

PRISONERS' QUICK THINKING SAVES HERDED GROUP FROM U. S. ATTACKERS

WITH THE FIRST ARMY, American and British captives being herded from a German prisoner camp at Limburg saved themselves from a deadly attack by United States planes through a human alphabet maneuver reminiscent of between-halves formations by football cheering sections.

With Ninth armored division tanks roaring toward the ancient cathedral city, the routed Germans tried to cram some 2,000 of the Allied prisoners into box cars for a rush to the east. American fighters, seeking out any moving rail stock, swooped in to bomb and stall the train.

The Nazi guards fled. The prisoners broke open the doors, spilled into the fields nearby and, as the American planes dived for the kill, hastily formed lines spelling out the letters PW, for prisoners of war. The pilots veered away, but not before 14 men had been killed and 27 wounded.

When the Ninth division moved up they discovered the Germans were packing even seriously wounded prisoners into boxcars and evacuating them from hospitals in the path of the First Army.

Officers said the Germans apparently had no hospital trains available to move the casualties, many of whom are in serious condition from lack of proper medical treatment and malnutrition.

The enemy has neither ambulances nor gasoline to evacuate hospitals. At Wetzlar, northeast of Limburg, the Ninth infantry found 277 American prisoners of war locked in boxcars on a railway siding. They immediately lifted them from the cars and took them to evacuation hospitals for treatment.

Some of the prisoners at Limburg's Staling XII escaped before the Germans tried the evacuation move. These also were suffering from malnutrition and improper medical care.

JAPS PURSUED AS CEBU FALLS

MANILA, March 29.—(AP)—Doughboys pursued the Japanese into the hills north of Cebu City today, headquarters said, after that demolition wrecked second city of the Philippines was captured in a brisk two-day drive from the Yanks' Cebu beachhead on the east coast.

Troops inside the city fought scattered battles along heavily-mined streets, but for the most part the enemy was reported to have abandoned well prepared defenses and fled before Maj. Gen. William H. Arnold's fast-moving American division.

The Japanese fought stubbornly for a time Tuesday at Pardo, on the southern outskirts, but the 182nd regiment of Boston, Mass., cleared the way. Another column moved around to the west, and the capital city was entered from two sides Wednesday morning. American losses were light.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, announcing Cebu's capture today, said the city of 150,000 inhabitants was badly damaged by Japanese demolition crews carrying out their "scorched earth" policy as they did in Manila.

The important harbor area, however, was taken virtually intact. It is one of the best in the Philippines.

Windsor Warns Of Bahama Discontent

NASSAU, Bahamas, March 29.—(AP)—Expansion of the tourist attractions and a four-point program for rehabilitation of the out islands of the Bahamas were proposed by the Duke of Windsor in a half-hour speech before the chamber of commerce last night.

Warning of the dangers of discontent among an overcrowded population with insufficient work for all, he said the rehabilitation of the out islands was the only remedy.

Manpower Plan Is Roosevelt Concern

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—President Roosevelt called two senate leaders to the White House today for a conference on manpower legislation.

Those summoned were Majority Leader Barkley and Chairman Thomas (D-Utah) of the Senate Military committee.

The conference followed by 24 hours a presidential letter to Thomas urging senate adoption of a new manpower measure worked out by senate and house conferees.

The house approved the legislation by a slim margin and the senate was moving toward a vote. Mr. Roosevelt told Thomas yesterday failure of the legislation to pass would make conduct of the war "even more difficult," while adoption, he said, would lighten the armed forces.

Pope's Faith In U. S. Womanhood

VATICAN CITY, March 29.—(AP)—Pope Pius XII told Rep. Claire Boothe Luce (R-Conn) today that he hoped American womanhood would be a great influence for a stable world peace.



GERMANY'S DOMAIN SHRINKING UNDER ALLIED BLOWS—The black areas on this map indicate territory held by Germany at the peak of the Wehrmacht's conquests, but since lost. The shaded section represents territory remaining under German control today.



PFC. LEROY SOUTARDS WOUNDED—Casualty reports received today from the war department list two Lawndale boys wounded in action in Germany. Pfc. Leroy E. Southards, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Southards of Lawndale, have been reported seriously wounded March 12 in Germany, according to word received today by his parents.



PFC. JOHNNIE T. WILLIAMS WOUNDED—Casualty reports received today from the war department list two Lawndale boys wounded in action in Germany. Pfc. Johnnie T. Williams, son of Mrs. Mary Pruitt of Lawndale, and husband of the former Miss Ethel Sain of Lawndale, was slightly injured in Germany March 4, according to a telegram received from the war department by his wife. Pfc. Williams entered the Army in April, 1944, and received his infantry training at Camp Blanding, Florida, before being sent overseas.

INFANTS' SHOES TO REQUIRE RATION STAMPS AFTER MAY 1

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—All babies' leather shoes will require ration stamps after May 1. As OPA announced this today, the Office of Civilian Requirements disclosed that it is seeking production of 150,000,000 pairs of "good" fabric shoes with synthetic rubber soles for adults to eke out dwindling supplies of leather footwear.

Manufacture at that annual rate, OCR Director William Y. Elliott said in an interview, would restore the two-pair-a-year standard which OPA dropped in December.

Objective of adding the smaller sizes of infants' shoes to the ration program, OPA said, is to help build up critically short supplies in the larger, now-rationed sizes.

CASUALTIES AT 900,000 MARK

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—American combat casualties reported since Pearl Harbor neared the 900,000-mark today with the Army setting its losses at 780,043.

The latest Navy report added 92,819 to the Army toll, making the aggregate 872,862. This was an increase of 13,775 from the preceding week's report.

Secretary of War Stimson said the army's total was based on a compilation of individual names received here through March 21, and reflected actual battlefield developments through the end of February and the beginning of March.

A breakdown of the Army's casualties and corresponding figures for last week:

Killed 153,791 and 150,310; wounded 473,669 and 464,731; missing 86,355 and 88,209; prisoners 66,228 and 64,430. Of the wounded, 243,508 have returned to duty.

Similar figures for the Navy: Killed 35,750 and 35,342; wounded 42,302 and 41,882; missing 10,500 and 10,417; prisoners 4,267 and 4,266.

Presbyterians To Hold Good Friday Services Tomorrow

There will be an Easter service at the Shelby Presbyterian church Friday, March 30, at high noon. This will be the only Good Friday service in Shelby and everyone is extended a cordial invitation to attend.

Stimson Pleased By Western Front

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—Secretary of War Stimson said today the situation on the western front "makes clear in no uncertain terms" that the German army on the Rhine is "beaten."

He told a news conference it was possible that the Nazis may find some other temporary line for the defense of the Reich, but that "the enemy must be absolutely without hope of anything save unconditional surrender or piecemeal collapse."

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H. Oberhausen (191,305), 2; and Dortmund (337,000), 19. All the Rhine from Bonn to Mannheim, a winding stretch of nearly 150 miles, was in Allied hands.

American and British armored battle teams north of the Ruhr raced 20 miles across the Westphalian plains to the approaches of Muenster in exploiting a breakthrough so thoroughly that Field Marshal Montgomery imposed strict security silence "because of the rapidity of present operations."

At Amoenburg, Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' racing armor was 95 miles southeast of Muenster and in position to curl around the whole outflanked Ruhr—essential to German war economy—and trap its myriad defenders in conjunction with the 21st army group racing across the Westphalian flats.

Hodges also was 152 miles west of Leipzig, Germany's fifth city, and 255 from Russian lines. His troops and those of the Third army formed three more linkups west of falling Frankfurt on the Mainz, a city more than half captured. The armies, both commanded by Gen. Omar N. Bradley, also joined hands at Kamberg and Idstein, southeast of Limburg.

NAZI LINES FAIL German lines everywhere were disintegrating swiftly. The cloaks of portentous silence which Bradley and Montgomery both imposed were hiding the full extent of triumphs in the heartland of the staggering Reich.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's hard-hitting, winged-foot fourth armored division crashing along the Frankfurt-Leipzig superhighway advanced 19 miles in a day and reached Gruenberg, 214 miles from Berlin and 14 east of captured Giessen. One prong of the breakthrough division advanced eight miles northeast to near Beltersham, south of the main Berlin-Frankfurt superhighway.

Frankfurt itself was all but conquered. More than half of the city was in Third army hands. Nearby Hanau and Aschaffenburg were captured.

The First army stormed through the important traffic center of Marburg on the way to Amoenburg and captured it without resistance.

Today's Markets

Table with market data including N.Y. Cotton, Chicago Grain, Stocks, and Butter and Eggs.



MISSING!—Mrs. Mildred Peters (above) of Newport, Ky., 33-year-old, 200-pound wife of a steel mill foreman, left home in a taxicab for a hospital March 26 to give birth to a baby—and vanished mysteriously. The cab driver said he let her out of his car at the door of the hospital. But she did not register in at the hospital, and her family has searched in vain for trace of her.

BOND GIVEN BY RUNYANS

Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Runyans, charged with fraudulent soliciting of funds under the pretext of collecting money for the Red Cross, have furnished \$1,000 bond each for their appearance in United States District court, it was learned this morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Runyans were arrested by Sheriff Raymond Cline co-operating with G. A. Hager, Gaston county deputy sheriff, who initiated the investigation when they came into his place soliciting funds without proper credentials.

Juveniles Are Given Hearings

John Ed Gardner, a negro juvenile given a hearing before Judge E. Yates Webb yesterday on a charge of liquor violation was given a suspended term and put on probation.

WANT ADS

CHAMBRAY IN SOLIDS and stripes. See it now at The Gift Shop, next to Paul Webb Drug Co. 2t-29c

WE HAVE A SELECTION of prints that will catch the eye, and make you want to buy yards and yards of them. Also baby prints. The Gift Shop, next to Paul Webb Drug Co. 2t-29c

TOO LATE FOR BEHIND THE FRONT PAGE—Service man wishes to visit Florida first of week. Call Holt McPherson.

HERE THEY ARE, LADIES! Those checked gingham you've been waiting for. Large and small checks. The Gift Shop, next to Paul Webb Drug Co. 2t-29c

CC MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN ENDS WITH SUCCESS

A one of the most successful membership campaigns in history, the Shelby chamber of commerce today completed its drive for a membership of 250. President Clyde A. Short and R. E. Youre added the last few names to finish the roster.

Report of this successful drive will be made at the annual chamber of commerce dinner Friday night by J. Dale Stentz, secretary. The drive was started in February.

President Short said that he believed that the chamber is entering one of the most promising periods of its history. Prospect is bright for a number of new industries locating here, President Short said. Numerous inquiries have been made as to possible locations and investigations are underway by a number of potential Shelby businesses.

Nazi Parachutists Slew Aachen Mayor

WITH THE FIRST ARMY, March 29.—(AP)—The assassination of Aachen's Allied-appointed mayor was carried out by three German parachutists in uniform, it was disclosed today.

Striking gangster-fashion Sunday night they shot and killed the mayor, Franz Oppenhof, 41, and then escaped. Oppenhof was the first mayor to be appointed in a major occupied German city by the Allies. His death was announced yesterday.

Military investigators said they have been unable to determine an exact motive, but it was recalled that Hitler often has threatened retaliation against any Germans cooperating with the Allies and there were some who believed this might be the first manifestation of that threat.

President Back At Desk After Visit To Hyde Park Home

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—President Roosevelt returned to the White House today from a four-day visit to his home at Hyde Park, N. Y., and began a series of important conferences.

A conference with the British ambassador, Lord Halifax, and Sir Oliver Lyttleton and Col. J. J. Llewellyn, who are in the United States to study the food supply situation.

Another with Senate Majority Leader Barkley (D-Ky) and Chairman Thomas (D-Utah) of the Senate Military committee on manpower legislation.

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Williams, obtained a leave from a teaching job at Jacksonville, Fla., last December to come here and be with her husband while he awaited an overseas assignment.

In a signed statement submitted at the inquest Lt. Epes said: "I did not kill my wife. I did not plan to kill Mary Lee."

He said that Saturday night, Jan. 27, he gave her the capsules to relieve her from pain and two hours later they both fell off to sleep.

He awoke during the night and found his wife dead, he said. "I had not planned for this to happen. I was panic stricken."

"I picked Mary Lee up. I put a blanket around her and put her in the back seat of the car."

He said he made several tests to see if she was breathing, then drove away, stopping in front of a church to put the body in the trunk of the car.

Five miles from Ft. Jackson he buried his wife in the foxhole and pushed some branches and leaves over the makeshift grave.

THE RECORD SHOP NEWEST SELECTIONS JUST RECEIVED. Laura A Stranger In Town Sentimental Journey Don't Love Me. Maxwell-Morris & Kennedy Furniture. PHONE 788 SHELBY, N. C.

A Better Opportunity To Serve In Significant, Vital Work Work Is Offered By Tennessee Eastman Coporation KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE TO—MECHANICS MACHINISTS ELECTRIC WORKERS SHEET METAL WORKERS Young men and women to train for modern production jobs. For interview with Company Representative Apply United States Employment Service War Manpower Commission M & J FINANCE BUILDING SHELBY, N. C. MARCH 26TH THRU MARCH 31ST All hiring will be in accordance with War Manpower Commission regulations.