

MacArthur's conquest of Manila is proceeding ^{ahead of} ~~faster than~~ scheduled. All day long we have been hearing that the Yanks had to pause before crossing the Pasig River. Tonight we hear that advance units of the Thirty-Seventh Division have crossed the Pasig near the Malacanan Palace and ^{have teamed up} ~~are working together~~ with the paratroopers of the Eleventh Airborne Division, ^{coming} ~~which pushed~~ up from the South.

The Japanese ⁱⁿ ~~made a keen~~ attempt ^{ing to check} ~~to stop~~ them, destroyed the four principal bridges across the Pasig. But, MacArthur's heavy guns ^{played havoc} ~~blasted them~~ ^{with the Japs. Also} ~~destroyed~~ MacArthur reported that his armies have destroyed already two hundred Japanese tanks.

STIMSON - FOLLOW PHILIPPINES

Secretary of War Stimson told reporters today that MacArthur is getting ready to open Manila Harbor for the use of Allied shipping. ^{And} That will tighten the blockade lines cutting Japan off from her empire in the South Pacific.

From this it is logical to infer that the next step in the Philippines will be the reconquest of Corregidor. Once we have the ~~Japs~~ Japs out of there, Manila harbor will be opened. And then American planes and ships will be able to cut all ~~the~~ enemy sea routes to the East Indies, prevent the ~~Japs~~ Japs from getting oil, and rubber, and other resources from the big islands.

Stimson uses these words: "The liberation of Manila represents the culmination of one great phase of the war in the Pacific. General MacArthur and his officers and men, together with the Navy, have accomplished a feat which will be celebrated in military annals."

JAPAN FOLLOW CHINA

A Tokyo ^{today} ~~one~~ broadcast ~~by the Tokyo radio~~ gave ~~them~~ a ~~pretty~~ clear indication that the Japanese themselves, are worried about what has happened in the Philippines. This broadcast compared the plight of the ~~Japs~~ in the Philippines with that of ~~General MacArthur~~ ^{our people} in Nineteen Forty Two. It even hinted at a criticism of the Nipponese Admirals, something almost unheard of in Jap^{anese} publicity. For the spokesman indicated that the Mikado's Army in the Philippines is lost if ~~his~~ ^{their} Navy doesn't come out of hiding. Apparently these broadcasts were inspired by Army officers. If so, there ~~is a decided~~ ^{must be a} difference of opinion between the Mikado's Generals and Admirals.

One thing it said was that the United States could afford to lose the battle of Luzon, but the Japs could not. The spokesman used these words: "The coming battle for the Philippines and the subsequent

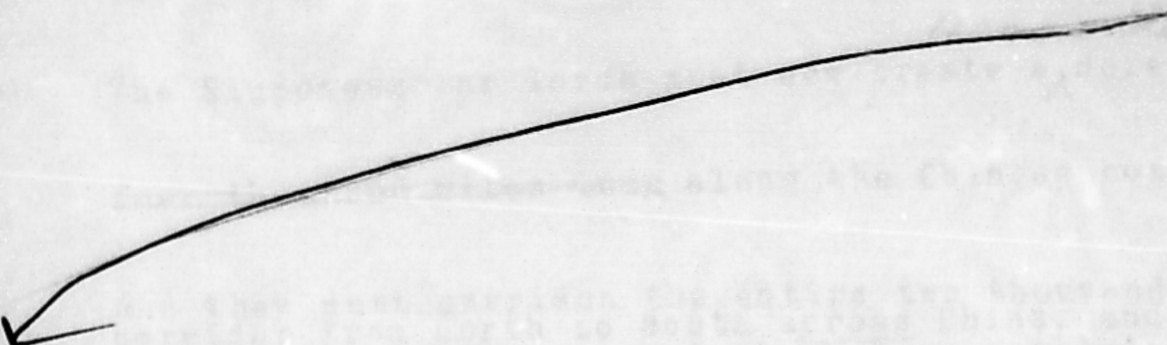
ones to be fought will decide the fate of Japan".

Then he added: "It seems that Japanese countermeasures are awaiting orders."

CHINA

The capture of Manila and other progress in the Philippines has already had an effect upon the Japanese on the Asiatic mainland. That, plus Allied successes in Burma. All this has forced the Japs to change their strategy and take the defensive instead of the offensive. So says General Wedemeyer, Commander of our forces in China, who today told correspondents that the Mikado's Generals are now feverishly hurrying defensive preparations. These they have been delaying for a long time because they thought they had plenty of time. But the events throughout the Philippines and Burma have completely changed the ~~fix~~ picture. The enemy now will have to base their strategy entirely upon defensive considerations. So says General Wedemeyer.

However, this has not prevented them from



breaking into the city of Kanhsien the day before yesterday. The Chinese garrison ^{there} is now fighting them in the streets. Kanhsien is in the southern part of the Province of Kiangsi. We had an air base there, but ~~we had to~~ ^{it was} abandoned and destroyed a week ago.

The Japanese are already suffering from interference with their supply lines. The Fourteenth Air Force continues to make devastating attacks on their railway and highway transport, as well as other communications. They will feel the consequences of those operations more and more. ~~The~~

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The Chinese believe that the success of MacArthur in the Philippines has already cost Japan the chance of opening a decisive battle on the mainland. The Nipponese war lords must now create a ^{4000 mile} defense line ~~four thousand miles long~~ along the Chinese coasts.

And they must garrison the entire two thousand mile corridor from north to south across China, and defend it not only from air but from ~~guerrilla~~ guerrilla attacks.

SUPERFORTS

B 29s
~~Our superfortresses~~ have again bombed
^

Japanese factories and shipping on the island of
Honshu. Early today they raided Kobe, two hundred
and sixty miles west of Tokyo, for the fifth day
in succession. So says the Tokyo radio. Tokyo also
reported that B-29s dropped bombs one hundred and
thirty miles northwest of Saigon, in Indo-China,
yesterday.

— 0 —
Now a message from Stan. A
Cal. — then back to the news.

WESTERN FRONT

The expected Allied offensive on the western front began tonight. Montgomery's ^{divisions} ~~outfit~~ began getting under way. ~~Monty~~ ~~the big push, Montgomery~~ of El Alamein. It began with the Canadians and British, ~~of the First Army~~ backed up by ^{the American} ~~our own~~ Ninth, under General Simpson.

All day Monty began his preparations in characteristic fashion. An artillery barrage backed up by a thousand allied planes that battered German targets on the front line, some of them less than half a mile away from the Allied front line.

All day we have been getting intimations that the big push was about to begin on ^{that} ~~Monty's~~ part of the ~~western~~ front. As a matter of fact, the Germans have been expecting it for several days.

^{TP} ~~But~~ All day the atmosphere was tense at Supreme Allied headquarters, in Paris. Although both the American First and the American Third Armies made

advances of substantial importance, all eyes were

~~on that~~
~~cocked at the~~ northern end of the line. At this

moment, the ~~entire~~ western front is blazing, for

~~a width of one~~^a hundred-and-fifty ~~is five~~ miles.

The Canadians ~~opened the battle~~^{struck first,} and immediately

pushed ahead ~~was nearly~~^{some} two miles. They would have

gone faster, but, the thaw that set in ~~sodded the~~
~~ground and~~ made it soupy for the tanks and infantry.

The point of the Canadian attack is east of Nijmegen.

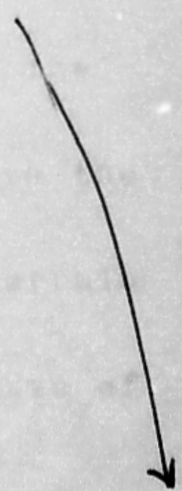
Simultaneous with this, General ~~George~~ Patton's
Third Army opened a new offensive, ~~and these Yanks~~^{and}
~~too are pushing ahead,~~ punched new holes in the

Siegfried Line. General Bradley and General Patton
also had the help of air attack by a thousand planes
that dropped their bombs on front line German targets
less than half a miles away from our positions.

Meanwhile the men of the U.S. First Army drew
closer to the heart of the German defenses that guard

Cologne, the network of big dams and reservoirs which control the level of the water in the Roer River.

The fight for these dams is a ticklish job. We already have several of them, but the Germans



have still ~~in~~ control of enough of them to let loose a terrific tidalwave down the valley, if the Allies were to advance before capturing the dams. Aside from sweeping away whole divisions with equipment, the hundred and sixty five million cubic feet which the Nazis would use against us, would leave the terrain between our front lines at Cologne, a soggy mass of mud.

The Germans for their part, sent no fewer than six counterattacks against the soldiers of General Patton's Third Army along a forty mile front. Patton's men drove them back and pushed ahead. They are now within a mile of Prim, ~~which is~~ the hub of the transport lines that supply the German divisions on the southern end of the West Wall.

~~But the correspondents report that there is no mistaking where the big interest of Supreme Allied~~

BOOBY TRAP

~~One of the late stunts of the Nazis was to turn a wounded American soldier into a living booby~~


~~trap.~~ Private William H. Edwards of Hayti, Missouri, fighting with the Fourth Infantry Division, stepped on a land mine in the Huertgen forest, and it blew his right foot ~~clean~~ off. That night he lay in pain near the Nazi lines. His whereabouts was reported to the medical corps, and stretcher bearers were crawling towards him. The Nazis caught sight of them, ~~and~~ opened fire, ^{and} drove them off. Later three patrolling Germans came across him. They refused to give him any water, went through his clothes and stole all his ~~xx~~ cigarettes. Then they turned him into a living booby trap by putting a land mine under his body and wiring it tight to him. The idea was that when the rescuers tried to lift him off the ground the mine would blow them all to pieces.

Edwards had to lie on that mine for almost twenty-four hours. Although he never expected to leave the forest alive, he forced himself to keep awake because he was afraid that if the medical corpsmen found him when he was unconscious, they would spring the booby trap and blow ^{all of} ~~themselves~~ to pieces. It was not until two o'clock in the morning of the following day that ^{some how} ~~a couple of~~ soldiers found him and he was able to warn them about the mine. — that the Nazis had used him as a living booby trap.

RUSSIA

Tonight one Red army has Kustreen surrounded, and another is bearing down on the Baltic port of Stetteen. Protecting Stetteen is the town of Stargart, which the Nazis have built into a strong fortress. One wing of the First White Russian Army is advancing rapidly towards Stargart on an eighteen-mile front. Those divisions have advanced fifteen to twenty-two miles since yesterday. On the way they have occupied more than one hundred towns and villages in Pomerania.

But the main fighting at the moment is for Kustreen, only thirty-eight miles from Berlin. The Nazis ~~themselves~~ admit that Marshal Zhukov's tanks are in the streets of Kustreen. Two columns of the White Russian army crossed the Oder River on either side of Kustreen and joined forces to the west of the fortress, thus completing the circle. Another army is about to surround another German strongpoint sixteen miles to the south, the



fortress of Frankfurt-on-the-Oder. Three miles below there still another Russian army has widened its bridgehead on the west bank of the Oder. More Soviet troops are besieging still another town forty-three miles away from Berlin. Zhukov is throwing ^{more and more} ~~fresh~~

reinforcements into the battle ~~all along~~ ^{far Berlin, P} ~~^~~ ~~^~~ Meanwhile

the First Army of the Ukraine under Marshal Konev is ~~is~~ drawing a ring of steel around Breslau, and other ~~Red~~

divisions are advancing toward the border of Czechoslovak ^{ia} ~~^~~

Breslau is under heavy artillery fire from both the East and the South, and the Russians will soon have

~~cut its~~ communications ^{cut between} ~~with~~ Berlin and Dresden. ^P The

Red divisions are having a hard time on the upper

reaches of the Oder because ^{of} a thaw ^{that has let} ~~set in letting~~

loose ice-floes from the Carpathian mountains. ~~These~~

^{floating ice has} swept away some of the pontoon bridges ^{erected by} of the Russian

[^] ~~—~~ which they now are hurrying to Army. ~~The engineers are at work day and night rebuilding bridges.~~

The latest ~~with~~ report is that Heinrich Himmler head of the ~~Gestapo~~ Gestapo has taken command of an army unit in the field against the Russians to stop the Soviet drive. If ~~it were~~ true, that would be a weird development. Himmler to begin with was a Nazi schoolmaster. His methods in the classroom apparently recommended him as head of the unbelievably cruel Gestapo. *And then* ~~he was so general that~~ Hitler made him commander-in-chief of the home front. ~~So now he~~ *now* ~~becomes~~ a General in the army - if the story is true. --
~~and anything might be true now.~~

~~But~~ Here's a story that really has good substance, even if it does come from Sweden, where they manufacture a lot of rumors. A British air fleet, a great armada of one thousand planes, ~~was~~ reported flying south over the west coast of Sweden this evening; ~~it would be~~ flying in the direction of

Stetteen, to back up the Russian attack on that

Baltic port.

Since June Sixth, P-Day to be ready, the British
and Americans have taken no fewer than eight hundred
and sixty-five thousand German prisoners. And that
not including ~~their~~ killed and wounded.

On the other hand, the United States forces have
suffered since Pearl Harbor, a total of seven hundred
and sixty-four thousand, eight hundred and thirty-two
killed, wounded and prisoners. That includes both Army
and Navy, in all theatres of war.

CASUALTIES

Since June Sixth, D-Day in Normandy, the British and Americans have taken no fewer than eight hundred and sixty-five thousand German prisoners. ~~And that~~
Not including
~~takes no account of~~ their killed and wounded.

On the other hand, the United States forces have suffered, since Pearl Harbor, a total of seven hundred and sixty-four thousand, eight hundred and thirty-two killed, wounded and prisoners. That includes both Army and Navy, in all theatres of war.

BIG THREE

The news from the conference of President

Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin is

still - well, there isn't much of it.

~~is decidedly skimpy~~ Moscow reports that the Big Three

are discussing how Germany is to be governed under the

three armies of occupation, British, American and

Russian. They also are deliberating ^{on} the postwar

organization to take the place of the League of Nations.

And -

it is ~~also~~ reported that they are going to take up

the question of European frontiers. Cairo ^{says} ~~also reported~~

~~that~~ the three foreign ministers, Stettinius, Anthony

Eden and Commissar Molotov, are drawing up formal

agreements for the control of Germany and the

preservation of the peace of the world.

AWOL

The United States courtmartial ~~sitting~~^{sitting} in Paris has condemned ten more ~~xxx~~ enlisted men ~~on~~ a dishonorable charge ~~and~~^{with} prison terms of ~~xxxx~~ from three to ten years. This they get for being AWOL, looting Army supply trains, and selling the stuff in the black market. They had all pleaded guilty to illegally dealing in cigarettes.

So far the courtmartial has tried one hundred and forty-five enlisted men and two officers. The Army prosecutor announced today that he is investigating a battalion commander charged with neglect of duty *who* ~~he~~ will probably be brought to trial on the accusation of having shared in the black market operations. That battallion is known in Paris and throughout the Western ~~xxxx~~ Front armies as "Marlin's Eight Hundred Thieves." [^] The battalion commander at present is fighting in Belgium.

HART

For the first time in history, so far as I know, an Admiral of the United States Navy will sit in the Senate of the United States -- Admiral Thomas C. Hart, Governor Baldwin of Connecticut today appointed him to succeed the late Senator Francis Maloney. First, the Connecticut Legislature passed a special bill authorizing the Governor to make an appointment to the vacancy.

Admiral Hart is a former Commander-in-Chief of the Asiatic Fleet. Back in Nineteen Thirty-nine. Three years later he became Commander of the Allied Naval forces under Field Marshal Wavel -- in January Nineteen Forty-two. He resigned a month later; and since then Admiral Hart has been a member of the General Board of the Navy. Now he goes to the U.S. Senate.

SINATRA

Among the Bobby Socks Legions all over the land you can hear weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth tonight. Their idol, Frank Sinatra, is on Governors Island -- an Army base. To be there several days so the medical officers can have him under observation and decide whether he's fit for active service or not.

Before he left for Governors Island, he had to face a crowd of Bobby Soxers -- a crowd that had stood around in snow, sleet and rain for five hours in Newark, outside the armory, waiting to catch sight of their Dream Man. When he came out they swooped on him, tore his clothes, and mauled him about and mushed him up generally. One of them screamed: "They can't take him away from me!" But they did.

Finally his escort tore him away, got him into a station wagon, and the Army took him to the haven of Governors Island.

Sinatra originally was classified 4-F because of a punctured eardrum. Now the Army doctors want to

determine whether a punctured eardrum really renders
a man unfit for fighting.

And now Hugh.