

WEATHER

Showers and warmer today, followed by cloudy and little change in temperature tonight except cooler on coast. Friday, fair and moderately cold.

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THURSDAY, FEB. 22, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

SINGLE COPIES-5c

- State Theatre Today - "THE FALCON IN HOLLYWOOD" Starring Tom Conway and Barbara Hale

U.S. Fleet Units Damaged Off Iwo

Germany Battered Today In Biggest, Most Spectacular Raid Of War

Battle Rages In Streets Of Guben

LONDON, Feb. 22.—(P)—The Russians again have battered into Guben, German hinge point on the Neisse 51 miles southeast of Berlin, a German military commentator reported today.

Street fighting is going on in the town, he said.

Guben previously was reported bypassed by the Russians, who announced gains up to the confluence of the Neisse and Oder.

The Germans said last Monday that the Russians had fought into Guben, but were forced to withdraw.

Col. Ernst Von Hammer, Berlin commentator, said a new assault was launched upon the stronghold this morning.

In East Prussia, Von Hammer reported, Russian pressure has "increased to the greatest ferocity" with more than 2,000 Soviet planes joining the assault. He said Zinten, 17 miles south of Koenigsberg and 15 miles from the coast, had been evacuated by the Germans.

The Berlin radio said a surprise Nazi counteroffensive had reestablished a corridor between Koenigsberg and the Port of Pillau, 20 miles south. The Russians acknowledged some German advances in that sector but said the drive was costing the Germans enormously in men and equipment.

RIDGE POSITION Moscow announced Soviet forces had seized a strategic ridge position in the forest on the eastern approaches to Guben, taking more than 50 populated places north and south of the immediate sector.

Further north Marshal G. K. Zhukov's First White Russian army units were reported attempting to complete the encirclement of Frankfurt. The German radio announced Zhukov had slashed communications between Berlin and that city on the west bank of the Oder 38 miles from the German capital, but said they had been restored.

Pravda said the Russian army stood only 34 miles from Berlin in that area. The paper did not specify the location but indicated Zhukov's troops had crossed the Oder.

DEFENSIVE Nazi radio spokesmen said German forces were fighting a defensive battle between Berlin and the Frankfurt-Kuesstrin front, but declared Russian bridgeheads west of the Oder were "far too small".

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DRIVE HEADED BY MRS. ROGERS

Old Clothing Will Be Collected In Intense April Campaign

Mrs. R. H. Rogers of the Junior Charity League was named Cleveland chairman of the United Clothing Collection campaign to be waged in April as representatives of the various supporting civic groups met last night to organize.

Mrs. R. F. Brackett was named secretary of the group. Immediate steps to effect a county-wide organization will be undertaken by the new officers in an effort for this county to measure up to its challenge in the national campaign for 150,000,000 pounds of used clothing of every description — children's, women's and men's. The clothing will be used for overseas civilian relief in all war-devastated areas.

COOPERATION

Leaders of all the local clubs pledged their cooperation in getting out the clothing to meet a need that is desperate. On the central committee Worth Morris represents the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants association; Doris Bolt the Junior Chamber of Commerce; Shem K. Blackley the Rotary club; Jim Rucker the Lions club; Reld Misenheimer, the Kiwanis club; Max Dixon the American Legion; Mrs. Griffin Smith the Legion Auxiliary, and Mrs. John McClurd the Woman's club.

7,000 PLANES EMPLOYED IN GIANT FORAYS

Objective Is To Knock Out Nazi Communications Network

'BUCKSHOT AIR WAR'

LONDON, Feb. 22.—(P)— Allied air forces hit Germany at dozens of places with approximately 7,000 planes today. It was the war's biggest and most spectacular bombardment of the Reich.

The onslaught was aimed at knocking out the Nazi communications network serving both the eastern and western fronts.

Explosives cascaded upon German targets at the rate of 100 tons a minute.

Speakeading the "buckshot air war"—a new idea mapped by Allied air chiefs in readiness for clear weather—more than 1,400 U. S. Fortresses and Liberators and 800 fighters attacked a middle Reich rectangle the size and shape of Indiana extending from Hannover on the eastward almost to Berlin and from Nuernberg north to Luebeck Bay.

Two divisions of this huge fleet poured into Germany from the north and a third from the south. These broke up into packs of up to 100 bombers each, which struck at least 24 freight yards and other rail targets in the heart of the Reich during the noon hour.

The Eighth air force bombers were assigned to an area of 38,000 square miles.

Within this area the bomber packs planted more than 14,000 500-pound high explosive bombs on at least 14 rail yards, each located at a junction of two or more main rail routes.

There Are No Mass Surrenders On West Front

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—(P)— War Secretary Stimson said today "no mass surrenders" are occurring on the western front although more than 900,000 Nazis have been taken prisoner in that theater.

Stimson told his news conference that "in view of rumors of mass surrenders" he had cabled Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Allied supreme commander replied, the secretary said, that prisoners are being taken but that there are "no indication of mass surrenders."

Resistance remains stiff along the entire front, Eisenhower told Stimson.

Since November, 1942, date of Allied landings in North Africa, 1,134,992 enemy prisoners have been taken by the Allies, including the 900,000 in western Europe since the Normandy landing last June.

SICILY, ITALY Also included are 100,692 captured in Sicily and Italy and 134,300 in Africa, not including Italians.

Stimson put into his weekly war review this observation: "It is not permissible at this particular moment to make any general observations regarding the fighting on the western front for evident reasons."

"I may say that the officers in the war department who have recently been with our troops in that theater have been much impressed."

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Berlin Heavily Defended, Prepared To Resist Siege

By JERIE FRANBERG Written For The Associated Press Copyright, 1945, by Associated Press STOCKHOLM, Feb. 22.—(P)—I have just left Berlin, city of the doomed, where the fateful arrival of German army deserters helped spread paralysis among the capital's five and one half million barricaded, bewildered and bomb-dulled inhabitants. I got away to Sweden in an automobile which no amount of money in the world could buy, but two old suits, some socks, ties and two pounds of coffee turned the trick.



RUSSIANS EXAMINE PRISONERS FREED FROM GERMANS — The Moscow caption accompanying this radiophoto reads: "Thousands of martyrs have been saved at Oswiecim by the heroic Red Army. The surviving prisoners presented a frightful sight. They were exhausted to an extent that it was impossible to determine their age. Shown on this photo are prisoners of the camp reduced by the Germans to a state of extreme exhaustion. Capt. A. Fradkin (left) of the Red Army's Medical service examines one of the former prisoners of the camp. Engineer Rudolf Scherm from Vienna."

DAVIS LECTURE TO BE TONIGHT

Dr. Jerome Davis To Speak On Russia At Local High School

Shelby is pointing for the address of Dr. Jerome Davis, who will speak under the auspices of the American Association of University Women and the Associated Book clubs of Shelby at the Senior High school auditorium tonight at 8:15 o'clock. His subject will be "Russia in the War and Post-War World."

Dr. Davis' background enables him to speak with authority on what is going on in Russia today because in addition to the year spent there from November, 1943, to November, 1944, he knew Russia under the regime of the Tsar. He saw the Revolution at first hand as he was in charge of Y. M. C. A. work in Russia at that time.

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Enemy Says Marine Casualties 12,000

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 22.—(P)— An unconfirmed Tokyo broadcast heard by the Blue network asserted today that American marines on Iwo Jima have suffered 12,000 casualties.

As the front moved closer and closer to Berlin more and more deserters slipped into the capital. One forenoon by chance I heard a desperate mother confide in another woman that her son and 37 comrades had arrived in Berlin from the front as deserters. Frantically she asked advice: Should she hide her son? But how? What should she do? She certainly couldn't report him as a deserter. Believing it to be an isolated case.

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Huffstickler Among Rescued Prisoners

Lieut. Clyde A. Huffstickler Of Kings Mountain Was Prisoner Of Japs 3 Years

Release of First Lieutenant Clyde A. Huffstickler, of Kings Mountain, a prisoner of the Japanese for nearly three years since the fall of Corregidor, was announced today by the war department.

FREE BOOKS FOR 8TH GRADE

RALEIGH, Feb. 22.—(P)—Rep. Stone of Rockingham introduced bills today to provide free textbooks for the eighth grade and to place kindergartens under the supervision of the department of public instruction.

Money for the eighth grade textbooks is provided in the general appropriations bill, which has passed the assembly.

Stone's bills also would allow the state board of education to change administrative unit boundaries, allow the state board to determine which officials shall be bonded to handle school funds, and to make school lunchrooms non-profit.

POTATO PROBLEM Reps. Askew of Pamlico, Grimes of Beaufort and others sent up a joint resolution to authorize the governor to appoint a six-member commission to study the potato situation in eastern North Carolina and to report to the 1947 legislature. The resolution said there was "grave danger of losing a substantial part of the acreage given over to potatoes" because of bacterial wilt, and that it was evident growers were not exercising enough care in harvesting their crops for marketing. Better and modern facilities for handling the crop are needed, the resolution said.

Reps. Gantt of Durham, Umstead of Orange and Stone sent up a bill to make national and state election days state holidays; and Rep. Taylor of Wayne introduced a bill to extend the authority of the Utilities Commission over refinancing of utilities securities.

CANCER UNIT Reps. Smith of Davidson and Cover of Cherokee introduced a bill to create a seven-member cancer commission. It would be given a \$50,000 appropriation and would be composed of three doctors, the secretary of the state board of health, the chairman of the cancer committee of the State Medical Association, and a person not a doctor. The commission's findings would be reported to the 1947 legislature.

Senator McBryde of Hoke sent up a bill to provide a revolving fund for counties receiving federal aid for school lunchrooms; and Senator Carlyle of Forsyth introduced a bill to authorize corporations to contribute to religious, charitable, literary and educational funds, and to allow use of the contributions to prevent cruelty to children and animals.

PATTON'S MEN CROSS SAAR, STORM AHEAD

33 Nazi Villages In Moselle Valley Taken; In Sight Of Trier

7TH ARMY ADVANCES

PARIS, Feb. 22.—(P)—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's American Third Army, running high, wide and handsome again, stormed within five miles of Trier today, crossed the Saar river against disintegrated German resistance and swept up 33 more Nazi towns in the Moselle valley.

Already tanks and infantry were within sight of the main defense works covering Trier, a city of 88,000 and keystone of the whole German defense system before the middle Rhine. They were a mile and a quarter from Konz, site of a large fort at the confluence of the Saar and Moselle rivers.

While Patton's columns advanced three miles or more immediately north of the industrial Saar district, Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's 7th army smashed into the district from the south, advancing to within two miles of ruined Saarbruecken, the capital.

His Americans captured half of Forbach, French gateway to Saarbruecken, from raw conscripts of the Volksturm who were bolstered by heavy German weapons. Storied Spiceregg, the Siegfried Line was within view.

The Canadian First army in the north pounded to within 2,000 yards of bitterly contested Calcar in its drive toward the Ruhr valley.

AIR SUPPORT The whole Allied flying arsenal appeared to be on the wing today in probably the mightiest Allied aerial onslaught of the year against Hitler's breached and buckling eastern line and his battered interior communications. The air blows were building up toward a climax which might explode in an all out offensive which has been checked by bad weather, mud and flooding.

A report from Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's 12th army group headquarters said German resistance in the Saar-Moselle triangle, now virtually cleared, had "completely disintegrated." The Saar crossing south of Saarburg was unopposed. Saarburg itself was almost cleared. There were indications of a general German withdrawal into the rugged Hochwald.

Despite the spectacular gains of the Third Army and the slow chipping progress of the British and Canadian troops in the north, it was evident that Gen. Eisenhower had not yet loosed his full scale offensive.

Between these forces was the

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WHAT'S DOING

TODAY 7:00 p.m.—Kiwanis club meets at Hotel Charles.

7:30 p.m.—C.A.P. members meet at armory.

8:15 p.m.—Dr. Jerome Davis lecture at high school auditorium.

FRIDAY 12:00 p.m.—Rotary club meets at Hotel Charles.

LAST NIGHT AND TODAY:

smashing for the second successive night at the communications system through which the Germans are trying to supply their hard-pressed troops on the western front. Berlin—which also was hit the previous night—again was bombed twice. The blow at Worms was by a force of about 500 heavies and was in support of the American Third Army, which was advancing less than 60 miles away. WESTERN EXIT Dulsberg is the western exit of

Vicious Enemy Counterattacks Are Beaten Back

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Feb. 22.—(P)—(Via Navy Radio)—United States fleet units in the vicinity of Iwo Jima have sustained some damage from attacks by Japanese fighters and bombers. Japanese counterattacks have been beaten back and U. S. Marine casualties have risen to 4,553 in the desperate battle for the island, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

The attack by Japanese planes was the first against the surface units since the battle for the island 750 miles south of Tokyo began. Seven of the enemy planes were shot down.

The casualties include 385 killed and 4,168 wounded in action up to 5:45 P. M. last night.

Japanese counterattacks accompanied by numerous attempts at infiltration of our lines were beaten back during the night and the leathernecks, strengthened by the U. S. Third Marine division which landed yesterday, launched attacks both to the north and south against the divided forces of the enemy.

The northward drive toward the central Iwo airfield met heavy resistance from small arms, mortars and automatic weapons. At noon the troops, advancing slowly through hard rain, had knocked out numerous enemy gun positions and generally weakened enemy defenses.

There was little change in front line positions, Nimitz' communique admitted, however.

Forces facing Mt. Suribachi, volcanic Japanese fortress on

FANATIC RESISTANCE: Japs Holding Out On Hotel Second Floor

Scattered Remnants Of Enemy Left On Corregidor After Main Garrison Blows Itself Up

MANILA, Feb. 22.—(P)—Only scattered enemy remnants were left on Corregidor today but fanatically resisting Japanese troops still held out on the second floor of the famed Manila hotel, turning the hostelry into the hottest battle spot in the capital city at dawn today.

Early front line reports that elements of the First Cavalry division had captured the big hotel, one of the most luxurious in the Orient, have been corrected to say that they have occupied the first floor, the Japanese second.

Historic Bataan was cleared of Japanese, Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported, and "so far as can be found, no living Japanese soldier is now on the peninsula."

Hopelessly sealed in the vast network of tunnels on Corregidor, Nipponese troops blew themselves up by touching off one of their main underground ammunition dumps.

Typical of the bitter inch by inch struggle for downtown Manila was the battle through most of the night between the Yanks and Japanese on the second floor of the Manila hotel where a continual fight to the death went on in the corridors and rooms and on the

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ALLIED PLANES OUT IN FORCE Over Western Half Of Reich

LONDON, Feb. 22.—(P)—Allied airmen returned to the attack upon Germany by daylight today after a mighty fleet of more than 1,100 RAF night bombers had blasted the western front railway centers of Worms and Dulsberg and struck a fresh blow at Berlin. German radios began sounding alerts throughout the western half of the Reich before 10 a.m., suggesting that attacking Allied planes were out in force.

The RAF night raiders loosed tons of high explosives and incendiaries on the railway hubs,

the southern tip of the island, coordinated their drive with the northern troops and by noon were beginning an assault on the face of the cliff "under most difficult combat conditions." Heavy naval gunfire continued to pound enemy held positions throughout the northern part of the island and fleet aircraft supported bombing ground forces with heavy bombs, strafing and rocket attacks. The veteran Third division landed on Iwo at a critical hour, bolstering two other hard-pressed divisions with veterans of the invasions of Bougainville and Guam. Maj. Gen. Graves E. Erskine commands the force. The commitment of three Ma-

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CASUALTIES NOW 801,162

Figure Represents Army, Navy Losses Since Pearl Harbor

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—(P)— Army and Navy casualties since Pearl Harbor have reached 801,162, the two services reported today.

Secretary of War Stimson set Army casualties at 711,497 on the basis of individual names compiled in Washington through February 14. The Navy reported its losses as 89,665.

The aggregate represented an increase of 18,982 over the previous week's report. Of the rise, the Army accounted for all but 827.

A breakdown on the Army casualties as reported this week and corresponding figures for last week: Killed 138,723 and 135,510; wounded 420,465 and 408,533; prisoners 60,086 and 58,556; missing 92,223 and 90,723.

Stimson said 207,323 of the wounded had returned to duty. Similar figures for the Navy: Killed 33,882 and 33,536; wounded 40,783 and 40,607; prisoners 4,474 unchanged from the preceding week; missing 10,546 and 10,221.

Tokyo Comforts Its Iwo Garrison

By The Associated Press Radio Tokyo announced today it would beam a special one hour broadcast to "our brave officers and men" on Iwo Jima "in partial expression of the gratitude of the people on the home front." The report was recorded by the federal communications commission.