

PACIFIC

But how about Iwo Jima? Well
On Iwo, the Japs ^{there is a} ~~are~~ desperate ^{plight.} ~~and more~~

~~fanatical than ever.~~ ^{They are} Keeping up an unceasing series of attempts to filter through the Marine lines, also, suicide counter-attacks. In the last twenty-three hours the Marines killed more than four hundred of them.

So far these counter-attacks and infiltrations have been on a small scale; but, the Leathernecks are prepared for a suicide attack by the entire garrison, in force.

AD PACIFIC

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News from the war in the Pacific and Asia is brief and terse tonight. Navy Secretary Forrestal has just returned from a journey of twenty-one thousand miles, visiting all our bases in the Pacific. He reports that by last Saturday, no fewer than two-thousand-and-fifty Marines had been killed on Iwo Jima. But the Japs killed up to Six o'clock Saturday evening numbered twelve thousand eight hundred and sixty four. That makes the battle for Iwo the most deadly that our fighting men have yet had to attempt. ~~But our High Command knew the base could not be taken without extremely severe casualties.~~ ^{TP said} Secretary

Forrestal: ~~said~~: "The fact that any American dies is not easily faced, but these casualties are not out of proportion to the importance of taking that island."

Another item from Washington is that ten of our Super Forts have raided Japan again. They were over Tokyo for two hours shortly after midnight, following Sunday's raids of over two hundred Forts based on Saipan.

From China comes word that Fighter-Bombers of the ~~United States~~ Fourteenth Air Forces have destroyed the headquarters of the ~~Hipponese~~ Japanese Army at Hanoi, in French Indo China, ^{also} an airfield and ^a railroad bridge.

JAPAN

The people of the Japanese homeland are now beginning to feel, right where they live, the consequence of ~~picking a fight with the United States~~. *getting into this war with Uncle Sam.* The official government-controlled news agency published an acknowledgment that the subjects of the Mikado are being prepared for the possibility of being invaded for the first time since the Thirteenth Century.

This is news indeed, because it is a complete contradiction of all the propaganda of the Tokyo government up to now. The Nipponese war clique adopted the same line that Hitler followed when he told the Germans he had made the Reich so strong that an invasion was "ausgeschlossen" - out of the question. The Tokyo gang ^{sters} told their people that the British and Americans could never even get through the inner perimeter of the defense islands around Japan. But the landing on Iwo and the raids on Tokyo by Superforts and carrier planes,

made it necessary for the Tokyo Propaganda Ministry to ~~eat crow~~ *change that tune.*

The new propaganda line is conveyed in the slogan, "Let them come, we are prepared." The broadcast reminded the Japanese of the Year Twelve Hundred and Ninety-One, when the great Mongol, Kublai Khan, started an invasion. The Mongolians, according to the Propaganda Ministry, were driven off by a living wall of the Japanese people. The truth is that Kublai ^{Khan's} fleet was scattered by a terrific storm, such as that which broke up the Spanish Armada in a different part of the world almost three centuries later. But then, propaganda cannot afford to be fettered in the shackles of historical facts.

BURMA FOLLOW PACIFIC

News from
~~Progress in western~~ Burma! The First

British Indian Army has seized ^a ~~the~~ place called

Meiktila. *This is important* [↑] ~~That~~ amounts to something because it ^{includes} ~~has~~

eight air fields. ~~Then it pushed eastward to Thazi,~~

~~and that virtually traps~~ No fewer than thirty thousand

^s ~~Japanese fighting men~~ *are trapped too.* ~~probably the main bulk of the~~

~~enemy forces keeping the Allies out of Mandalay.~~

~~That's the climax of a march that started~~

~~only ten days ago. In that time,~~ The Indian First

Army has pushed ahead eighty-two miles, an ~~xxxxx~~

average of more than eight miles ~~xxx~~ a day. Meiktila

is eighty miles southwest of Mandalay. It fell

after a battle of five days, culminating in fierce

hand to hand fighting in the streets. The allies

now have Mandalay surrounded.

*Hugh, how about your message
from Stan. of Cal.*

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1945

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

American troops in the city of Cologne, fourth largest in Germany. They are in the Western part of that great city which straddles the Rhine. The heart of the city is in flames.

Stories from the front report that the Germans have abandoned the residential sections, on the west bank of the river.

The most important part of the city built by the Roman Emperor Claudius in the year Fifty A.D., is on the west bank.

Claudius named Cologne after his wife, who, by the way, was the mother of Nero. In those days the Romans fortified it as a bridgehead -- an outpost against the Teutonic barbarians.

When the old Roman wall was finally torn down, the Germans built a wide boulevard called the Ring Street, which formed a semi-circle around the heart of the city. Inside that ring, the Nazi garrison has withdrawn -- at any rate, so the Allied command assumes. They believe the Nazis have withdrawn most of their troops to the east bank, leaving a small garrison to fight it out to the finish -- make it a German Stalingrad

There was a terrific explosion shortly after noon. The Nazis destroying the great Hohenzollern Bridge, the last one left standing.

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The first Americans to enter Cologne were the so-called Timberwolves, the Hundred and Fourth Division, under Major General Terry Allen. They entered from the west. Later, the Third armored division rolled into the city from the northwest, having advanced some two miles right through the German lines. A U.P. correspondent reported that before noon today it looked as though the

entire First Army was pouring into Cologne.

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No fewer than three American columns led by tanks are in Cologne tonight. They are less than two miles away from the great ~~xxxxx~~ cathedral. The Yanks now hold one third of the city and American officers are predicting that we may hear of the fall of Cologne within a few hours.

The Allies are now occupying seventy seven miles of the West bank of the Rhine from Nijmegen, interrupted only by the ten miles bridgehead which the Germans hold at Wesel.

(pronounced Vasel)

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Apparently the residential part of the city is still standing. But Allied bombs and shells have destroyed eighty-five percent of the business and industrial part.

Above Ccologne, General Simpson's Ninth Army is driving toward a place called Rhineberg, four miles

north of a ferry crossing. There the Yanks have a German column squeezed into a bridgehead only fourteen miles wide; ~~that is~~ the last German force remaining west of the Rhine above Cologne.

The Nazis have destroyed three more bridges between Homberg and Duisburg. Other columns of the Ninth Army are attacking the German rear guard at strong points all along the line.

North of the Ninth Army, the Canadian First is fighting its way towards a forest five miles west of Rhineberg, and has driven wedges into the Nazi bridgehead. Allied medium bombers are hammering the main bridge at Wesel, which carries two highways and one railway. But late this afternoon the bridge was still standing.

On a wide section of the front, the Germans are escaping across the Rhine in barges. Dispatches talk of

the Nazi resistance as demoralized, disorganized and disintegrating. But the fact seems to be that here, as everywhere else, the enemy is retreating in fairly good order. It must be remembered that everywhere but at Stalingrad, the German generals have been able to extricate the mass of their armies and afterwards to reform and reorganize them. *Says the U. P. reporter: -* In the excitement of the moment, it is an almost irresistible temptation to cable home that the enemy is fleeing in disorder and his armies are in a state of chaos. But in this war subsequent events have usually failed to corroborate such enthusiasm.

General Patton's Third army must be up to something exciting, because there is a news blackout over the movements of his advance guards. *However* ~~But~~ we do know that the Third advanced three and a half miles during the day and captured eleven more German towns. The Yanks of the Third widened their bridgehead against the Kyll River.

RUSSIA

On the Eastern Front, the big news tonight is that the First White Russian Army has captured Stargard, ~~that, you may recall, is the~~ walled city ^{defending} ~~which protects~~ the great seaport of Stettin, ^{Stargard was} the last important strong point between the Russians and Stettin. North of there, Marshal Zhukov's divisions have seized Naugard, a highway junction. And that promises to seal off the garrison of Stettin on that side.

It took Zhukov only five days to take Stargard. Moscow reports that the German resistance has become almost paralyzed, and that the final assault was easy. In addition to being a strong fortress, Stargard was a center of twelve roads. It gives the Russians possession of a double track railroad and a parallel highway all the way into the outskirts of Stettin. By taking Naugard, Zhukov has cut the last remaining stretch of ~~the~~ railroad between Stettin and Danzig.

The Germans who are left east of the Oder now have to fall back on the network of secondary roads. Stettin is also threatened from the southeast.

The First White Russian Army has captured a hundred and fifty other towns, while the Second White Russian Army on its eastern flank has taken eighty. The two are only four miles away from each other at one point.

One hundred miles away, the Second White Russian ^{Army} ~~is~~ ^{is} crushing the Germans along what used to be the Polish Corridor. Danzig is now completely isolated, and the Soviet armies have captured several more towns on the approaches. ^{Also, in East} ~~In East Russia~~ ^{Russia}, the Red armies are steadily annihilating the Nazis in a pocket southwest of Koenigsberg.

GERMANY

A Swedish newspaper reports rioting in the streets of Stralsund, one of the German Baltic seaports, and an important naval base. According to the Stockholm story, there was a pitched battle between sailors of the fleet and military police, S.S. troops. We shouldn't put too much hope in this, but it is interesting to recall that the collapse in Germany, in Nineteen Eighteen, began in the Imperial Fleet, at Kiel.

~~The affair at Stralsund is supposed to have started when the S.S. guards arrested a number of deserters from the fleet, and took them through the streets, handcuffed. A crowd composed principally of sailors, gave battle to the guards, freed the prisoners, and put the M.P.'s to flight.~~

Allied supreme headquarters reports that the underground army, in Denmark, is becoming more active. Danish patriots have successfully sabotaged the movements of German ~~xxx~~ troop trains through Denmark.

From the Nazis themselves we learn today one fact which points to conditions inside Germany. Ax

A broadcast from ^{the} Berlin radio station announced that the Ministry of Food has forbidden the Germans to ~~ff~~ feed their chickens with either corn or potatoes after April First. This admittedly is an attempt to make up for the ~~sh~~ shrinking food supply in Hitler's Fatherland. What is more, nobody after that ~~at~~ date will be allowed to ~~keep~~ geese, ducks, or turkeys. No household may keep more than one chicken.

ITALY

News from the Italian front for a change. On the Adriatic end of the line, the Eighth Army began a frontal attack on the Nazi fortifications along the coast. Further inland, the Fifth occupied Monte Della Croce, a hill overlooking the highway from Pistoia to Bologna. Italian troops took an important part in the operations of the Eighth and British General McCreery sent a message to the Italian Commander congratulating him.

On the other end of the line, three French warships went into action and bombarded a railway tunnel on the frontier between France and Italy, on the Mediterranean coast. But the chief excitement in Italy today was over the escape from prison of the Fascist General Mario Roatta; ~~he had~~ twice ~~been~~ Chief of the Italian Staff under Mussolini. He had even kept his job after Italy surrendered, being a close friend of Marshal Badoglio. Badoglio fired him late in Nineteen Forty Three and last November the present Italian

government arrested him as a war criminal. He was imprisoned in the notorious Regina Coeli jail. He escaped from the hospital last night. His wife was there at the time he escaped, and this morning the Roman police arrested her.

Drop

The radio in the capitol of Bulgaria reported today that a trial court has sentenced sixty Fascist traitors to death, sixty out of one hundred and thirteen who were on trial. Fourteen got imprisonment for life, and twenty-five lighter sentences. Only thirteen were acquitted.

balls, because Congressmen like him. He served in the House for fourteen years and is particularly popular among the Republicans and Southern Democrats, who have no use for Wallace.

Washington gossips today were discussing the possibility that Vinson's successor as Economic Stabilizer may be William H. Davis, Chairman of the War Labor Board. If that is true, it will be cheered by labor. —

And now H — a cheer or something from you

VINSON

By selecting Fred Vinson as head of the Federal Loan Agencies, President Roosevelt seems to have accomplished the unusual feat of pleasing everybody.

On this point, Jesse Jones and Henry Wallace are agreed, something that hasn't happened at Washington for a couple of years. Jones pronounced it an excellent appointment, and Wallace is sure Vinson will render the people a great service.

Then, again, organized labor is delighted.

For when Fred Vinson becomes Federal Loan Administrator, he will cease to be Economic Stabilization Director. That means he will no longer stand in the way of the desire of the War Labor Board to raise people's wages.

An informal canvass of Congressman shows a general approval of Vinson in his new capacity.

There seems little doubt that the Senate will confirm it.

Vinson will begin his new job with a base on

BIG THREE

from Washington, ^{that about}
We learn today ~~that nobody has already drawn up~~

the rules to be followed by the Security Council of the
new League of Nations in settling international disputes;-

~~We are not told who drafted these rules but it may be
presumed that they are ^{that} the result of the Yalta Conference.~~

The first rule is that any one member of the Big Five,
the United States, Britain, Russia, China or France, can
veto the use of force or sanctions either against itself
or against any other country involved in the dispute.

That means that the ^{new} League will be impotent to stop an
aggressor nation by either force or sanctions if the
aggressor nation happens to be one of the Big Five. For
it is hardly to be assumed that any country is going to
vote against itself. The use of force has to be okayed by
not only all of the Big Five unanimously, but also two ~~like~~
other members of the subordinate council of eleven nations.

Another rule govern^sment preliminary attempts to

settle disputes peacefully. By this rule, no country, either large or small, would have a vote in any dispute concerning itself. For instance, suppose Uncle Sam gets into a disagreement with another nation. He will not be able to stop an investigation by the Council or any attempt to settle the dispute peacefully. He will not have any vote. But, if the Council proposes using force against the United States, then the United States can veto it even if all the others are unanimous. ^R Those ~~two~~ are two of the rules which will be the keystone of the new League. ~~of~~

And they are
~~These~~ ~~They're~~ the result of a compromise proposed by President Roosevelt and accepted by Churchill and Stalin at Yalta. China has also accepted them. The rest of the ~~League of~~ Nations will vote upon them next month at San Francisco. ^R Incidentally, no fewer than thirty-nine nations will be represented at the Golden Gate next month. The only government in the Western Hemisphere without a representative will be Argentina.

Obviously the veto business means that there can be no action by the ^{Nations}~~League~~ to stop aggression by any one of the five biggest nations. The original proposal put up to the meeting at Dumbarton Oaks last year was quite different. It provided that a majority vote of the Council would throw the forces of the ^{Nations}~~League~~ against an aggressor. Russia stood out against that, last year, and at Yalta, Stalin was obdurate. Neither Winston Churchill nor Mr. Roosevelt wanted any major power to have veto privileges. But Stalin could not see it that way.

Poland will not be represented at San Francisco. No invitation will be issued until Poland has its new government on the broad democratic basis that was discussed by the Big Three at Yalta.

Late this afternoon the government of General Charles DeGaulle notified, Washington, London and Moscow that it was backing him up.

Last Wednesday the Cabinet at Paris overruled DeGaulle and agreed to be one of the sponsor nations of the conference at San Francisco on April twenty-fifth.

Today, DeGaulle's government reversed itself, backed up its Chief, and declines to be a sponsor.

Nevertheless, France will be represented at San Francisco next month.

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BASES

Many Congressmen and others have been interested in the prospect of using for air transport after the war the air and naval bases the United States has leased on foreign soil. Some legislators have suggested that we should assert sovereignty of these bases where we have built facilities at such a huge cost. It turns out today that Uncle Sam has virtually no post-war contractual rights at those bases. Attorney General Biddle says this in a report to Congress.

But the Attorney General is not pessimistic about it. He says it doesn't matter much, because the right to use those bases for international air traffic after the war should be obtained without difficulty, that is, provided the United States promotes a sound international^l air network. Biddle suggests an international agreement making those fields available to all commercial lines after the fighting is over.