Tinsley handled publicity and Lloyd Dunn procured the trucks.

Four trucks were volunteered by the City and two by the Wilmington Paper Stock Co. Other truck contributors, who furnished one each, were the Queen City Coach Co., the Home Furniture Co., the Hyman Supply Co., the Sunshine Laundry, W. & J. Sloane, the Wilmington Housing Authority, the Todd Furniture Co., the Tide Water Power Co., the North Carolina Shipbuilding Co., Brooks' Cash Grocery and the R. F. Hall Feed Store.

## 1,300 BOMBERS POUND BERLIN

(Continued From Page One)

The Liberators dropped approximately 8,500 bombs—explosives and large incendiaries—on the two plants.

Returning crew members said fires and explosions were raging and that smoke rose thousands of feet above the city. Bombs were aimed both visually and by instrument when the planes encountered mixed cloud conditions.

Capt. Harrison Cordoff of Mechanicsville, N. Y., said the "bomber boys hoed a path right down the center of Berlin."

The action of Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle in sending only 700 fighters to cover the bombers, compared with the thousand-plus escort thrown around bombers in strikes at German oil plants a few weeks ago, was a striking testimony to the decline of the Luftwaffe as a fighting force.

One Mustang group claimed to have shot down several Focke-Wulf 190's out of a formation of 20 which was grouping for an attack on the bomber columns.

The American Mustangs and Russian Yak fighters went into action side by side in defending a Soviet airfield east of the Oder river from an attack by four German fighters. Then the Russian planes flew back over Berlin with the Yanks.

Anti-aircraft fire was intense over the center of the city and meager to intense over the outskirts.

Today's attack surpassed even the record raid of February 27, when some 1,200 heavy bombers concentrated on the Scheideisler and Berlin north stations and hit the Alexander Platz as well.

The explosives dropped today boasted to well over 20,000 tons the total weight of bombs dropped on the Berlin area by the Eighth Air Force.

## STOP that COUGH!

KREY quickly relieves the misery and shock of coughs—due to common colds, dust, smoke or fumes. You'll like the way KREY gets to the seat of the trouble, soothing dry, irritated membranes, loosens sticky phlegm, brings welcome relief. KREY is worthy of a doctor's prescription!

ASK FOR **KREY**  
Contains Ingredients Physicians Prescribe

## NAGOYA POUNDED AGAIN BY B-29S

(Continued from Page One)

In detailing the attack by carrier planes, Tokyo said that Superfortresses might appear over southwestern Japan at any hour to back up the Navy's attack.

As it proved, the Superfortresses left their Marianas bases here soon after the carrier planes completed their day shift.

The carriers attacked along a front of 285 miles from Kumamoto on the west coast of Kyushu, southwesternmost of the Japanese home islands, to Wakayama on the southwest coast of Honshu, as reported by Tokyo.

The Superfortresses hit Nagoya, 115 miles northeast of Wakayama. Since the first fleet of 300 or more Superfortresses attacked Tokyo Saturday, March 10, at least 28 86 square miles of four of Japan's five biggest cities had been wiped out by fire bombs up to the pre-dawn hour when the first Superfortress hit Nagoya today.

Nagoya had been hit last Monday, Osaka, Japan's second city, Wednesday, Kobe, the fifth city, Saturday. Of the five biggest cities, Kyoto alone had not felt the weight of one of these new type attacks in which from 2,000 to 2,500 tons of incendiaries are dropped within a few hours in a concentrated target area.

Never grease the piepan. Good pastry greases its own pan.

## CARRIER PLANES BOMBARD KYUSHU

(Continued from Page One)

Tokyo radio said 1,400 planes were in the attacking force, which was over the three southwestern Japanese islands for eight hours early Sunday, Japanese time.

The enemy broadcast said the American fliers concentrated on airfields, with Kumamoto and "other cities" on Kyushu taking the heaviest pounding.

Japan claimed its aircraft were attacking the raiders and said three U. S. warships had been sunk, including two carriers.

Adm. Nimitz announced the latest assault on the enemy homeland in this brief paragraph of his communique:

"On March 18 (east longitude date) a strong force of carrier aircraft of the Pacific Fleet attacked enemy aircraft bases and installations on the island of Kyushu."

Nimitz said that on Iwo Marine uniforms again had been found on Japanese soldiers.

One enemy soldier, he reported, "stopped one of our ambulances, shot and wounded the driver and escaped."

Snipers still were active on Iwo's rugged northern end where the few remaining Japanese are entrenched in caves and lateral tunnels.

Army fighters bombed and strafed Chichi Jima, in the Bonins to the north of Iwo. Barge concentrations were hit and radio and radar facilities disrupted. The airfield was cratered by Army Liberators which met no opposition.

Heavy bombers bombed Shimushiru in the Kuriles Saturday.

## ENEMY REPULSED NEAR ZAMBOANGA

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Santa Fe, just north of the pass. In the coastal area of the northern Luzon zone, planes dropped 337 tons of bombs in the area of Baguio, summer capital of the Philippines and center of perhaps the largest Japanese concentration remaining on the island.

This was only part of a big aerial day which showed the increasing power of MacArthur's air force. In raids on Baguio, Mindanao island, the Visayas, Formosa and Borneo, planes dropped 848 tons of bombs.

Three hundred tons were dropped on Formosa targets including air bases and an electric plant.

A destroyer and a destroyer escort were left in flames by planes which attacked a convoy off the China coast as their part of maintaining the new blockade of enemy communications to the South Seas.

## WEATHER

(Eastern Standard Time)  
(By U. S. Weather Bureau)  
Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

Temperature  
1:30 am, 70; 7:30 am, 65; 1:30 pm, 81; 7:30 pm, 66.  
Maximum 82; Minimum 65; Mean 74; Normal 54.

Humidity  
1:30 am, 65; 7:30 am, 80; 1:30 pm, 47; 7:30 pm, 74.

Precipitation  
Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 pm, 0.00 inches.  
Total since the first of the month, 0.20 inches.

Tides For Today  
(From the Tide Tables published by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey)

Wilmington	High 1:57a	Low 9:17a
	2:25p	9:29p
Masonboro Inlet	12:18p	6:17p
Sunrise, 6:17 a. m.; Sunset, 6:23 p. m.; Moonrise, 10:22 a. m.; Moonset, —		

Prior to the war, there were 500,000 automobile builders in the United States.

## Young Negro Is Reported Drowned In Smiths' Creek

City police about 9 p. m. Saturday night received a report that Harry Merritt, Negro, nine-year-old son of Alexander and Louise Merritt, of 1010 North Fifth street, had drowned in Smiths' Creek.

Walter Moore, Negro, of the same address told police that he and Arthur Bradshaw, Negro, of 1211 N. 4 Love's alley, Robert Moseley, Negro, of 808 South Sixteenth street, and Merritt were swimming in the creek. He stated that "Arthur and Harry" were in a boat, and Harry was standing up and fell out. Bradshaw made several attempts to save the boy, police reports showed.

California produces the birthstones for every month except May and July, the emerald and ruby.

Harvard University conducted a series of tests as a study of fatigue.

## Riverside Units Slated For Armed Forces' Use

Federal authorization to open 100 four-room dwelling units in the Riverside Apartments for occupancy by members of the armed services and their families was received Saturday by the Wilmington War Housing office, Louie E. Woodbury, Jr., reported last night.

Approximately 50 of the apartments are ready for immediate occupancy, he explained, while Army and Navy applicants may move into the others as they are vacated by the industrial war workers to whom they are currently rented. A number of Maffitt Village units, furnished and unfurnished, are also available now to military tenants.

Each of the Riverside units, built to house essential war workers moved into this area from elsewhere and until now restricted to their use, consists of two bedrooms, a kitchen and a living room.

They are equipped with an electric stove, an electric refrigerator, a hot-water heater and a coal space-heater appliance. They rent for either \$41.85 or \$43.85 per month each, depending on whether they are corner or inside apartments.

Military applicants for the

dwelling units are directed to inquire at the War Housing Authority office in the Southern Building.

The agreement between the Army and Federal housing officials which opened the Riverside project apartments to soldiers, sailors and Marines stemmed from the re-opening of Cam Davis as an Army Air Forces Distribution Center and Convalescent Hospital, Mr. Woodbury said. As additional personnel arrive to fill the camp, War Housing officials expect the development of a considerable lodging shortage.

The Wilmington War Housing office, which regulates occupancy of the Lake Forest and Maffitt Village units, as well as the 500 at Riverside, will "increase its facilities as the demand dictates," Mr. Woodbury said.

In addition to providing the newly-built project-units, the Housing office refers applicants to HOLC brokers in connection with private houses being converted to apartment use and during 1944 placed more than 3,700 families in privately rented rooms and apartments.

## Doe On The Line

Uncle Sam's dough is riding on Maj. Gen. Jens A. Doe, above, whose veteran 41st Division Infantry invaded the Philippine island of Mindanao, landing at Zamboanga. Doe's forces saw action in the Palawan campaign before the Mindanao invasion.

There are 16 sound - equipped movie houses in ancient Palestine.



## City Briefs

**HELD IN LARCENY**  
Alfred Brown, Negro, of 516 1-2 Campbell street, was booked by City police yesterday for larceny and receiving and two charges of assault with a deadly weapon. He was put in jail in lieu of a \$500 bond. He was charged with taking \$9.40 from John Anders of Long Creek.

**THEFT REPORTED**  
W. B. Haight of the Morris and Mott service station told police that a wrist watch, three shirts, an animal carrier, a man's suit and underwear were taken from his automobile. The loot was estimated at \$75.

**WALLET STOLEN**  
M. B. Peacock of Camp Lejeune reported to police that his wallet containing five dollars in cash and personal papers was taken from his room at a local hotel.

**CHICKEN DINNER**  
A chicken dinner and oyster supper will be held at 8 p. m. Friday at the residence of Richard Peters on the Middle Sound Loop road by the official board of the Advent Christian church and Sunday School for the benefit of a new church building, it was announced by George Shepard, deacon of the church. The public is invited.

**OWN RED CROSS DRIVE**  
FORT WAYNE, Ind., March 18. —(U.P.)—Lew and Charles Clark, owners of a restaurant, prepare for the Red Cross Fund Drive all year. They have a glass jar near their cash register and into it go all the pennies and most of the nickels that their customers give them for their checks. Whenever the jar is full, they set it aside until time to give it to the Red Cross.

Real Cream of Tomato Soup as a dish by itself—it's delicious used as a sauce—it's superb

**Heinz**  
Condensed\*  
Cream of Tomato Soup

\*One tin of soup, plus one tin of milk or water makes four bowlfuls delicious soup

As a Sauce Base for meatloaf and spaghetti, Heinz Condensed Cream of Tomato Soup gives a flavor folks simply can't resist

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**P.M.**  
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DELICIOUS FOOD  
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**HANOVER**  
MAFFITT VILLAGE  
TODAY—TUESDAY  
GREER GARSON  
in  
"MADAME CURIE"  
with  
WALTER PIDGEOON  
Wednesday  
"The Great Dictator"

Manor Today & Tues. 2 GOOD PICTURES!  
See this picture, and thank God your sister lives in a FREE COUNTRY!  
"THEY MADE MY GIRL A HITLER BRIDE!"  
"THEY LIVE IN FEAR"  
"Sign Of The Wolf"  
Open 10:45 A. M. Daily!

**TODAY AT THE THEATRES**

**BAILEY** Come Early  
"Since You Went Away"  
With Claudette Colbert  
Jos. Cotten, Jennifer Jones  
Shirley Temple, Lionel Barrymore, Robt. Walker  
Shows: 11:10-1:35-3:00-5:10  
Night Prices after 5 p. m.

**CAROLINA** Last Last  
Singing Tips! Swinging Hits!  
Andrews Sisters  
Martha O'Driscoll  
Noah Beery, Jr.  
"HER LUCKY NIGHT"  
A dozen song hits!

**ROYAL** Day! Day!  
Ballads and Bullets...  
A Round up of Rip-Roaring Rhythms!  
"THE SINGING SHERIFF"  
With Bob Crosby  
Fay M. Kenke  
Fuzzy Knight

**BIJOU** Last Last  
Two roaring romances on the loose!  
"ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS"  
With William Bendix  
Helen Walker  
Dennis O'Keefe