

P.M. - Standard. Thurs. March 11, 1945.
Sunoco.

(1)

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY

For the first time the Allies are in possession of one of the great manufacturing cities of the Ruhr: Muenchen-Gladbach, the steel center -- between Cologne and Dusseldorf. General Simpson's men of the Ninth Army took it after a two-day battle. A surprisingly quick victory when you consider how much store the Germans set on their war plants in the Ruhr and how they fortified them.

For two days there had been a news blackout concerning the operations of the Ninth. In addition to taking the steel city, the advance armor of General Simpson is fighting the Nazis only four miles from the suburbs of Dusseldorf. The Ninth took several other towns, including the place where Goebbels was born.

As for the siege of Cologne, General Hodges and his First Army, with tanks and assault troops, captured four places in front of the Cathedral City, fighting through miles of fortified mine pits and quarries. American guns are now bombarding the bridges across the Rhine, the bridges on which Cologne depends for supplies -- also the power plant five miles west of the city, one of the biggest in the world.

Other columns are fighting inside ~~Trier~~ Trier, *that ancient Roman fortress* and we may hear of the capture of ~~Trier~~ any day now. Four ~~xxxx~~ tank columns of Patton's Tenth Armored Division are attacking there, and at least two of them are already inside the city. Only a few suicide Nazi troops are ~~ix~~ left inside. Patton's Third Army has *taken* ~~captured~~ thirty-one more towns on a fifty-five mile front.

AIR WAR

The air command has shifted its attacks from the Ruhr district to southwestern Germany. That gave rise to some speculations as to whether it indicated a new departure in Allied strategy. At any rate, no fewer than seven thousand Allied planes took ^{to} the air and attacked every railroad line in western and southern Germany.

RUSSIA - *for Bill Chaplin*

~~Tonight the Russians are closer to Stettin than~~
~~they were before.~~ Berlin ^{*says*} ~~itself~~ admitted that ~~the~~ tanks
of the First and Second White Russian armies have reached
the Ihna River, only thirty miles away from ^{*Stettin*} ~~that big port~~
on the Baltic.

The Nazis also report that the Red armies have
opened up new attacks on a twenty mile front in the
middle reaches of the Oder River between Frankfurt and
Kuestrin. There the First White Russian Army was already
only thirty-one miles away from Berlin. The Germans
claim that the Russian attempt to break through was
thrown back in the swamps northwest of Kuestrin.

In Pomerania, the Cossacks and tanks of the
Second White Russian Army under Marshal Rokossovsky,
are within sight of Koeslin (Koes-leen). Rokossovsky
is trying to close a third trap on the German armies in
the north. If ^{*he*} ~~Rokossovsky~~ succeeds, the Red armies will

have shut off between two and ~~two~~ three hundred thousand Germans, in three pockets, along the Baltic.

The Germans are said to be fighting almost as fanatically as the Japanese-- fighting to the bitter end rather than surrender.

Rokossovsky, by the way, ^{has now} ~~has~~ joined forces with the First White Russian Army of Marshal Zhukov.

On Iwo Jima, Uncle Sam's Marines now have all of the western end of the Third air strip on the island. They now have completely possession of all but two thousand yards of that airdrome on the northern tip of the island.

But the fighting is by no means over. However, this morning, a story from Guam reported the Leathernecks as having ~~xx~~ conquered the village of Motoyama, ~~xxxx~~ from which they are now going ahead to take the third air field on Iwo which the Japs were still constructing when the Yanks landed ~~xx~~ eleven days ago.

The Japanese are fighting desperately on that air field. It is protected by concrete pillboxes, block houses, and other types of fortified gun positions. In fact, the leathernecks have still hundreds of fortified positions to take.

PACIFIC

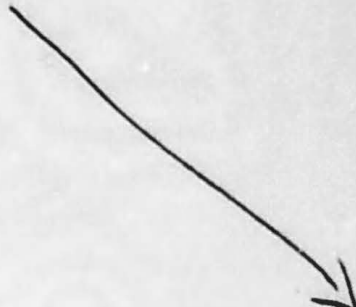
A graphic illustration of the desperate fighting on that island so near Japan comes in a report by Sergeant David Dempsey of New York City, a Marine Corps combat correspondent. In the capture of just one hill, not a large one, two hundred marines were killed and wounded in a day and a half of fighting. Twice they reached the top of the hill - the highest point on the northern part of the island. Twice they were driven off. The third time they held.

It was the night before it finally was captured. A platoon reached the summit, whereupon Japanese fire in their rear became so heavy that the units supporting those Marines on the summit couldn't get through. So the platoon on the rim of that old volcano cone was isolated. The Marines put down a smokescreen in trying to pull that platoon back. But it was a costly venture -- in Marine lives.

Tanks tried to get up the cone. But the slope was too tough.

Finally the Marines took the whole hill -- Hill Three Hundred and Eighty-two they call it. They took it by frontal attack; using bazookas at point-blank on enemy machine gun positions.

One item from the Pacific tells of an attack by our carrier planes on the Ryukyu Islands, just south of Japan. Radio Tokyo says the attack lasted at least six hours. Probably planes from Task Force



Fifty-Eight, which made those three great raids on Tokyo. The Japs say the American planes came over in clouds, and that they shot down thirty-one of them.

Later today Tokyo identified the target of our carrier planes as their big naval base on Okinawa, only three hundred and thirty miles from the main island of Japan.

PHILIPPINES

new copy

MacArthur has pulled off another bold stroke. With an amphibious operation, which achieved a complete surprise, he landed the Forty-First Infantry Division on the island of Palawan. In one breath, he announced the landing and its quick success. Already the men of the forty-first have control of the island. This wins us the valuable harbor of Puerto Princesa (puairto princhaisa) the capital of the island. It is a land-locked harbor, one of the finest in all the Philippines.

~~When
With it the Forty-First soldiers grabbed themselves~~

2
—
With it the Forty-First soldiers grabbed themselves two air fields nearby, and one of them has a runway five thousand feet long. So, we are now in a strong position, only two hundred and thirty miles north of Borneo. What is more, MacArthur has complete control of the narrowest part of the South China Sea, the Japanese life line for their troops in the Dutch ~~E~~ East Indies. MacArthur now has control of a

new copy

front of four hundred and sixty-five miles, all the way from Palawan north to Lingayen Gulf ~~is~~ on Luzon.

The Japanese garrison of Palawan was completely taken aback and offered very little resistance. As MacArthur puts it, "Engrossed in operations elsewhere, the enemy again failed to diagnose our plans and properly prepare his ~~for~~ defense".

JAPAN

A story from Tokyo indicates ^{another} a political crisis in Dai Nippon. Evidently, there has been a strong demand for a special session of Parliament, for some time.

Broadcasts today announced that the Cabinet has consented. At the same time, it reported that Admiral Kobayashi has resigned from the Cabinet to organize a new totalitarian party. It sounds as though a Cabinet crisis was impending, ~~meaning~~ meaning the exit of the government of General Premier Kōiso. Admiral Kobayashi is President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Society. That's an organization pledged to the most rigid and drastic kind of Fascist government. As president of that outfit, Kobayashi is ~~xxxxx~~ the most powerful man politically in the ~~Mikado's~~ Mikado's empire.

CHINA

Political news from Chungking. Chiang Kai-shek issued a call today for a National Peoples' Assembly, to meet on November Twelfth. That will be the Eightieth Anniversary of the birth of the late Sun Yat Sen, founder of the Chinese Republic. The purpose of the assembly will be to adopt a constitutional government for China. Chiang declares that the adoption of such a government will place all political parties on an equal footing, even including the Communists.

ROOSEVELT - ~~for Elmer Davis~~

President Roosevelt set another precedent when he appeared before both Houses of the Congress today and made his personal report of the Yalta Conference. To the members of both houses, in joint session, he gave them a word picture of his journey, and what transpired.

He also cleared up one point concerning the war with Japan: It was at Malta, before the Yalta Conference, that the British and American general Staffs got together to plan the next phase of the Pacific war. He said that phase of the global war did not come up either at Yalta or subsequently at Cairo.

"Unless you here in the halls of the American Congress, with the support of the American people," said the President, "concur in the decisions reached at Yalta and give them your active support, the meeting will not have produced lasting results."

One important sentence contained these words:

"It spells the end of the system of unilateral action

and exclusive alliances and spheres of influence and balances of power and all other expedients which have been tried for centuries -- and have failed."

Said he: "We propose to substitute for all of these a universal organization in which all peace-loving nations will finally have a chance to join."

The President stated that he was confident that Congress and the American people would accept the resolutions at Yalta as the beginnings of a permanent structure of peace. "If we do not cooperate with the world to keep the peace," he went on, "we shall have to shoulder the blame for the next world war!"

About the war itself, he said the German people ought to realize that the sooner they give up either by groups or as individuals, the sooner their present agony will be over. As for Japan, unconditional surrender is just as essential as with defeated Germany.

Whatever plan is drafted at San Francisco will doubtless have to be amended time and time again, said the President. But he believes it can be a peace

based on sound and just principles.

--o--

~~Add Roosevelt.~~
~~For L. T.~~

Like Churchill, the President in his address today was exceedingly optimistic about the Yalta conference. The decision about Poland, he admitted, was a compromise. Nevertheless, it was the most hopeful agreement possible for a free, independent and prosperous Polish state. Another interesting point he made was that France was not invited to Yalta because she is not one of the major military powers sharing the chief responsibility of the war.

--o--

The President, today, for the first time, sat while reading his message. Instead of standing in front of the Speakers' rostrum, he read from a desk placed in the well of the House. And his delivery was noticeably slower than usual, with pauses between sentences.

ADD ROOSEVELT

Shortly before the President made his report to our Congress, the British House of Commons gave Churchill a unanimous approval on the Crimea Conference. The vote -- four hundred and thirteen to nothing. Yes, not a single dissenting voice.

Another section provides that the American Foreign Ministers shall meet every year beginning in nineteen forty-seven.

CONFERENCE

At Mexico City, the Third Committee of the Inter-American Conference has already approved the first two sections of the plan for strengthening the inter-American system. That is, the plan presented by the delegations of the United States and Mexico. The idea of this program is to give the conference political powers to deal with such issues as the Argentine question. The sections okayed by the Committee call for meetings of the American Republics every four years, the first to be held in Bogota, Colombia, next year.

Another section provides that the American Foreign Ministers shall meet every year beginning in Nineteen Forty-Seven.

COAL

The coal situation is not encouraging.

Tonight we know one detail of the terms demanded by the miners. The Union wants to be paid royalties of ten cents a ton on all bituminous coal mined in the United States. At the present rate of production, this would mean an income, to the United Mine Workers, of sixty million dollars a year. John L. Lewis says they'd use the funds to provide medical and surgical service, hospitalization, insurance, rehabilitation, and economic protection for the miners.

STRIKE

The strike at Detroit has ~~been~~ grown to a point where twenty five thousands war workers are out tonight. If this goes on, the munitions factories will have to lay off more than one hundred and sixteen thousand people. All this because the workers resented the firing of a few people whom the management accused of being lazy and objective.

WALLACE

Henry Wallace is the new Secretary of Commerce. The fight is all over, the Seante confirmed the nomination this afternoon. President Roosevelt first signed the George Bill, which forbids Wallace to have anything to say about the Federal Loan Agencies.

At any rate, he has the job.

-----L.T.: - And after that one, let's say
solong until tomorrow.