

1,500 PLANES COVER OKINAWA

WASHINGTON, April 2.—(AP)—More than 1,500 carrier-based planes, operating from upwards of 30 carriers, are taking part in the assault on Okinawa and other Ryukyu Islands, the Navy reported today.

Citing the size of this aerial force as a "graphic" illustration of the growth of naval air power in the Pacific, the Navy recalled that only 240 planes covered the landing on Guadalcanal in 1942.

The invasion of the Marshall Islands, 18 months after Guadalcanal, was supported by an umbrella of more than 1,000 planes flying from nearly a score of carriers. Now, slightly more than a year after the Marshall Islands operation, the Navy said, the "seaside wall" shows a 50 per cent increase.

RUSSIANS DRIVE NEAR BRATISLAVA

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pocket in the center of the 52-mile long island, although they had a 12-mile escape route across the Danube, on the south bank of which other troops of Malinovsky's army were battering toward the Bratislava Gap.

On the north bank of the little Danube, which joins the Danube just east of Bratislava, other forces gained nine miles and won Vajnory station, four miles northeast of Bratislava. For 20 miles to the northeast, as far as Sucha, Malinovsky's troops lined up against the southern slopes of the small Carpathians which, with the Morava river beyond, guard the approaches to Vienna from the east.

At BischnXIVjgcf.vk.ullinovsky's troops were 28 miles east of Vienna, but London observers believed a hard battle lay ahead. Bratislava, strategically located at the base of the 2,474-foot Carpathians in the narrow valley north of the Danube may be a tough nut to crack, but the puppet government of Premier Dr. Stephan Tiso was reported to have fled.

South and southeast of Vienna, Moscow's communique announced Moscow's communique announced only that Red Army forces were "continuing offensive engagements" on both sides of the Neusiedler See, on the west shore of which they last were reported 22 miles from Vienna.

Nazi High Command announcements said, however, that troops of Marshal Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian group had battled to the Leitha river southeast of Wiener Neustadt, a great Messerschmitt plane assembly center 22 miles south of Vienna.

The river flows within a half-mile of the city and some of its great industries extend to the river bank. Berlin claimed however that the Russians had been halted on the east bank opposite the shell-riddled fortress. Moscow dispatches reported fighting for Neudoorf, two mile east of Wiener Neustadt.

Thirteen miles to the east, the Germans also reported that Tolbukhin's storm units had fought to the southern slopes of the Leitha mountains at a point 20 miles south of Vienna. Dispatches described the range protecting Vienna on the south as highly fortified.

In southern Hungary, Nagykanizsa's fall, announced by Premier Stalin, gave the Russians control of one of the last few sources of fuel for the Nazi war machine. Tolbukhin's troops swept five miles beyond the city to take Eszteregnye and 40 other places in their mopping-up of Hungary.

Eleven miles southwest of Nagykanizsa, the Russians drove seven miles along the Drava river border of Yugoslavia, won a railroad crossing to Koprivnica and Zagreb and pushed on to take Szentimay at the confluence of the Drava and Mura rivers.

The advance carried them within five miles of the major railroad crossing town of Murakesztur on the direct line from Nagykanizsa to Maribor in northern Yugoslavia. The spearheads also were 55 miles northeast of the puppet Croatia capital of Zagreb and 136 miles northeast of Italy's Adriatic port of Fiume.

There are 55 species of native orchids in Vermont; in Hawaii, there are only three.

AS YANKS MOVED INTO FRANKFURT



BITER STREET FIGHTING marked the battle for Frankfurt, German's ninth city, as infantrymen of the 5th Division of Gen. Patton's rampaging 3rd Army moved in. In the upper picture they make their way cautiously through rubble as they mop up into the heart of the city. At bottom, the Yanks have made a brick and sand barricade and have set up a machine gun to cover a road that follows the Main River in Frankfurt. Official Signal Corps Radio-telephoto. (International Soundphoto)

U.S. Crushes Nazi Attempt To Escape Ruhr Trap

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since they crossed the Rhine 10 days ago.

Next to the British, Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's Ninth Army tanks were striking along a great military highway toward the Weser river, their cocky crews predicting they would be in Berlin in less than a week.

Hamm, greatest rail center in Europe, was being mopped up by Maj. Gen. Robert Macoon's 83rd Division.

At the eastern side of the Ruhr pocket, the Germans made their first coordinated attempt to break out of the trap, and were smashed back by troops of Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army.

The attempt to break out occurred in the area of Winterberg, about mid-way between Paderborn and Siegen. Doughboys still were holding firm tonight, front reports said.

Simultaneously, other German forces, apparently intent on cracking the 30 to 40-mile-wide steel ring around the trapped Ruhr army group, began counterattacking Hodges' lines in the Warbur area southeast of Paderborn, but these too were hurled back.

Allied headquarters said the annihilation of the Ruhr forces will take time but will not preclude the advance of Allied armored columns farther into Germany.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army, driving to cut Germany in two at the waist, smashed ahead 12 miles during the day and reached the Werra river 90 miles from the Czechoslovak front at a point three miles northwest of Eisenach.

The Sixth Armored Division was less than 155 miles southwest of Berlin and 198 miles from the Russian front line. The parallel 11th Armored Division which also reached the Werra river to the south was likewise 180 miles inside Germany—the deepest penetration into the Reich.

Patton's troops were fighting in the outskirts of the prized city of Kassel, and the 26th infantry division was reported battling in the streets of Fulda, a great Catholic shrine city.

The fast-rolling Third Army had reached the edge of the Thuringian forest, an area where the Germans are said to have built a great series of underground war plants and factories.

YANKS DIVIDE OKINAWA ISLE

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where Americans landed prior to the Okinawa invasion. The Navy established a seaplane base in the Kerama group in a daring move preceding the landings on Okinawa.

Thus Americans quickly achieved a vital aim of the operation—bases from which to raid Japan's mainland, blockade the East China Sea and gain air domination over such points as Shanghai and the Yangtze river mouth, only 400 miles away.

There still was no report of serious opposition from Okinawa's Japanese garrison, believed to number from 60,000 to 80,000, nor from the nearly half a million civilian Okinawans.

Associated Press Correspondent James Linsley reported the only sign of death he saw on the beachhead was "a diminutive Okinawan horse, its legs sticking grotesquely outward."

An indication that the small points of resistance were sometimes fierce was given by AP Correspondent Grant MacDonald. He reported 11 women, dressed in Japanese soldier uniforms, were part of a force attacking an American field artillery position Sunday night. Men and women of the fanatical group who were not killed committed suicide.

Some Okinawa civilians were drifting back from hill hideouts to pass peacefully through American lines.

Brig. Gen. David H. Blakelock of Washington, D. C., said the immense stores of supplies moving onto the beachhead included food for the Okinawans, sufficient to provide the population with 300 tons daily.

Aschaffenburg Garrison Ordered Wiped Out As A Symbol To Nazi Towns

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teamed up with soldiers from Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army to liberate 7,000 Allied soldiers—half of them Americans—from a German camp near Aschaffenburg and drove farther east with renewed vigor on reports that 14,000 more Allied captives were being held by the Nazis in a wooded area nearby.

The liberated soldiers were in a prison camp east of Bad Orb which is 10 miles northeast of Aschaffenburg. Forces of the 106th Cavalry and another cavalry group led the rescue drive.

Farther south, Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army gained control of more than 14 miles of the river Main southeast of Wuerzburg and broke out of the Odenwald onto the Wuerzburg-Heilbronn plain.

The Germans said other elements of the Seventh Army had reached the Bruchal area, 37 miles northwest of Stuttgart, and had outflanked the Rhine city of Karlsruhe at a point 12 miles to the northeast.

Nuernberg, great Nazi convention city and a vital communications point on the Berlin-Brenner pass route, was menaced by Patch's armored forces. The Germans said other elements of the Seventh Army had reached the Bruchal area, 37 miles northwest of Stuttgart, and had outflanked the Rhine city of Karlsruhe at a point 12 miles to the northeast.

With the lifting of the security veil it was disclosed that the Canadian Third Division had cleared Elten and the woods above the town west of Emmerich, while above them other units had reached the Zutphen-Enschede canal. Endless streams of supplies and reinforcements were moving up to support this great movement, apparently aimed at cutting off all Holland and breaking out on Germany's North Sea coast.

The Germans were blowing the bridges over canals as they recoiled back under the Canadian and British attacks.

Despite desperate efforts by the enemy to hold the high woods around Osnabrueck, the fall of that city appeared to be near, said Associated Press Front Correspondent William Frye.

The British 11th Armored Division was spearheading the attack in this direction. Most enemy resistance was from flak troops and demolition squads.

General Delivery



AN EASTER GIFT of a bouquet of roses and a kiss sent to Kay Runnels, Everett, Mass., from her boy friend overseas is delivered to her by Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles of the First Service Command. The General said the errand was an "honor" and a "pleasure." (International)

Resignation Of Byrnes Held Hint Of Nazi Fall

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Yet it was generally agreed here that Byrnes' "toughness"—evidenced by the night club curfew and the brownout—was backed by a White House mandate.

His resignation was dated March 24 and submitted while Byrnes was busy preparing a quarterly report to Congress and the President which promised to drop those unpopular moves—which some people felt were designed to create war psychology more than to conserve resources. The report was almost wholly concerned with the reconversion program which will go into gradual effect after E-Day.

Byrnes will remain at his Government post until Vinson's nomination is approved by the Senate and will break Vinson into the job. He then plans to take a rest at his Spartanburg, S. C., home.

Thereafter, said an aide, "he has absolutely no plans." Reports that he will enter the private practice of law, and that he has received "flattering" offers from industry received no confirmation.

"I think VE-Day is not far distant," Byrnes told Mr. Roosevelt in his letter of resignation. "My knowledge of the nature of the work now confronting the office causes me to conclude I should not remain longer."

"The office has already embarked upon the development of a program of reconversion. I am convinced that the person who is to direct the reconversion program should take charge of this office now. He would then have an opportunity to familiarize himself with the plans we have made and can modify in such manner as he deems wise the plans which he will be called upon to administer."

Mr. Roosevelt's reply was filled with high praise of Byrnes' service.

"It is not pleasant," he wrote, "to contemplate the severance of a relationship which has been as delightful to me personally as it has been of advantage to the national interest which you have served with such singular devotion and fidelity."

He said he had no choice but to accept the resignation, but asked Byrnes if he could not count upon the latter's "wisdom, knowledge and understanding" if the need should arise in the future. Byrnes authorized a statement expressing the hope that he could "make some contribution as a private citizen."

Byrnes was Economic Stabilization Director before the War Mobilization Office was set up by

executive order on May 28, 1943. Thus having followed Byrnes' footsteps into OES, Vinson was the administration figure logically next in line for the highest civilian war office.

The OWMR advisory board of public, agriculture, labor and business representatives released through the White House a resolution praising Byrnes and expressing regret at his resignation. The board also expressed good wishes to General Clay in the "critically important work he is about to undertake in the occupational control of Germany."

The board is headed by O. Max Gardner, former Governor of North Carolina.

The board credited Byrnes with achieving "the coordination and cooperation which is reflected in success in our mobilization for war."

Paying tribute to "his broad vision, impeccable character, abundant courage and human warmth," the board asserted:

"To his former distinguished service at the bar, in the Congress, and on the bench, he has added a public service to his country in his present position which earns for him the gratitude of the entire Nation."

Gets Reich Post



FOLLOWING a request by Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, Maj. Gen. Lucius Clay (above) has been appointed as his deputy and will have charge of civil affairs in Germany when the Allies take control. At present Clay is a deputy to War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes. (International)

'FRISCO PARLEY SUCCESS SIGHTED

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participation in any future international organization."

The letter asked: "Is Russia truly intent on rebuilding a peaceful world? If so, why does she stand in the path of Poland's participation in the San Francisco conference?"

Senator Wiley (R-Wis.), a new member of the Foreign Relations Committee, issued a statement saying the "breach in the Big Three diplomatic front" must be quickly healed.

He also argued for erection of an international organization at San Francisco flexible enough to "permit us to improvise against the changing contingencies of the world."

Heavyweight Boxing Champion Transferred

NEW YORK, April 2.—(AP)—Staff Sgt. Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion, has been temporarily transferred from Camp Shanks, N. Y., to the Fox Hills Terminal, Stapleton, Staten Island, to assist in the building up of an athletic program, it was announced today.

Pvt. Melio Bettina, another heavyweight boxer, and Sgt. Ruby Goldstein and Pvt. Pete Scallozo also were transferred. The Fox Hills Terminal trains Negro soldiers as port companies to do stevedoring and related duties.

Boston Red Sox Hold Hard Two-Hour Drill

PLEASANTVILLE, N. J., April 2.—(AP)—As their manager directed them in street clothes because of a back strain, the Boston Red Sox went through strenuous two hour drill today.

Cronin sustained a minor back strain yesterday. For an hour Cronin closely watched the pitchers as they practiced handing bunts and attempts to pick off base runners. Clem Dreisewer, Pinky Woods and Hurlers Clark, Wilson and Johnson took turns on the mound

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as the squad went through a lengthy batting session.

Cronin also spent considerable time at second base teaching the fine points of double plays to Ben Steiner, second baseman up from Louisville.

"I tell you, Chuck—it's serious!"



"Seriously, Chuck, we may not get new cars until 2 or 3 years after V-Day!"



"It's had me worried. After all, I need my car and have to make it last! So here's what I did..."



"I called my Gulf man. He advised Gulfpride* and Gulflex** treatments regularly. Said they'd give my car a darn swell chance of holding out!"



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SOME OF YOUR SPRINGTIME ESSENTIALS*

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- *Check steering alignment
- *Test brakes
- *Rotate tires
- *Flush cooling system; examine hose connections
- *Tune engine for warm weather driving
- *Repair dents; touch up rust spots; polish car for protection.

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