

PARATROOPS GAIN OBJECTIVE FAST

(Continued from Page One)

sunny blue sky, raking the 150-mile column of planes and gliders stretched out before and behind us—mostly behind.

As the first men dropped, I could see scattered German machine gunners and riflemen firing at our falling men. As we followed them German snipers potted at us.

When we hit the dirt, the army of 13 men on whom my own fate depended went into action with a rush. They went first after the snipers.

A quick look at the maps and we headed for our assembly point headquarters, searching woods and houses as we went. We joined up squad by squad, collecting into fighting units, the paratroopers killing or collecting such Germans as they met.

At the first headquarters we reached, British troopers and Americans had dropped nearby. They had rounded up 27 German soldiers, four civilian men, three women, a young girl and a baby. All but the baby were terrified by our invasion from the sky.

Behind us were coming the vast glider fleets with troops, tanks, jeeps, ammunition and supplies.

In all the paratroops here took about 100 prisoners. Our own casualties were light.

At this hour we command the hills and other dominating ground in our area, the clusters of houses and the road crossings, and the fighting men are moving out on what they hope is the last big heave of the war.

Williston Musical Farce Promises Fine Stage Fare

The three-act musical comedy to be presented tonight by the Drama Guild of Fayetteville Teachers school promises to be the outstanding offering this season by the Athletic Committee of Williston School.

The cast consists of twenty-eight players and the production staff numbers twelve. This group has been well received by the men at Fort Bragg and Camp Lejeune with return engagements pending.

"Stage Door" is the title of the comedy which carries two scenes in each of the three acts is directed by and the department of dramatics. The doors will open at 7:30 and the curtain rises at 8:30.

rich cream is blended into this delicious tomato soup



HEINZ CONDENSED CREAM OF TOMATO SOUP

made from Heinz own Aristocrat tomatoes and rich country cream

Sit in Comfort

Lack Of Food Inside Reich Held Vital Factor In War's Duration

By CHRISTER JAEDERLUK, Berlin correspondent of Stockholm's Tidningen, who has just returned to Stockholm.

STOCKHOLM, March 25.—(AP)—Revolution from below still looks highly improbable in Germany, unless starvation drives the people into the streets or a beaten army floods back in a state of disintegration.

The first signs of a real collapse of the Nazi food system will cause more panic in the Reich than the worst military defeat. So far the German food rationing and supply systems have functioned extremely well although rations have been short, particularly fats.

But Allied bombing of food factories and storehouses and the unimpeded transport system plus the loss of Germany's richest agricultural lands in the East have changed the situation. The Germans now associate the duration of the war with the food supply.

"The war will end," Berliners say, "when Goering can put on Goebbels' trousers."

(A new German order forbids planting of flowers even for use in cemeteries. The Berlin correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper Dagens Nyheter reported Sunday that parks and sports fields were being plowed under throughout the Reich for the planting of potatoes and vegetables. The dispatch said officials estimated that each square kilometer of land in the Reich now must support 304 persons instead of 147.)

Although foreign agents have attempted to form so-called "Troikas" after the Baltic pattern—groups of three men each as a basic cell for a wider resistance movement—it was not until the Red Army invaded Germany that Berliners began inquiring of one another about the chances of joining an "organization."

In addition to war prisoners and Jews who have become "divers" there are army deserters. Remnants of the beaten Wehrmacht army were the first to go underground in Berlin. It was estimated their number reached 30,000 and later 40,000.

Each time soldiers under the impact of retreats believe a breakthrough is imminent, the area behind the front is overrun with deserters. Many soldiers obtain civilian clothes and mingle with refugee columns. In recent weeks the Gestapo made frequent roundups in Berlin and other cities, finding even officers who had deserted.

It is not advisable for a single policeman to demand identification papers of a suspect. Frequently of late the questioned has pulled out a pistol instead of papers and shot down the policeman.

Those who have gone underground now live in constant fear of capture since Hitler summarily commandeered the entire nation for war service.

Living underground in Germany is limited mainly to efforts to stay hidden, although here and there sabotage groups blow up bridges. Ever since Hitler came into

power the German people have been used to the organized rationing of food. Heretofore food has been adequate while strictly controlled, but now supplies are deteriorating rapidly. The giant evacuation from the East was stopped because of the shortage of food within the Reich proper.

After the Vistula retreat the first thing done in Berlin was to stretch eight weeks rations to nine.

The first serious breach of the rationing discipline occurred with well-informed party men and wholesalers informing one another secretly of extra sales several days before the public was notified. As a result when the public lined up all the best things were gone.

This has become more and more brazen in the past year and the public has become aware of it.

When the Russians reached the Oder and Berliners thought the capital might be besieged within hours they suddenly found tradesmen no longer had anything to sell.

On the following day goods reappeared. This was the most serious sign of disintegration on the rationing front. When everything begins to collapse and the people of Berlin see nothing ahead but siege or flight, then not even the strictest measures by authorities will prevent the remaining stocks from vanishing among relatives, friends and favorite customers. The less fortunate faced with starvation will take to the streets in search of food.

Patton Labels Drive Over France, Germany 'Treason In Reverse'

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY, March 25.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., calls his Third Army's power drive through the Saar and Palatinat and now across the Rhine "treason in reverse," he explained in a letter to Maj. Gen. Otto P. Weyland, 19th Tactical Air Force commander, that the Third Army have been committing treason in reverse as we did so happily in August and September.

"By this I mean that instead of giving aid and comfort to the enemy we have been giving him plain discomfort and doing it in a big way. Let's keep it up," Weyland posted Patton's letter to all TAC units with a note which said:

"With apologies to Patrick Henry I say if this be treason, let us make the most of it."

Obituaries

R. L. CLAY GREENSBORO, March 25.—(AP)—Robert Luther Clay, 55, chief of the Field Division, United States Internal Revenue Department, died today at a hospital here after an illness of two weeks.

A native of Mitchell county, Clay came to Greensboro in 1933 from Boone where he was with the Revenue Department. He became Field Division chief with the Revenue Department in 1943.

Funeral services will be conducted here at 4 p. m. Monday by Dr. E. K. McClary, Methodist minister of Boone, and by Dr. W. A. Stanbury, pastor of Centenary Methodist church, Winston-Salem. Interment will be in Forest Lawn cemetery here.

Surviving are his widow, five daughters and three sisters.

WALTER B. BELL WINSTON-SALEM, March 25.—(AP)—Walter Bynum Bell, 71, former managing editor of the Charlotte Observer and also formerly connected with the Raleigh News and Observer, died today at a hospital here after a long illness.

Funeral services will be held at 5 o'clock Monday afternoon at Elkin, his former home.

ENISS F. BASS Funeral services for Eniss F. Bass, 72, of 507 Princess street and Carolina Beach, who died Saturday at James Walker Memorial hospital, will be held at 4 p. m. today from the Yopp funeral home. The Rev. C. D. Barclift will officiate and burial will be in Oakdale cemetery.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Katie L. Bass, of Wilmington; a daughter, Mrs. C. Leslie, of Wrightsville Beach; a brother, James Weaver Bass of Newton Grove; a sister, Mrs. Marshall Warren, of Newton Grove; and two grandchildren.

Active pallbearers will be Bruce Valentine, Horace Shinn, Claude Boddie, Luther Rogers, Clyde Walton and L. W. Edens. Honorary pallbearers will be Dr. James M. Hall, Fred Poisson, Wilbur Jones, E. B. Snipes, Walter Blair, Jesse Batson and B. Lumsden.

LOCAL RED CROSS DRIVE NEARS END

(Continued from Page One)

employees of the Star Cafe; employees of the Life Insurance Co. of Virginia; employees of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.; Equitable Life Assurance Co.

The Governor Dudley; Wilmington Finance Co.; H. G. Latimer & Son; Norris News Stand; Brass Bar; Cape Fear Loan Office and employees; Carolina Motor Club and employees; DeLuxe Hotel; George's Sandwich Shop; Andrews' Mortuary; Recreation Bowling Alley.

W. D. Mills Grocery; King Marble Granite Co.; Tide Water Power Co. and employees; Wilmington Star-News and employees; employees of Berger's Dept. Store; Radio Station WMFD and employees; Standard Oil Co. of N. J. and employees; Foy Roe and Co.

Brooks Cash Grocery Co. and employees; employees of Moore-Fonville Realty Co.; employees of the Cape Fear Terminal Co.; New York Cafe; Jacobi Hardware Co.; Wilmington Furniture Co., Inc., and employees; Mademoiselle Shoppe and employees.

Employees of the City Finance Dept.; employees of the City Police Dept.; employees of the City Protective Inspection; employees of the City Parks Dept.; employees of the City and County Tax office; employees of the Clerk of Deeds Office; employees of the O. P. A. Rent Division; employees of the O. P. A. War Price Ration Board; employees of Girl Scouts; Allen C. Ewing and Co. and employees.

Hoggard-Bowden Co.; F. W. Livingston and Co. and employees; Marshall Realty Co.; Bik Ike Shoe Repair Co. and employees; Albert F. Perry and employees; Wilmington Candy Store; Southern Kitchen and employees; Louie E. Woodbury, Jr. and employees; Su-Ann Shoe Store and employees.

Employees and pupils of Acorn Branch School, Board of Education, Bradley Creek School, Carolina Beach School, Castle Hayne School, Chestnut St. School, East Wilmington School, Forest Hills School, Cornelius Harnett School, Hemmenway School, William Hooper School, Kirkland School, Lake Forest School, Maffitt Village School, Masonboro School, Middle Sound School, New Hanover High School, Peabody School, Sisseton Park School, Tilston School, Washington Catlett School, Williston Industrial School, Williston Primary School, Winter Park School, Wrightsboro School, Wrightsboro Branch School, Wrightsville School.

SHELL EXPLODES NEAR CHURCHILL

(Continued from Page One)

While on the east bank, the British leader was persuaded by Simpson not to walk to the nearest village because it had not yet been cleared of mines.

Churchill praised Ninth Army Engineers, who a few hours earlier had completed bridges across the Rhine in record time.

"Churchill seemed more perturbed about lighting his cigar in the wind than he was about the shellfire," said Lt. Ellsworth Kerrigan of Aberdeen, S. D. Kerrigan is a member of the American 30th Division in whose sector the Prime Minister crossed the Rhine.

"He finally lit that big cigar and walked away as if nothing had happened," the lieutenant added.

On the east bank, Churchill looked over into German-held land and compared Hitler's problems now with his own in 1940, saying it was impossible to defend a long river line in strength just the same as it was trying to guard a long coastline from invasion.

Walking along the American battlefield Churchill discussed yesterday's fighting for the bridgehead with Maj. Gen. L. S. Hobbs, Washington, D. C., commander of the 30th Division. Hobbs pointed out German emplacements along the dike behind the Rhine.

Shortly after a noon lunch of fried chicken Churchill looked out of the window of a building on the west bank and mused:

"The last time I was on the Rhine was in Cologne during the last war. We cruised 50 miles upstream in a British gunboat. "I would like very much to get across."

Gen. Eisenhower who still was with the party shook his head. Shortly after the Supreme Commander had gone, Churchill began urging again and finally talked the others into letting him go.

City Briefs

COUNCIL TO MEET Cape Fear Council No. 24, of the Daughters of America, will hold its regular meeting at 8 p. m. today in the Junior Order Hall.

Scots Drive Deep Into Germany And Bowl Over Enemy Opposition

By WILLIAM FRYE WITH THE BRITISH SECOND ARMY, March 25.—(AP)—A lancing thrust by elements of the 15th Scottish Division drove Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's bridgehead eight miles inland today at a point northwest of Wesel—the deepest penetration on the British front.

The spectacular thrust from the Xanten crossing area bowled over enemy opposition, including a small tank detachment which got in the way near a forest crossing.

It carried the fighting Scots around high ground between the Rhine and the Issel rivers. The town of Haminkeln was captured and troops have advanced beyond that place.

A linkup of Commandos with the U. S. Ninth Army's 30th Infantry Division near the Lippe river south of Wesel gave the 21st Army Group a continuous line as masses of men and equipment poured across Rhine pontoon bridges and ferries in the build-up for the eastward lunge at the heart of Germany.

Tall columns of smoke rose over shattered Rees, 11 miles west of Wesel, as units of the 51st Highland Division slugged house to house in the final close-in fighting to clear the last fanatically resisting enemy troops.

The roar of guns shook the air as the holdouts took a pasting before the Highlanders began clawing through the burning, battered streets.

Three miles northwest of Rees, Canadians fought into the outskirts of Bienen, after wiping out the last enemy resistance in Speldrop.

North of Rees, other units ran into stiff fighting. Both there and at Bienen, enemy troops were units of the 15th Panzer Grenadier Division.

Farther south, the Scots beat off elements of the German Seventh Parachute Division, and that sector was beginning to loosen up a bit.

While gains elsewhere were not spectacular today, headquarters finally permitted disclosure that the phenomenally successful airborne attack yesterday carried



The American Legion Spring Fiesta opens tonight at Legion Field under the auspices of Wilmington Post No. 10, and will continue for six days and nights ending Saturday at midnight. Tonight's program begins at 7 p. m. when the main gates open for the week.

"Selden, the Stratosphere Man," the world's greatest aerial daredevil, the feature free act attraction, arrived yesterday from Chicago and will make his debut tonight. This sensational act will be staged tonight and every night at 11 p. m. in the center of the midway at Legion Field. Selden performs death defying stunts on a slender steel apparatus actually 138 feet in midair, minus the use of safety devices. Three other performers have sacrificed their lives attempting the same act, but Selden remains as the only successful living artist in his line of pleasing the public.

The R and S Amusements will present the midway attractions with all new attractions including several of the latest and greatest rides. "Jimmy" Fattery, owner-manager, says that this week will be the first real start of the 1945 tour. Among the rides are the Dive Bomber, the Octopus, Tilt a Whirl, Ferris wheels, Scooter, Rocket, and others.

NURSE LOSES FAT SAFELY AYDS WAY

Get slimmer without exercise Eat starches, potatoes, gravy, just cut down. AYDS plan is safe, sensible, easier. No exercise. No drugs. No laxatives. Nurse was one of more than 100 persons losing 16 to 15 lbs. average. Few weeks in clinical tests with Ayds Plan conducted by medical doctors. Delicious AYDS before each meal dulls the appetite. Yet you get vitamins, minerals, essential nutrients in Ayds. Start the Ayds way to lose weight now. 30 day supply of Ayds, \$2.25. MONEY BACK on the very first box if you don't get results. Phone FUTURELL'S PHARMACY

Montgomery's forces east of the Issel river over six bridges snatched and held firmly by the paratroopers.

Despite clouds in the spring skies and a haze of smoke and dust hanging over the placid Rhine, fighters and medium bombers flew close support to the ground sluggers.

Mediums flying precisely directed attacks knocked out all but two of more than 40 enemy guns which had been smacking the Rees crossing.

Fighters keeping a canopy over the whole bridgehead against a possible blow by the German Air Force, shot up what little enemy transport was found moving on the roads and pounced on any groupings that looked like the beginning of enemy counterattacks.

Only one small group of enemy fighters was encountered, and four of its planes were shot down. Fighters destroyed four tanks on the ground and damaged four more.

The bridging program in the crossing areas now is well ahead of schedule, and the ferrying of men, equipment and supplies deepened Lt. Gen. Miles C. Dempsey, the British commander, and Montgomery, by delivering staggering totals to the bridgehead.

For miles west of the Rhine, criss-crossing ribbons of dust mark the paths of columns of equipment funneling into the ferries and bridges in endless streams.

Apathetic crowds of German civilians stood outside their broken homes, dressed in their Sunday best, watching the vehicles roar and clatter through the village streets, bringing up reinforcements for the Second Army.

Prisoners have not been counted since the 8,000 reported up to last midnight, but one case was reported of a surprising willingness to give themselves up, particularly since Montgomery's forces are up against regular—not Volks-sturm troops.

Some troops are making determined resistance, however, and opposition may grow as the Germans commit more veteran reserves to battle.

WATCH REPAIRING GUARANTEED Quiet Service We Teach Watchmen To Tell The Truth The Jewel Box 109 N. Front

St. John's Tavern 114 Orange St. Dial 2-8085 DELICIOUS FOOD Chicken In The Rough — Friday

Open Today 5 P. M. HANOVER MAFFITT VILLAGE TODAY-TUE. "See Here Private Hargrove" with ROBERT WALKER DONNA REED WED-THUR. "YOUNG AND WILLING"

Manor Today & Tues. Double Feature! It's a musical funbunch! WALLY BROWN —in— "7 DAYS ASHORE"

Thrills to the fighting girl guerrillas... a mighty drama of courage! "UNDERGROUND GUERRILLAS" LATEST NEWS

OPEN 10:45 A. M. DAILY!

TODAY AT THE

BAILEY Last Day! A love story... Unmatched for nerve-tangling drama! A love story... a fun story! "NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART" Shows: 11:30-2:00-4:20 6:30-8:30

CAROLINA Starts Today To fill your eyes... To thrill your hearts! A love story... a fun story! Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Maria Montes, Turkhan Bey in "BOWERY TO BROADWAY"

ROYAL Last Day! They are wackier than ever in the season's goofiest mystery! "CRAZY KNIGHTS" With Billy Gilbert Shemp Howard Maxie Rosenbloom

BIJOU Today! Only! A south sea jostle of fun and rhythm! Dorothy Lamour Eddie Bracken Gil Lamb in "RAINBOW ISLAND" In Technicolor

Gala Opening To-Nite

ALL THIS WEEK AMERICAN LEGION SPRING FIESTA

RAMUSEMENTS SHOWS THRILLS and ENTERTAINMENT

11 P. M. — Every Nite Free Act Attraction

SELDEN the Stratosphere Man THRILL ACT

LEGION FIELD

GET EXTRA RED POINTS! Save used fats for your country! Keep saving all used kitchen fats. Your country urgently needs them... to help make medicines, parachutes, synthetic rubber, munitions, paints and soaps for military and civilian uses. So keep up your good work. Save every possible drop of used fats. Remember, for each pound you turn in, you get 2 red ration points! Save Used Fats—For the Fighting Front Approved by OPA and WPA. Paid for by Industry