

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The picture of the Western Front tonight is one of six huge Allied Armies attacking the Germans simultaneously in the Saar and Ruhr Valleys. The Germans themselves broadcast this to illustrate what they are having to face, in the West.

Correspondents say that on a front a hundred and fifty miles wide, in the Saar basin, the Nazis are on the verge of complete collapse, that it's just a matter of days. Also, Pattons Third is driving across the Moselle and the Seventh Army -- with the French First -- is attacking along a fifty mile front on the south.

According to Berlin, the U. S. Fifteenth, the new army we heard about for the first time the other day, commanded by Lieutenant general Leonard Gerow, has moved to Remagen to back up Hodges and the Ist Army at the Bridgehead over the Rhine. The purpose, as the Germans see it, is for the Fifteenth to advance north from

Remagen and join in the attack on the Rhur.

The Ninth, under General Simpson is already advancing into the Runr, across the Rhine at Duisburg. There is a new black-out on the British Second and the Canadian First, so we may assume they are either advancing far into the north German plain or getting ~~xxxx~~ ready for a big push.

Hodges 1st Army has occupies seven more German towns, making their biggest gains since they crossed the Ludendorf bridge. With one column now facing the Germans along the super highway from Cologne to Frankfurt-am-Main, with the artillery of both armies preventing either army from using the highway.

Two other columns of the First are ~~xx~~ also right up to the super highway, both fighting for possession of several towns. The bridgehead tonight is twelve miles wide and six miles deep; in the enemy country.

The Royal Air Force today made another one of its thundering attacks on the Ruhr. The big Lancasters dropping ~~xxx~~ eleven-ton earth-shakers on a railway viaduct. Yesterday they knocked out seven spans of the Bielefield viaduct, which ~~a~~ carries the only double trunk line leading out of the Ruhr.

An officer of the Fifteenth Air Force states that the Luftwaffe is still strong in point of numbers but that the Nazis can use only a few of their planes because of lack of gasoline. And Liberators and Flying Fortresses based on Italy, today again raided enemy synthetic oil plants.

Newsreel pictures as well as still photographs of ~~the~~ Cologne and other captured German ~~cities~~ cities prove pretty well that, by the time the war is over, it will have put a dent in post war tourist trade, because so many places have been flattened; so many of the historical monuments of old Germany smashed to pieces by air and artillery bombardment. With only one landmark left in Cologne -- the Cathedral.

March 15, 1945.

A story from the western front tells how an American Infantry major, by use of psychological warfare, captured a well fortified German town, with no bloodshed. The place called Wiltingen was literally surrounded by pill boxes as big as the average American house.

Taking the town by storm would have cost a heavy toll in American lives. So ^a Major Kaufman of Brunswick, Georgia, put a platoon of tank destroyers on a hill just across the Saar River from Wiltingen. Then he put a psychological warfare team to work with loud speakers. They told the Germans that they were about to attack and destroy the pill boxes one by one. ~~So~~ ^{So} the Germans, had better surrender, or else. Then he ~~Then they~~ added: "just as a demonstration, we ¹ will now destroy one of your pill boxes."

A salvo from a tank destroyer hit a pill box, which immediately fell apart. Thereupon the Americans saw white flags displayed on the bunkers. ^{and} The American soldiers of the Ninety-Fourth Infantry walked into Wiltingen without losing a man.

RUSSIA

The Nazi Berlin line is bending on a forty mile front. Under the Assaults of wave after wave of Russian tanks, and infantry. From Berlin broadcasts we can tell that Hitler's people now live in hourly expectation of the Russian war machine breaking through -- to Berlin.

So far, the only thing holding back Zhukov's White Russian Army is the German Artillery, a heavy curtain barrage. But they cannot keep that up forever. And Zhukov is throwing reinforcements into the battle in huge numbers. The Germans will soon be swamped; overwhelmed.

In East Prussia, the attacking Baltic Armies have broken through the outer defenses of those German pockets left on the coast. So we hear from Berlin.

They are also nearing the heart of Danzig and Gdynia. And southwest of Koenigsberg, seven Soviet Armies are attacking. The Nazis meanwhile are going to desperate lengths to prepare for Hitler's last stand in the Bavarian and Austrian Alps. They are attacking the Russians furiously in Hungary, southwest of Budapest, trying to recover their defense line along the Danube. They are throwing one assault after another at the

Russians along Lake Balotan, regardless of losses.

Virtually all the news from the Eastern Front comes from Berlin today. There is a news blackout from Moscow. Also bad weather has reduced the mobility of the Red Army and hampered communications, making it difficult to sum up the situation accurately.

The American Air Force is still helping the Russians. General Doolittle sending a thousand, three hundred and fifty Flying Forts and Liberators to the Berlin area, escorted by seven hundred and fifty fighters; the largest air fleet ever sent that far east. to bomb key rail yards ~~xxx~~ north and south of Berlin.

some seven hundred of those big bombers attacked Hitler's Supreme Headquarters at Tzoss n, twenty miles south of Berlin.

March 15, 1945.

War Secretary Stimson told newspapermen today that there can be no doubt that the Germans are desperate. *He says this* ~~that~~ is indicated by copies of orders ~~that have been found~~ on prisoners, one, ~~of which was~~ a command that all stragglers ~~must~~ be shot. The European war, said the Secretary, has reached a ~~very~~ critical stage on all fronts. *He added that* Since February twenty third, barely three weeks ago, the allies have captured a hundred and forty thousand German prisoners on the Western Front.

Today's news from Europe has been full of rumors that the Germans are trying to make peace. Like many other yarns, they come from Sweden. However, the Stockholm newspapers print categorical accounts. They insist that a German bearer of the Olive Branch, together with a Swedish intermediary, tried to get into contact with officials of the United States and British governments.

There have also been stories that Hitler himself some weeks ago made overtures to the British and was turned down flatly. That part of it certainly was true. Any overtures that the Nazis may have made were flatly rejected. The United Nations agree on one point. There are no terms for the end of the war except unconditional surrender on the part of our enemies.

March 15, 1945.

Winston Churchill today told the people of Britain that they may have less blood and fewer tears in the months to come. "Nevertheless," he added, "every man and every woman must be united in the resolution to give plenty of sweat, even after the end of the European war. The Prime Minister was in ^{an} optimistic mood, ^{He} said Germany may be beaten before the end of the summer, ^{or} ~~and even~~ ^{And that's} sooner. ~~Sumner~~ ^{earlier than} ~~the most conservative~~ ^{our own top} officers ~~in the United States~~ have calculated.

Churchill went on to talk about the war against Japan. The British have to finish that war, said he, and play their part not merely as loyal allies but also to regain lost territories. The scale in the war against Japan, he explained, is not limited by manpower, which will be readily forthcoming. But it is limited by logistics - shipping and other means of transport over vast ocean spaces and through steaming jungles.

The British Prime Minister spoke one paragraph in which he politely told the Russians and ourselves to mind our own business.

He used these words: "we have no need to seek advice, even of our most honored allies, as to how we shall conduct ourselves with regard to our affairs."

Well, let's take a look at that Pacific war. — after we hear a word from Stan. ex Calif.

March 15, 1945

The Japanese tonight are waiting anxiously in expectation of another Amphibious operation, ~~by our forces~~. The Tokyo radio ~~has~~ ^{been} broadcast ^{ing} that another American invasion fleet ~~has~~ ⁵ been spotted north of Iwo, evidently getting ready to make a new landing closer to Japan itself.

Tokyo also reported ⁵ ~~that~~ ⁵ that the British Pacific Fleet ~~has~~ ⁵ joined in the bombardment of southwestern Mindanao, with three Battleships, three Cruisers and six Destroyers. Tokyo ~~also tells of~~ ^{also} ~~that there were also~~ ten transports in the neighborhood. ~~But as our own High Command says~~ ^{it} nothing about ~~that, we may assume that this is a mistake.~~

And, The Japanese government today announced the voluntary evacuation from five cities, Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe, of not only children, but all civilians non-essential to war work.

⁴ ~~They also~~ ^{now} expect a new invasion, somewhere in the Bonins, between Iwo and the Japanese homeland. Admiral Nimitz's Carrier planes have been attacking the principal islands of the Bonins ~~constantly~~ for several days. ~~The Mikado's people no longer conceal their anxiety over the damage that our Superforts and Carrier plane raids have wreaked.~~

March 15, 1945.

As The Marines on Iwo have ~~done most of their job. They are still~~
continued to cleaning out some pockets of ~~Japanese~~ *Japs*, but they are still
~~in the extreme north~~

Admiral ~~Richmond~~ *Turner* pointed out today that in twenty-
five days of fighting for Iwo, the Americans have lost less than
one-fifth of the number of Japanese killed. Fewer than four
thousand Americans perished as against more than twenty thousand *Japs*.
~~estimated~~ *have just* The Marines on Iwo had the pleasure of seeing *more* ~~the first~~
practical results of their achievement. A Superfort appeared *ing*
suddenly ~~out of the sky and~~ *for* made an emergency landing on Iwo's
airfield number two.

The British Admiralty today announced that King George's undersea
boats in the Pacific have sunk seventy-four Jap vessels and damaged
twenty-five others.

ina One British submarine alone, ~~running gun~~ battle off the island of
Sumatra, wiped out an entire convoy of six ships.

March 15, 1945.

25) ^{an}
~~The~~ attempt of the Japanese high command to land troops in Batangas Bay ^{turned out to be} ~~a~~ spectacular flop. Batangas ^{Bay} ~~is~~ is in southwestern Luzon. MacArthur's men were busy cleaning up the shore, wiping out the last remnants of Japanese pockets. While they were at it, the Japanese tried to steal a leaf out of our book, ^{— they} attempted an amphibious operation. ~~They~~ ~~did not get to shore~~. Artillery fire quickly destroyed the Japanese barges, crowded with troops, and the combat team of the Hundred and Fifty-Eighth Regiment pounced upon the Japs and quickly polished them off.

MacArthur also reports that his divisions in Mindanao tonight have complete control of the whole southern end of Zamboanga peninsula.

~~Another bit of news from this area is that~~ The Australians have landed troops on the northwest coast of the island of Bougainville in the Solomons. It was an amphibious landing, like the others of the Allies, and the beginning of a final push to shove the Japanese ~~off~~ ^{on} Bougainville into the sea.

March 15, 1945.

MacArthur's
~~The tanks of the~~ Forty-First Division now ^{holds} a bridgehead ^{of some} thirty square miles in south western Mindanao. Naval guns and planes carried on a heavy bombardment today, putting out of action battery after battery of Japanese artillery ~~that they had placed in~~ concealed ~~positions~~ in the hills. After the bombardment, the *Americans*

~~charged and~~ advanced into the hills of the Zamboanga peninsula. ~~At~~

They had
~~been necessary~~ to capture those hills in order to stop the Japs *bombarding our new airfields on Mindanao,* from firing on the ~~airmen,~~ which they had been doing.

TP *And here* another ~~one~~ of the amazing adventure stories with which

the news of this war has been so full. The Twenty-Fifth Division was advancing up a hill on northern Luzon. Among them were six men from a flame thrower squad including Clifford ~~of~~ Harmon of Hageman, Idaho.

When they were almost on top of ~~the hill~~ *the hill*, the enemy started throwing grenades. The *Americans* took shelter in shell holes and started *— throwing them back,* playing ball with the grenades ~~for hours the morning~~. Finally, Harmon

and the men with him went over the hill and found the Japs entrenched in a cave system ~~under a pile of boulders~~.

Harmon threw a squirt of flame into a hole and three of the ~~enemy~~ *Japs* ran out. Then he gave them a burst of flame from behind and the pressure lifted the

Japs twenty-five feet in the air and threw them to the bottom of the *hill.*

hish.

Then the rest ~~of them~~ started to ~~go~~^{come} out. ~~The~~^{But} entrance was so narrow that only one could get out at a time. So Harmon was able to kill them all, twenty six of them, in five minutes. Twenty-three dead Japs were stacked up ~~at the entrance~~^{at} the entrance to the cave. By that time he had exhausted the fuel in his flame thrower. A Jap jumped at him out of a hole, and Harmon smashed him in the face with the butt of the flame thrower, and then finished him off. Another stuck his head up, and Harmon hit him with a hand grenade, which blew the Jap completely out of the hole.

~~All in all, the men of Harmon's detachment killed fifty-two of the enemy when they took that hill.~~

March 15, 1945.

There is a possibility that the Screen Actors may join the movie strike in Hollywood. They are taking a vote tonight about it. The Screen Actors Guild, which comprises eight thousand players including stars and small fry, has left it up to every member of the guild so far to make his or her own decision. Practically all of them reported for work, but several ~~of them~~ declared that they hated to pass picket lines.

~~All this meanwhile is no strike against the employers but a fight between two unions.~~

March 15, 1945.

One of the minor excitements in tonight's news is provided by the resignation of his Royal Highness, the Duke of Windsor, as governor and commander-in-chief of the Bahamas. There is no explanation except one that is purely ^ostere_Atyped: the Duke feels that the climate of the Bahamas is bad for the health of the Duchess.

After April thirtieth, the former king of Great Britain and Ireland and the Dominions beyond the sea and emperor of India, Defender of the Faith, and soforth, will be a man without a job. Although reports about his plans are unofficial and probably just a guess, one version is that he and the Duchess will come to the United States for a long vacation, and then take up a permanent residence in France. The Bahamas are beautiful - but unlike our own Pacific coast which is both beautiful - and has a vigorous climate.

Now Dave, a final invigorating, life-giving message from you.

BURMA

March 15, 1945.

(Taken from early te.)

In Burma, the battle for Mandalay is ^{about} ~~almost~~ over. Indian soldiers are still fighting for Fort Dufferin, but the fort ^{is now cut off,} ~~is now cut off,~~ and the artillery of another British Division is now bombarding the garrison from the southeast. North of Fort Dufferin, all of the city has been cleared of the ~~enemy~~ enemy.

Elsewhere, Chinese troops advanced twenty ^{or} two miles in a southerly direction and came still closer to a key point on the road from Mandalay to Lashio.

~~SECRET~~
WAR CRIMINALS- FILLER

From London we have an official definition of what a major war criminal is. This comes from Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, and the definition is couched by the news dispatch in the following words: "Major war criminals are those who, by virtue of their high position, have borne preeminent responsibility for actions against the United Nations in violation of the accepted rules of war and of common humanity."

That seems broad enough to cover almost everything, and we know from a previous statement by Eden that among those whom the British consider major war criminals are Nazi propagandist Goebbels and Hitler's foreign minister Von Ribbentrop. And to these two you can add all the members of the Nazi government you can think of- from Hitler on down the line.

PENMANSHIP

At Springfield, Massachusetts, they're looking for another sentence, not a jail sentence, a grammatical sentence. They want it for the penmanship class, in which the pupils have been practicing with ^a~~an~~ special sentence. Over and over again they've been writing. "Union men make much money mining."

That string of words provides a lot of practice in writing N's and M's. However, it does have a labor angle and that has brought a protest. Labor unions complain that the sentence about how much money union men make at mining gives a biased picture of labor conditions, so the school board has tossed out the sentence.

And now I suppose they're looking for another one with an equal number of N's and M's. Maybe they'll have to fall back on "Eenie, Meenie, Minee, Mo."

~~Note - Note - Mr Thomas - Mr Brooks of NBC called and said if you are planning to attend the San Francisco conference you have to have your bid in to the State Department by the 15th of March because of the shortage of housing etc in California. Florence.~~