

*On the Western Front*

General Hodges today carried out a spectacular and unexpected operation. He sent three of his tank columns, columns which had been ~~driving~~ <sup>rolling</sup> East, in a sudden ~~turn~~ <sup>wheel</sup> to the north. They went fifty five miles in three hours and reached Paderborn in Westphalia from where they might be free to strike northeast straight toward Hannover and Berlin.

Actually, the purpose of that dramatic move was to cut off the Ruhr. That great district, full of war factories, garrisoned by the most determined troops in the German Army is now virtually encircled. It means that the Nazis no longer have access to the war munitions in the Ruhr.

The vanguard columns of the First Army are almost within shouting distance of the British and also General Simpson's Ninth Army.

Nobody knows exactly where Montgomery's advance guards are tonight, except they themselves. There is a news blackout. Monty's armor is moving so fast that German Army headquarters have no idea where those British tanks are. There is also a  
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report that Montgomery's guns are shelling Muenster, but that's unofficial. However, it is known that three of Montgomery's columns are rolling across the Westphalian plain.

At the same time, General Patton's armor is pushing east from Giessen. The spearheads of <sup>Patton's</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>Army</sup> Third <sup>are</sup> are more than halfway across Germany and only a hundred and twenty-five miles from the border of Czechoslovakia.

~~So, all in all, three Allied forces are splitting Germany~~

~~up.~~

~~The~~ British newspapers today were full of the exploits of Patton. One London paper said that "his audacity and speed will be regarded as one of the turning points of the war in the west."

~~The Yanks~~ <sup>Our people</sup> today completed the capture of

Wiesbaden, the famous watering place in the Taunus Mountains; and <sup>they took</sup> ~~captured~~ Mannheim. <sup>also</sup> They have cleared

WESTERN FRONT 3

the last German soldier out of Frankfurt-am-Main, and  
fought into the  
further north have ~~reached~~ the northern part of Duisburg,  
where many of its  
~~with its great~~ docks and shipping facilities are  
concentrated.



## VICTORY

War Secretary Stimson today made the positive statement that the Nazi army on the Rhine is beaten, beaten so badly that its only alternative to unconditional surrender is the collapse of one unit after another.

However, the Secretary warned against excessive optimism. In the same vein comes a story from Paris, written by Boyd Lewis, European news manager of the United Press, <sup>who</sup> ~~he~~ has been investigating the question: How close is ultimate victory in Europe? And the verdict is that we must not expect Nazi resistance to end soon. Their final collapse is still a considerable distance away, <sup>He adds that</sup> says Boyd Lewis. Adolf Hitler continues ~~to ride~~ in the saddle with Gestapo Chief Himmler as his First Lieutenant.

A story from Washington, reporting the opinion of military observers in the capital, corroborates the dispatch from Boyd Lewis: Although the Allies are



advancing in spectacular fashion, the Germans are still resisting ~~staunchly~~ at most key points in the west, and we are warned against being over-optimistic. The Ninth Army attacking Duisburg, met such fierce opposition that General Simpson was obliged to shift his attack from south to east. <sup>TP And</sup> ~~Furthermore~~ <sup>has run</sup> the First Army ~~is~~ up against a ~~strong~~ strong Nazi defense. <sup>Hodges and Simpson,</sup> Between the two, <sup>lies</sup> the Ruhr, where the Nazi line still is unbroken. ~~The~~ military men <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ Washington point out that Eisenhower apparently is not going to waste too much time and lives on the Ruhr, but is going around it, planning to isolate the region. Such an operation would just as effectively make the factories there useless to the Nazis as outright conquest.

The Russians tonight are on the borders of Austria. Stalin announced it in an order-of-the-day. The Third Army of the Ukraine has captured an important Hungarian frontier town, a junction of highways and railroads, and also the big division point of Szombathely (Jombartelly). Some <sup>Marshal</sup> units of Tolbukhin's army advanced as much as twenty miles in one day, and their speed may tear loose the entire German flank all the way to the Adriatic. They are only forty-two miles from Vienna, and fifty-four miles from Graz, the second city of Austria.

Stalin reported<sup>s</sup> that his armies in Hungary include no fewer than ninety-two Red generals. ~~that~~ Sounds like <sup>an army</sup> ~~an awful lot~~ of generals, but, ~~we have to consider~~ <sup>those</sup> ~~that the~~ Soviet armies are enormous, the biggest masses of fighting men ever assembled, in <sup>all</sup> ~~the~~ history. ~~of the world.~~

Berlin admits the advance of the Russians, though in guarded terms. The Nazis report that the army of the

Ukraine has begun fresh attacks to the south of Lake Balaton, on a fifty mile front.

In the north, one of the <sup>Soviet</sup> armies of the Baltic has finished liquidating the Nazi army <sup>they had</sup> surrounded in a pocket southeast of Koenigsberg in East Prussia. Stalin reports that Soviet forces have ~~xxxxxxx~~ killed a hundred and thirty thousand Germans in the battle for Koenigsberg, fifty thousand of them since March Thirteenth. ~~alone~~

Berlin admitted<sup>s</sup> evacuating the principal part of the Free City of Danzig. <sup>But says</sup> The survivors of the garrison are making a last stand on the eastern fringe of the city. Gdynia, of course, is already in Soviet hands. Not much is left of Danzig. Bombardments from the air and by Soviet artillery have laid waste the entire inner city within the ancient walls.

The Nazis also admitted~~ed~~ having given up their last bridgehead on the east bank of the Oder between Kuestrin and the sea, ~~That is~~ at a place called Zehden,



~~which is~~ only thirty-one miles northeast of Berlin.

The Nazis also acknowledge that the Red armies in Upper Silesia have scored a number of deep penetrations in front of the Moravian Gap. The Russians are attacking eastward from the Polish corner and southward from Oppen, <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ twin battle, <sup>which,</sup> say the Germans, has reached its climax.

## AUSTRIA, FOLLOW RUSSIA

According to a story from London today, when the Russians enter Austria, they will have a Fifth Column to help them. There is a guerrilla movement all over the country, so we hear, with a nucleus of ten thousand trained fighters. Known as Green Squads, and consisting largely of deserters from Hitler's armies.

What's more, they are already operating in three provinces of Austria, with the ~~sympathy~~ sympathy and connivance of the local population. These Green Squads comprise members of trades unions, Christian Socialists, Democrats, Communists, Catholics; in short, all Austrians who do not like the Nazis. The London story says they have not been in direct touch with the Russian armies yet, but they are preparing for this.

Stories from the Balkans report that the Yugoslav Army of Marshal Tito includes two full battalions of Austrian soldiers.

## ITALY

It looks as though something might be breaking soon on the Italian front. Warships of King George's Navy today were bombarding Nazi positions along the French Italian Riviera. In fact, they have been doing it for several days in support of *Gen. Mark Clark's* ~~armies~~ armies. A French destroyer took part in the operations. Aside from that, the situation in Italy still appears to be a deadlock; ~~the~~ skirmishes and patrol actions.

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Hugh - will you take over for a moment. And then I'll be along again -



GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Tonight <sup>it's official -</sup> ~~we have the cheery knowledge~~

that the British Royal Fleet is ~~actually fighting~~  
~~with us~~ in the Pacific, <sup>fighting</sup> ~~against~~ the Japs. A task  
force of King George's men of war has been bombarding  
the Sakishima Islands, a group at the extreme southern  
end of the Ryukyus, just East of Formosa. <sup>And, it's a</sup> ~~it is a~~  
formidable task force, including the great battleship  
King George the Sixth and the modern aircraft carrier  
Illustrious. Also, H. M.S. Howe, a thirty-five  
thousand tonner; H.M.S. Elizabeth and Valiant, all  
battlewagons, the battle cruiser Renown, and the  
carriers Indefatigable and Indomitable.

<sup>powerful British</sup>

Many of the pilots of this <sup>task</sup> force  
have been trained at American naval flying stations  
in Michigan and Florida. Some of the planes they  
fly are of American make. This British fleet <sup>in the</sup>  
<sup>Pacific is</sup> overall <sup>an American</sup>  
operating under the command of ~~our own~~ Admiral, Raymond  
Spruance, Commander of the U.S. Fifth Fleet.

The<sup>2</sup> British ~~last~~ force has already  
done ~~some noticeable~~ damage to the Japs. Its planes  
have left one town in flames, destroyed twenty  
Japanese planes on the ground, sunk one coastal  
vessel, <sup>plus a</sup> ~~and a lot of~~ <sup>miscellaneous</sup> ~~other~~ damage.

<sup>all</sup> ~~this~~ <sup>we hear</sup> ~~news~~ from Admiral Nimitz. ~~It~~  
~~way confirms the broadcasts from radio Tokyo. For~~ →  
~~the Japs~~

(pick up ~~Pacific story~~)

# PACIFIC

~~Information about the operations of American~~  
~~warships in the vicinity of the Ryukyu Islands again~~  
~~From the Tokyo radio comes word~~  
~~comes from Tokyo. The Japanese report~~ that our  
invasion forces are closing in on that ~~island~~ <sup>island</sup> of  
<sup>in the Ryukyu sea</sup> Okinawa, from all directions. Our planes from  
carriers -- and also land-based <sup>American planes,</sup> are bombing along a  
front of some eleven hundred miles, all the way from  
wherever the Mikado's fleet is hiding in the Inland Sea  
to the Island of Formosa.

The Japanese continue to insist that our troops  
<sup>might</sup> ~~are~~ now fighting their garrisons on two smaller islands  
west of Okinawa. Also, Radio Tokyo declares that anywhere  
from twenty to thirty American transports are anchored  
nearby, with four or five other groups of transports  
coming up from the south.

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The word from Tokyo is that we are now using  
jet planes, off carriers, in an attack on the southwestern  
part of the Japanese homeland. Some of them attacking the  
naval base at Kure in the Inland Sea, and others <sup>raiding</sup> ~~raid~~



airfields and installations on Formosa for three and a half hours.

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Stories from China report that conditions on Formosa are chaotic. Of course we don't know for certain about this, but the Chinese claim that the Japanese authorities are now expecting an invasion of Formosa and are evacuating civilians from the coast of that big island.

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All in all, the Japs are putting out a lot of lurid accounts of Uncle Sam's activities off Japan. They seem to see all this as part of one huge operation in support of an invasion of the Ryukyus. For once we get those islands, nothing in Japan can escape a steady pounding from the air.

The Japs ~~also claim~~<sup>say</sup> they have sunk one of our heavy ships, six of our cruisers, one American light cruiser or destroyer, plus damage to seven cruisers, a minesweeper, three destroyers and two transports.

~~From Admiral Nimitz we hear nothing.~~

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In a later broadcast, the Tokyo Radio reported five hundred carrier planes, supported by jet propulsion planes, in raids in and around the Inland Sea of Japan. The Japs further say that our fleets, bombarding Okinawa, comprise a hundred warships altogether, led by ten of our largest battleships.

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Admiral Nimitz <sup>tonight says</sup> ~~reported~~ that his

battleships and carrier planes have been blasting the Ryukyus for seven days in succession. <sup>He adds</sup> ~~Jap~~

<sup>that Jap</sup> planes and torpedo boats have tried to interfere but without success. <sup>He says</sup> ~~and~~ they have lost a number of their torpedo boats.

## CHINA

In China, the Fourteenth Air Force is threatened with the loss of another important air base. A mechanized Japanese column has advanced eighty miles in the last few days in north-central China, and is only five miles away from ~~the town of Lachokew, where General Chennault has~~ <sup>one of</sup> ~~one of his most important bases, a base close to the~~ <sup>which</sup> ~~eastern part of China. It~~ is also ~~xxxxx~~ an important center of communications.



PHILIPPINES

*not used on left ~~over~~ first show*

In the Philippines, our troops will soon have an airdrome a mile north of the city of Cebu, capital of the Island of Cebu. They are closing in now, and may take the place any time.

Cebu itself is a complete wreck. The Japs, before they evacuated, put it to the torch, wiping out almost the entire business section, as well as the residential districts. Our people also found the place heavily mined, with booby traps everywhere.

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## COAL

Maybe there will not be a coal strike after all.

At any rate, Madam Perkins, the Secretary of Labor, says

*John L.*  
that <sup>A</sup> Lewis's union has accepted her proposal for a new

contract. ~~The~~ The operators have not yet said what

they will do. But *Madam Perkins says* ~~she said that~~ she looked upon the

situation as very hopeful.

Secretary Perkins would not reveal the terms  
~~that~~ she had suggested. But she did say ~~that~~ they would  
not interfere with the government's program to stabilize  
wages.

If the operators agree, that will put an end to  
the strike for which the miners have voted by a majority  
of eight to one.

policies. Or, failing that, he wants a commission of prominent national figures to study labor management relations. In this connection he mentioned Charles Evans Hughes, the retired Chief Justice of the United States, <sup>as</sup> the type who should be a member of such a Commission.



## LABOR MANAGEMENT

There was much talk today about the "charter for harmony" between Labor and Management, the agreement made between William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, Philip Murray, President of C.I.O., and Eric Johnston, President of the United States Chamber of Commerce. Each of them received a letter today from President Roosevelt, who said he was exceedingly pleased to hear about the plan for cooperation in industry to bring about national prosperity after the war.

A dissenting voice came from the National Association of Manufacturers. Ira Mosher, President of the N.A.M., said he thought the labor-management charter was premature and his organization would not cooperate as yet. He said more people should be represented in such a charter, and it should be more carefully thought over. He wants a committee to plan a conference to explore the areas of agreement or disagreement over basic public

## PEACE

The White House this afternoon threw a bombshell into the discussion over the forthcoming world security conference at San Francisco. It recalls the arguments of twenty-six years ago over the League of Nations, the old arguments that the British would have five votes in the League, and every other nation only one. The statement from the White House announced<sup>3</sup><sub>4</sub> that President Roosevelt, Premier Churchill and Stalin ~~had~~ agreed at Yalta that the Soviets and the United States should have three votes apiece. The Soviets will demand one for the Union, another for the Ukraine, another for White Russia. The United States will be on an equal footing with Russia.

This announcement stirs up a kettle of fish because it means a ~~sharp~~ departure from the plan proposed at Dumbarten Oaks. Two hours before this news was released from the White House, Republican Senator Vendenberg of Michigan announced that he would be unalterably opposed to

any idea which would call for any change in the voting plan drafted at Dumbarten Oaks.

This will not change the voting in the Counfil. There the big powers would have just one vote apiece.

There is also much concern because Moscow has announced that the Soviets will not be represented at San Francisco by Foreign Commissar Molotov, but <sup>merely</sup> by the Ambassador in Washington, ~~a decidedly secondary figure~~. Delegations of all other nations <sup>may</sup> will be headed by their Foreign Ministers.

Now a final word from Stan of col.