

TOKYO DRENCHED AGAIN; SAY IWO INVADED

Corregidor Invaded, Enemy Says; Bataan Captured

No Fooling He's 113



NO FOOLING, Max Cohen of Denver, Colo., will celebrate his 113th birthday on April 1. He attributes his longevity to drinking, smoking, playing and railing at Hitler.

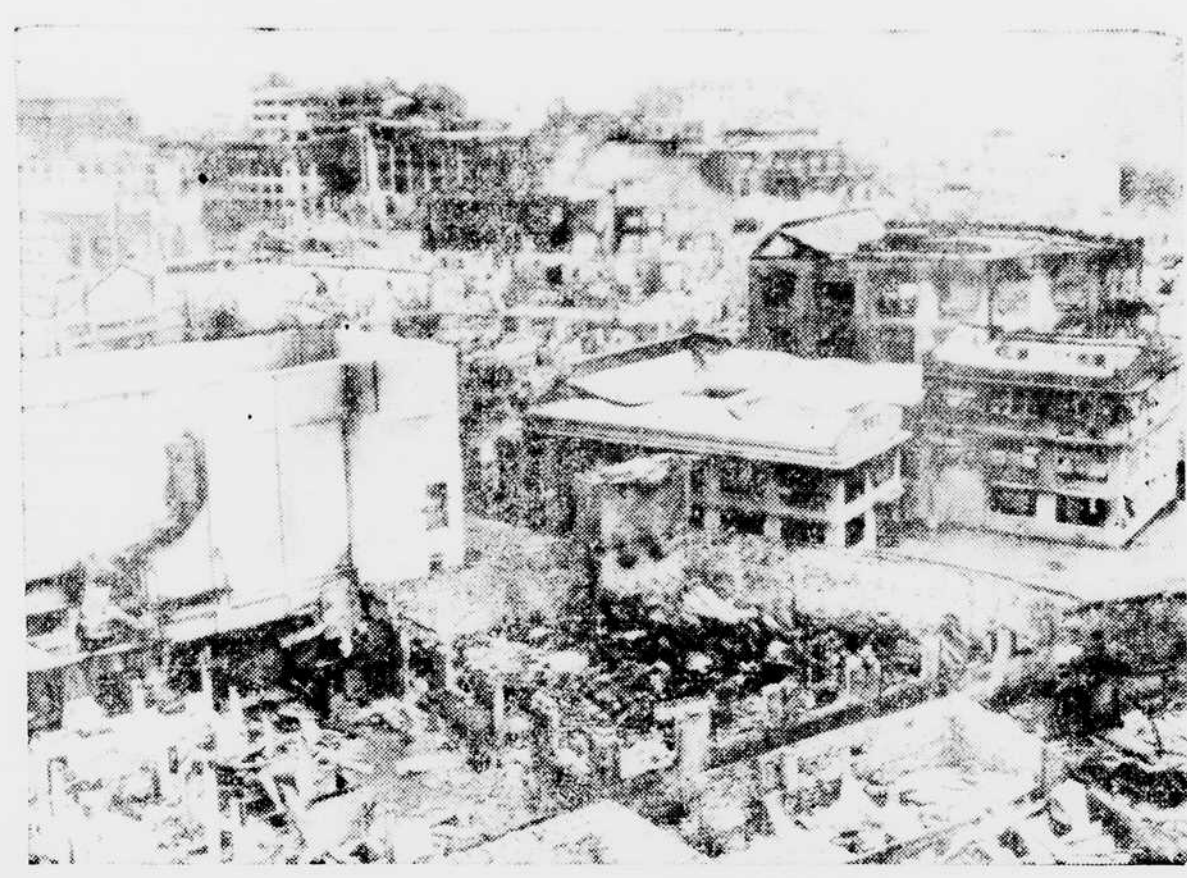
Paratroops Dropped On Rock Fort

American Loss Is Reported As Fight In New Operation

London, Feb. 17.—(AP)—A report that Corregidor Island has been invaded by American paratroops, with heavy fighting in progress, was broadcast today by the Tokyo radio.

Manila, Feb. 17.—(AP)—American troops and guns renewed their assault on the ancient walled city in Manila today after the Japanese defenders there turned an offer of the corps commander, Major General Oscar Griswold, of honorable surrender and safe conduct of several thousand civilians. The offer, made at 8 o'clock last night, was unanswered at the end of a four-hour lull set by the general.

MANILA NOW A CHARRED SKELETON



THIS IS THE BUSINESS section of Manila as it looks today—a charred and battered skeleton of the beautiful city that once was known as the "Pearl of the Orient." The Japs, realizing that this great Pacific prize was about to be wrested from them, burned, pillaged and wrecked as they retreated.

Japs Fear Landings On Own Shores

1,500 U. S. Planes Bomb Tokyo Again; Claim U. S. Losses

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Japanese broadcasts reported American assault forces began invading Iwo Jima, on the road to Tokyo, this morning, but there was no official word of such action at this headquarters, as the powerful American fifth fleet carried its double-barreled attack on Tokyo and its southern approaches into the second day.

Led Guerrillas



Free is Lt. Clayton Phillips of Merritt, Conn., who led a guerrilla force in Luzon which he led for three years after his escape from Bataan following its fall to the Japs. He last contacted with American forces was a patrol operating near Agaña, International.

Opposition To Wallace New Fading

Even Bailey Ready To Support Senate Confirmation Move

Washington, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Only a stroke of the President's pen and some debate in the Senate today appeared to separate Henry A. Wallace from a coveted cabinet post.

Cotton Lower At The Close

New York, Feb. 17.—(AP)—March liquidation and commission house profit-taking, following Friday's sharp advance, lent an easy tone to cotton futures today, and offerings met indifferent mill buying support.

Senate has agreed to vote March 1 on the appointment, but before it does, there is likely to be more talk by those members who don't want the CIO-supported former vice-president to hold any job where his salary is met by the taxpayers.

Senator Bailey, North Carolina Democrat, said he was "pleased" by the House action in approving the George bill exactly as it passed the Senate. It was Bailey who made the original motion which carried the Wallace nomination to the brink of defeat on a Senate showdown.

Bailey was understood to be prepared to urge his opposition colleagues to give up the fight and let Wallace be confirmed.

West Front Bastions Menaced

Dr. Meadows' Case May Run To Five Weeks

Greenville, Feb. 17.—(AP)—In 1935, over the protest, the trial of Dr. Lora Meadows, charged with embezzlement of over \$12,000, will enter its fourth week Monday and every indication was that the trial will go into a fifth week.

The former president of East Carolina Teachers College, the stand in his own defense yesterday in his effort to refute the charges by the State that he had misappropriated a large amount in special college and student funds.

Meadows said yesterday he had offered every cooperation to auditors who checked the affairs of the college and made an audit of his accounts. During his testimony, he referred to some 40 items in his accounts, records of which were contained on two memorandum books, from which the State took many items and introduced them into the record.

Testifying at a summer term entertainment fund which he handled Meadows testified that he had received into this fund \$15,597.53.

British, American Armies Make Long Gains on Germans

Paris, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Allied troops of the Canadian first army, battled today to within one and a half miles or less of the shell-ripped Nazi bastions of Goch and Calcar, southeast of Kleve, in a sudden, resurgent push over mined battlefields.

British, Scots and Canadians, under General Henry Crerar's command, lunged forward yesterday behind a wall of bombs, rockets and bullets from Allied planes, and British troops pushed two and a quarter miles ahead, cutting the main Goch-Calcar highway at two points.

Troops closing on Goch and Calcar gained 2,500 yards. They entered Asper and Hervest, within one and a half miles of Goch, and topped Hummerham and Mail, five miles west of the strongly held road center seven miles south of Kleve.

Canadian tanks and infantry troops fought a mile and a half from Calcar, southeast of Kleve, and 17 miles from bomb-wrecked Wesel, northern gate to the industrial Ruhr.

Crerar's men were five miles or less from Wesel, third road center strong point.

More than 1,000 Nazi prisoners were piled from the mud in the past 24 hours, boosting the total in the army's offensive to 6,900, a front deserter said. Another deserter Friday's prizewinning gains as probably the best in the nine-day-old push.

British troops, fighting 4,000 yards deep and across the Goch and Calcar highways, almost scored a breakthrough, front reporters said, spearheading into lines of the German 116th panzer and 15th panzer grenadier divisions.

Temperature Spread New 115 Degrees

(By The Associated Press) The national weather picture today was one of broad contrast, with 115 degrees variation between its northern and southern extremes.

San Antonio, Tex., and Thunderstorm, which shattered across the scene in wide swarms.

A severe cold wave, which first struck Montana and the Dakotas Wednesday, continued to blast its way eastward, with Park Rapids, Minn., reaching 23 degrees below.

Across the continent southward, Tallahassee and Tampa, Fla., pushed up to 82, Jacksonville, Fla., and New Orleans, 81, and Shreveport, La., and Vicksburg, Miss., 80.

Up to 12 inches of snow fell in a band left from Missouri to southern Pennsylvania, western Maryland and West Virginia and heavy rain and thunderstorms were reported in the far south just south of that belt.

Dutch Officer Is Held by Britain In Arnhem Failure

London, Feb. 17.—(AP)—The lower of London confines a Dutch officer accused by the British government, on the basis of carefully gathered evidence, of tipping off the Germans to the Arnhem airborne attack, which collapsed after an eight-day battle last September.

He is awaiting trial for treason on charges of betraying Allied military secrets to the enemy. His arrest was announced last night.

On the officer, whose name was withheld, Britain may seek to place the principal blame for the failure of the assault, made by the Britain Red Devil first parachute divisions at a cost of more than 6,000 of its 8,000 men, to attain its full objective.

Soviets Are Closing In Upon Berlin

Germans Rush New Reinforcements To Southeast Fronts

London, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Russian troops, closed on shell-ripped Guben, 50 miles southeast of Berlin, today and numbered toward Cottbus, a second gateway fortress city on the Spre river, 75 miles from the Nazi capital.

A Moscow dispatch said units of Marshal Konev's army perhaps have closed to within 10 miles of Berlin.

The Germans rushed heavy armor and infantry support into the spreading battle southeast of Berlin, and Soviet planes took a heavy toll on crowded highways.

Guben, on the Neisse river, was under artillery barrage and Soviet troops fought toward it from three sides.

The Berlin radio said the Russians were within 12 miles of Cottbus, southwest of Guben, in the area of Pohl, on the Neisse.

A Red Star dispatch from Konev's front declared a river—perhaps the Neisse—had been stormed in this area, and that another stream beyond also has been forced. The Russians were reported within sight of the Spre river, and natural defense line joining Berlin. The Spre runs by Cottbus, an important rail center.

The Germans indicated the fall of Potsdam, great hollow strong point in Poland, was near, saying street fighting raged in the heart of the city.

President Benes Returns at Once To Czech Nation

London, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Dr. Eduard Benes, president of Czechoslovakia, announced tonight he would leave for his homeland almost immediately to establish a new government.

He said in a broadcast to Czechoslovakia that he, his foreign minister, Jan Masaryk, and a number of other Czech leaders would travel by way of Moscow to Kofice, and that they would go on to Prague when that capital was liberated.

Showdown Nears Over Scarcity Of Food For Europe

Washington, Feb. 17.—(AP)—A showdown appears to be developing over Anglo-American failure to provide adequate food, clothing and other supplies for the liberated countries of Europe.

That is the interpretation placed here on the hue and cry that has been raised in London this week over the asserted short-comings of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in the "nation. Involved are questions of relief for France, Belgium and those sections of the Netherlands from which the enemy has been cleared.

The attacks on UNRRA are puzzling to the agency's international officials here, because UNRRA actually is not responsible, under its regulations, for providing supplies to the western European countries.

Legislature May Stay On To March 15 To End Work

Raleigh, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Local bills made up the General Assembly menu today and only a handful of legislators were present for the brief sessions.

Five local bills were received by the Senate, while the House passed 28 local bills.

But as the law-makers prepared for the eighth week of the session, opening Monday, the legislative scene was fraught with the possibility of spirited floor debate as the calendar still held several matters that might easily develop into major controversies.

Since the joint committee on appropriations concluded consideration of the \$215,000,000 money bill for the coming biennium, thus hurrying one of the tremendous tasks of the

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Showers and thunderstorms and cooler tonight and Sunday.

Government May Seize Enka Plant

Asheville, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Strike issues which have halted production of war goods at the Enka corporation headed today for another round before a Federal judge unless the government seizes the strikebound plant first.

The next scheduled step is a hearing before Judge E. Yates Webb at Shelby Monday, when the Enka company is expected to withdraw its request for an injunction to block arbitration of points raised by the United Textile Workers Union, the action which brought on the walk-out of more than 3,000 workers February 8.

A War Labor Board spokesman in Washington, however, indicated that the plant may be ordered taken over by the War Production Board, or the army if the union and company continue defiance of the WLB.

U.S. Heavies Hit Germany From Double Directions

London, Feb. 17.—(AP)—United States heavy bombers, carrying the night air offensive into Germany into its fourth day, smashed at the Reich from the west today, and Berlin indicated that Mediterranean-based squadrons were striking from the south again.

Three hundred Flying Fortresses attacked the great freight yards at Frankfurt behind the west front, Frankfurt, on the Main river, is an important rail junction of principal lines connecting central Germany with the western front.

About 1,700 United States and British heavies, including a force of Italian-based Fortress, which struck the Rega strong factory, where German jet-propelled planes are turned out, ranged unopposed over a wide area of Germany yesterday.

Since the British-American air offensive from the west began Tuesday night, close to 7,000 four-engine bombers have poured explosives on at least 25 German cities in the most sustained assault of the war.

Stocks Move Some Lower

New York, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Buyers liked assorted specialties in today's brief stock market, but many leaders were more or less neglected at slightly lower levels.

Transfers for the two hours ran to around 700,000 shares. Bonds were uneven and commodities mostly easier.