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Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

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FIRST, NINTH ARMIES SLASH INTO GERMAN LINE

AMERICANS DEFY RAIN TO CLOSE IN ON TRAPPED JAPS

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines—(AP)—Slogging forward through tropical rains today, American troops on Leyte were within small arms range of the Ormoc road behind the Japanese forward line and were threatening momentarily to cut off the enemy's rear.

With American long-range artillery hammering the 26-mile corridor which remains to the Japanese, and American air fighters razing the skies overhead, enemy dead mounted steadily.

Rains were slowing the action, though, Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported in his daily communique, and a Japanese sniper bullet wounded Brig. Gen. Claudius M. Easley, assistant commander of the 96th division.

General MacArthur announced complete occupation of tiny Pegu island in the Mapiu group just northwest of New Guinea, thus eliminating Japanese aerial watchposts able to observe operations on the American bombing route to the Philippines.

American fighter planes, bombing and strafing the Ormoc Japanese supply area, sank 30 barges lying with their ramps touching shore, apparently unloaded.

Enemy Trucks Destroyed At Valencia, halfway up the road running from Ormoc to the Nipponese forward elements along the horseshoe bend south of Limon, the Yank airmen destroyed dozens of trucks in a motor pool.

Elements of the 24th U. S. infantry division were holding the front of the Limon salient, and closing in west and south of the Japanese spearhead. Elements of the First cavalry (dismounted) were closing in from the east.

Clear Out Small Patrols At the same time long-range combat and reconnaissance patrols worked their way along the muddy mountain trails, clearing out scattered enemy parties.

Phone Strike Halts Calls in 3 Ohio Cities

Dayton, O.—(AP)—Union-affiliated telephone operators walked out early today in a sudden protest against employment of out-of-town personnel and two hours later operators at Columbus and Toledo quit work in an expression of sympathy.

Paul Denning, commercial manager at Columbus, said at least 50 per cent of his long distance operators were absent at 8:30 a. m. (central war time) and operators said they were accepting emergency calls only.

Miss Jeanette Reedy of Dayton, president of the southwestern area council of the Ohio Federation of Telephone Workers, an independent union, said about 600 of Dayton's operators were affected. There was no immediate count on the number out at Columbus.

Other Strikes Expected Miss Reedy said she had "assurances" that other locals of the federation would quit work, too. Dayton, Columbus and Toledo are in the heart of the vital industrialized midwest, and the army air forces' two important fields—Wright and Patterson—are just outside Dayton.

There was no immediate indication of how generally the strike would affect service. Automatic equipment was operating as usual in both cities. Non-City Workers Issue The issue involved, Miss Reedy said, in opposition to employment of non-city workers who receive salary plus living expenses.

O. N. Olsen, Ohio Bell commercial manager at Dayton, said there were insufficient operators in Dayton and that expense money had to be provided operators from out-of-town. Picket lines formed outside Ohio Bell offices in localities affected, and employees who went through the lines were jeered. Bobby-sox girls carried placards before the telephone buildings here.

Maintenance crews were not affected and reports from all cities affected said that automatic systems were handling local calls. Telephone company officials said operators who remained at work were able to handle about 50 per cent of incoming long distance business, but the mid-day peak still was to come.

Olsen said military calls were being given preference and at Wright field Lt. Col. Harvey J. Wilson, communications officer, said the strike would not affect service there. All field operators were on duty.

33 ARE GIVEN FINAL PAPERS OF CITIZENSHIP

Upon recommendation of Fred Campbell, Green Bay, naturalization examiner, Judge Herman J. Severson granted final naturalization papers to 30 applicants at the Wood county court house today.

The following people of German descent received their citizenship papers: Carl William Becker, Friedrich Christner, August Janka, whose name was officially changed to August Teves, Boris Lewy, changed to Peter Boris Borlew, Moritz Cahn, Jacobine Johanna Cahn, Theophilus Cahn, Bertha Mathilda Yandt, Elizabeth Piepenburg, Alexander Abraham, Johanna Abraham, Anna Weinfurter, Wilhelmina Anna Deigmann.

Italians granted papers were Maria Ehrnsberger (Sister Mary Heriberta), Justine Scheuring (Sister Mary Sila), Barbara Himmeler (Sister Mary Theodina), Anna Maria Schuster (Sister Mary Smerentiana), Theresa Meyer (Sister Mary Humiliana), Theresa Kohl (Sister Mary Rozvinda).

Those of Austrian descent receiving citizenship papers were Fred Schneider and John Zalabsky; Agnes Busch (Sister Mary Nounita), Canadian; August Bogs and Waleria Chrapla, Polish; Cornelius Balkanende, Netherlands; Angelis Routsis, changed to Angil T. Routsis, Greece; Thomas Knudson, Norway; Esther Elizabeth Knudson, Sweden; Elof Sidor Moilenberg, changed to Sidor Miller, Sweden; Maria Dimitri, Albania.

Absent were Terje Krummel, Hermine Spielmann, and John Leikus. Their cases will be continued.

Road Junction In Italy Taken By Fifth Army

Rome—(AP)—Fifth army troops have occupied Modigliana, important road junction nine miles south of the Bologna-Rimini highway town of Faenza, in the wake of a surprise German withdrawal after a week-long vigorous defense, allied headquarters announced today.

Several previous allied assaults on the town had been thrown back by separately fighting Nazis. When British and Indian troops moved in yesterday they found the Germans had left the town thoroughly mined and booby-trapped.

Six miles north of captured Forli, Eighth army units, moving cautiously toward the Montone river, cleared "Coccolia and reached a point within 2,000 yards of San Pancrazio. Other troops pushed about two and a half miles west of Forli against comparatively light resistance from German rear guards.

In the Adriatic coastal sector the Germans held a gap in the banks of the Fiume Uniti, flooding large tracts of land east of Highway 16 and making maneuvers there virtually impossible.

Air Medal Presented to Mother of Local Soldier As directed by the president, Major Q. F. Mortorelli, air corps adjutant at Truxax Field, Madison, came to Wisconsin Rapids in person on Armistice day to present the mother of Flight Officer LaVerne David with the Air Medal awarded him May 16.

Flight Officer David, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. David, 640 Seventh street north, was a member of the U. S. army air force and was on duty in the south Pacific area at the time of his disappearance. He has been missing since March 30 of this year.

War Mobilizer Byrnes, joining an official campaign against what officialdom regards as a lack of public war-consciousness, declared shortage of material and weapons might "prolong the war" unless quickly remedied.



HELD IN MUTILATION SLAYINGS—Otto Steve Wilson (right) turns to Detective Lt. Lloyd G. Hurst to answer a question while being booked on suspicion of murder in Los Angeles for the mutilation deaths of two women whose bodies were found in separate hotels. Hurst said Wilson had confessed the slayings.

His Ship Sunk By Japs, Orin Vadnais Survives 4 Days, Nights in Sea

A Wisconsin Rapids mother, smiling bravely through tear-filled eyes, received the wonderful news this morning that her son had escaped death after his ship had been blasted and sunk by Japanese fire off the Philippines in the Pacific theater of operations.

Mother Reads News Sobbing quietly as she read an Associated Press dispatch telling how her son Orin and another seaman had clung to each other for four days and nights in the water until washed ashore, Mrs. Stanley Vadnais was still extremely happy in knowing that her son had survived the ordeal and is now safe in American hands.

"Don't cry, mother," consoled a younger son as the family received the official news about Orin in the Tribune editorial room today. "He's alive and in safe hands again." The mother nodded and then, as the thought brooded fond hopes to her, she eagerly asked, "Will he be sent home now? Will he receive a well-earned rest?"

Fire Controlman 3/c Orin Vadnais, whose mother and father live at 451 Cleveland street, Wisconsin Rapids, is one of four survivors of American destroyers lost on October 25 in the battle of the Philippines sea days, when rescued by Americans many days later, told of how sailors aboard a fleeing Japanese cruiser threw hand grenades at men struggling in the sea another vivid example of Japanese brutality in this war.

PAASIKIVI HEADS FINNISH CABINET

Stockholm—(AP)—J. K. Paasikivi was named prime minister of Finland today in a shakeup of the cabinet.

A veteran peace envoy and former (1918) premier who participated in the negotiations which led to the Moscow-Helsinki armistice, Paasikivi succeeds Erho Castrén as Baron Carl Gustaf Mauners' first minister.

(The Finnish radio announced Nov. 11 that Paasikivi had accepted the offer of the position. The Castrén regime had been criticized by Soviet organs for its handling of the Russian-Finnish armistice problems.)

Ten new ministers were named in the 18-man cabinet, including one Communist, Y. Leino. He was appointed to the assistant communications post. C. J. A. Enckell remains foreign minister. Paasikivi once served for a time as Finnish minister to Moscow.

Halt in Reconversion Threatened by Public's Lack of War-Consciousness

BY STERLING F. GREEN Washington—(AP)—The laying down of plans for making all those things civilians miss probably will be held back until German collapse is assured.

This became apparent today, following James F. Byrnes' threat to halt completely the resumption of civilian goods manufacture if growing war needs require it.

War Mobilizer Byrnes, joining an official campaign against what officialdom regards as a lack of public war-consciousness, declared shortage of material and weapons might "prolong the war" unless quickly remedied.

Battle Through Sleet, Rain In Great Offensive to Smash Enemy Resistance This Year

RUSSIANS PIERCE NAZI LINE; RAIL CITIES MENACED

London—(AP)—Russian troops have pierced the main German defense line 10 miles east of Budapest, capturing the rail station of Gyomro, and in a pivot northeast of the besieged capital today threatened the key railway junctions of Godollo and Hatvan.

Tar to the northeast other units of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army struck to within five miles of Miskole, Hungary's fifth city, which is now exposed to Red Army artillery fire. Cross Trunk Railway Battling along the roads leading around Budapest to Austria, the Russians yesterday crossed the Budapest-Miskole railway at Vamossork in a 12-mile advance from Jassbereny and were moving toward Hatvan, Moscow announced last night.

Hatvan is a junction of the Budapest-Miskole line and terminal of the railway running north into central Slovakia, 38 miles beyond. The threat to Godollo, less than 10 miles northeast of Budapest, developed when powerful Soviet tank and infantry forces swept through Dany, less than 11 miles southeast. Godollo Germans road and rail routes to Vienna and central Slovakia.

Threaten Enemy Entrapment The capture of Vamossork, where several trains and ammunition stores were seized, also threatened the entrapment of German and Hungarian forces still clinging to the central section of the Budapest-Miskole trunk line.

In the frontal assault east of Budapest, the Gyomro rail station was captured in a bitterly-contested three mile advance. Gyomro village, a mile to the south and described by Berlin as the southeastern anchor of the axis defense are around Budapest, was under violent attack, Berlin reported.

Meanwhile, a midnight Soviet war bulletin indicated the Red air force had begun to track down the German fleet hiding in the Baltic. Since the IAP sinking of the Tirpitz, the only surface warships left to the Germans are believed trapped there. Torpedo planes of the Red Banner Baltic fleet opened the attack by sinking a 6,000 ton transport in the big Nazi port of Danzig, the war bulletin said.

SENATOR COTTON ED SMITH DIES

Washington—(AP)—Democratic Senator Ellison DuRant (Cotton) Ed Smith, of South Carolina, dean of the senate and uncompromising anti-New Dealer, died today in Lynchburg, S. C.

The 80-year-old veteran passed away from coronary thrombosis at his plantation home Tanglewood at 9:15 a. m. CWT.

A chunky, colorful figure with gray mustache, Smith by last August had served longer in the senate than any other member in history—37 years.

He was defeated for re-nomination to a seventh term last summer by Gov. Olin D. Johnston, who was elected November 7.

Smith was a farm expert—primarily where cotton was concerned. Cotton was his king. Most of his senate career was devoted to getting aid for the southern staple. His last years found him as head of the senate's agriculture committee.

Smith's entire political career was based on a platform of three planks—white supremacy, a tariff for revenue only and more important, state's rights. He did not let an opportunity pass to emphasize it.

A highlight of his colorful career came when he walked out of the 1924 Democratic convention at Philadelphia because a Negro preacher blessed the gathering, and because of all things to Smith—there were Negro delegates.

London—(AP)—German lines sagged under twin offensives in the Rhineland today as the First U. S. army moved forward two miles toward Duren and the Ninth army bagged long lines of prisoners.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First army infantry and armor slashed to a point six miles west of Duren, important industrial town 20 miles west of Cologne, despite sleet and rain storms.

Germany's western lines rocked to the thunder of hundreds of guns in the Aachen sector, the smash of new armored columns from the Moselle bridgeheads, the weight of increasing attacks in Holland as the allies made a supreme bid for victory. Perhaps 2,000,000 men were arrayed in battle on both sides in the critical test of German staying power.

Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's Ninth army increased the pressure of the attack in its second day north of Aachen, front line dispatches said, captured several more towns and turned back a Tiger tank counterattack.

A German military commentator late in the afternoon said a break had been made in the German lines near Stolberg, and a dispatch from the front said breaks appeared to have been made at several places.

Long streams of battle-shattered German prisoners lined the roads back to American prison cages. Flight after flight of Thunderbolt fighter bombers streaked under cloud layers over the front.

To the north the British crossed the Zig canal, after clearing out a triangle formed by that channel and the Noord and Westman canals, and virtually closed up to the Maas river bend on a seven-mile front at Roermond in Holland.

Verdun Forts Surrounded Drawing their net tighter about Germans possibly preparing for a siege stand inside Metz, Third army troops completely surrounded the Verdun fort group just southwest of the city and across the Moselle from the stronghold of Fort Driant. Infantry captured Lorry Le Metz, a mile northwest of the city.

The twin offensive of the First and 9th armies had deepened the five-to-10 mile wedge in the Siegfried line by at least one to two miles, with the doughboys now fighting within seven miles of Luch and 28 miles from the Rhine.

Greenwich village, a stinking pile of rubble a mile north of Mausebach, became the first town to be captured by the First army in its new attack. The town had been deserted completely by German civilians. Dead Germans still were in the streets, along with carcasses of horses all killed by artillery shells.

Ninth Army Takes Prisoners Several hundred prisoners had been counted at Ninth army cages already, and more kept pouring in. The prisoners, a tough-looking lot, had carried out Hitler's no-retreat order to the bitter end. They stayed in their places until their posts were overrun.

Almost to a man they told their captors they believed Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler's report that Hitler was too busy to make public appearances. A few said they believed See—WESTERN FRONT—Page 7

Officer Telephones His Family From Hawaiian Islands Mrs. Harold Wooddell, 1120 Thirtieth street south, had the thrill of hearing her husband's voice coming to her by trans-oceanic phone from the Hawaiian islands earlier this week.

The husband, Petty Officer 2/e Harold Wooddell, stationed at Barber's Point, Hawaii, talked to his wife, his small daughter Nancy, and to his mother, Mrs. Ada Wooddell, for six minutes during the long distance call. The call was made on the birthday of the officer's wife.

Mrs. Harold Wooddell was notified two days in advance of the call by a San Francisco operator that her husband would call here at exactly 4:30 in the afternoon. The call came through on time and was unusually clear, she stated.



Dramatic photographs of the flight of terror-stricken Chinese civilians before advancing Japanese armies appear on page 10 of The Tribune. These pictures, constituting a remarkable study of human misery, were taken by Frank Canellare (above), NEA-Acme photographer for the war picture pool. Canellare has been covering the war in China, Burma and India for more than two years. Previously he has won distinction with his pictures of the famine in India, of the capture of Teneuchung and of many active combat scenes. He flew in the B-29's first raid on the Japanese mainland. In peacetime Canellare was a staff photographer in the New York and Washington offices of NEA and Acme. For a time his beat was the White House.

FIVE BOYS EARN EAGLE AWARDS

Five tri-city Boy Scouts of the south Wood county district of the Samoset council, Robert Vidal, Troop 73; Kenneth Burmeister, Troop 69; Dan Teas, Jack Molsberry, and Jim Kruger of Troop 72, will become Eagle scouts during court of honor ceremonies at the Elks club at 7:30 Saturday evening.

Community service award, for 20 hours of service, will be presented to John Kruger. James Marks will receive the silver eagle palm, and Tom Coldwell, the gold palm.

Life scout citations will be presented to Richard and Robert Schindler of Troop 75; Elwyn Jensen and Ronald Rusch, Troop 77; and Herbert Dittman of Troop 72.

First class scout awards will be given to Keith Haferman, Carroll Grambsch, Jack Fahrner and Cecil Loverton of Troop 77; Kenneth Peterson and John Baranowski of Troop 72.

Bob Fancher and Bob Gamroth of Troop 77; David Smith, Troop 73; Harlem Buss and Jerry Lutz of Troop 69 will be awarded the emblem of second class scouts.

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Ment badges will be presented to the following scouts during the court of honor: Wayne Plzak for first aid and safety; Ronald Rusch, cooking, firemanship, and home repair; Philip Ziegler, aviation; Kenneth Burmeister, plumbing, music, camping; Elwyn Jensen, farm mechanics, pioneering; farm home, art, athletics, handicraft, personal health, and public health; Robert Vidal, pathfinding; Chester Berrend, handicraft, wood carving, wood turn, carpentry, woodworking; Jerry Bremmer, firemanship; Jim Kruger, reading.

FDR WILL TALK SUNDAY Washington—(AP)—President Roosevelt will make a short war bond address Sunday in connection with the Sixth war loan drive. He said the speech will be very brief.

THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin: Partly cloudy and cold tonight. Saturday fair and warmer. Today's Weather Facts: Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 40; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 25; temperature at 7 a. m., 36.

