

FRENCH OPEN DRIVE INTO NORTH ITALY

Mar 31--A French communique has reported that French Forces had opened a campaign along the Franco-Italian border just below Switzerland. The report stated that French troops had captured the German strong point near Saint Bernard Pass leading into northern Italy. There was little other action on the Eighth Army front. It is possible, with the French forces driving into northern Italy from the west and Tito's forces driving into Italy from the east, that the Allies are attempting to seal off the strong German army in Italy from the rear.

TITO'S FORCES ROUTE GERMANS

Mar 31--The Yugoslav communique announced a major victory for Marshal Tito's Partisan forces over the Germans after eight days of heavy fighting in the Gospic area near the western coast of Yugoslavia. Gospic lies 13 miles inland from the Adriatic coast and 67 miles southeast of Fiume. In the eight days of fighting, enemy losses amounted to 4,000 and 2,000 captured.

RECORD ALLIED AIR ARMADA HITS GERMANY

Mar 31--Over 1,400 American heavy bombers and 900 fighters attacked Germany's North Sea ports of Bremen, Hamburg and Wilhelmshaven yesterday. This armada is the largest sent out by the Eighth Air Force this year. The massive attack was intended to cut off any seaborne supplies destined for the German armies in the north. Bomber targets included submarine yards, naval vessels in port, and oil storage depots.

RAF Mosquitos bombed Berlin for the 37th time in 38 nights. The orders "Hold your fire" were flashed to Allied pilots chasing Germans across the Westphalian Plains because the British tanks were breaking into the fleeing enemy columns. Italy based bombers made over 900 sorties against targets in northern Italy and the Brenner Pass.

ALLIES SPEED ACROSS GERMANY

Mar 31--Allied Armies are still racing across the plains of Germany, finding no solid German line from Montgomery's armies on the north to Patch's Army on the south. The British Second Army sped ahead just north of the Ruhr operating under a censorship blackout. Hodges' First Army boldly cut through the Ruhr, smashing into Paderborn, 185 miles west of Berlin. Paderborn is on the main railway connecting Berlin with the Ruhr. Late dispatches placed First Army columns at Frittlar, which is 14 miles southeast of Kassel. First Army troops are cutting directly west into Germany on a rolling terrain favorable to mechanized warfare.

On the north flank of the First Army Simpson's Ninth Army is rolling through the Ruhr after clearing Duisburg. While the exact whereabouts of the British and Canadian Armies is not known, vanguards of these forces were reported to be in the Westphalian capital of Muenster. The British troops are fanning out northeastward in the direction of Bremen and Hannover.

Patton's Third Army to the south, after cutting deeply into Germany, veered northward from Giessen and headed towards the First Army. It appears that Patton is swinging shut the door on a giant trap; whether there are any units of the German Army in this encirclement has not been announced. Third Army troops have virtually cleared Frankfurt of enemy resistance.

Far to the south, General Patch's Seventh Army entered the anchor city of Heidelberg, while the French First Army was reported by Brussel's radio to be holding a bridgehead ten miles deep across the Rhine near Baden.

Scores of great German cities have fallen to the swiftly-advancing Allied armies; among the larger Allied held German cities are Coblenz, Ludwigshafen, Wiesbaden, Trier, Saarbrucken and Heidelberg. The extent of the German debacle on the western front can be gauged by the number of Nazi prisoners taken in the past few days. Radio London said that dispirited Germans were surrendering at the rate of 2,000 hourly.

THE DEADEYE

## DISPATCH

FIRST TO  
THE FRONT

in, 1 April 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH AIR INFO. Tel Ext-500.

Vol 4, No 1.

DEADEYES LAND ON RYUKYUS  
STORM BEACHES OF HAGUSHI, OKINAWACORRESPONDENTS LAND WITH ASSAULT TROOPS

April--Full news coverage of the Easter landing of the DEADEYES is to be given by newsmen and photographers who landed this morning with the initial waves of troops. Equipped with notebooks, pencils, cameras and film, five correspondents are covering the landing from ashore while two additional ones are reporting to the world from aboard General Bradley's Command Ship and preparing to land with him.

Eugene Smith, well known LIFE photographer stated before he landed that he expected to have a sizeable number of shots before the afternoon when he plans to return to ship to carry in the larger cameras which he has awaiting him there.

Three Army photographers were among the group landing this morning. They are S/5 Robert Viken of the Signal Corps and S/4 Beaumont Wood and T/5 Gerald Able, both of Pacific Ocean Areas.

Accompanying the landing forces also are Gilbert Feinstein, known to all 96th Division men as our own Public Relations Assistant and a Special Correspondent for the DEADEYE DISPATCH.

With General Bradley's command group are Herb Paul of the Minneapolis Star-Journal and Des Moines Register-Tribune; Roy Manning of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin and Chicago Sun; and S/Sgt Franklin P. Hall, my radio correspondent.

Lt O. R. Davidson, Division Public Relations Officer, is coordinating the activities of the various news services.

(0930-- April 1--Preceded by a terrific bombardment from land, sea and air, elements of Major General Bradley's DEADEYE Division landed today on Okinawa Jima in the vicinity of Sunabe in the first amphibious landing carried to territory which the Japanese call "homeland." The first waves of troops under the command of Colonel E. T. May and Colonel M. E. Halloran landed as scheduled at 0830 against what appeared to be light opposition.

Swarming ashore after the shelling had been moved inland and aided by the excellent landing conditions on most beaches, front line companies rapidly reorganized and plunged ahead after tanks had preceded them, passing through holes blown in the sea wall which lined the beaches. By 0900 the troops were 300 yards inland.

A part of the much larger force composed of both Army and Marine troops in overpowering numbers, the DEADEYES were carried to their target in vessels of Admiral Nimitz's command under Commodore Richardson. At this time there is no information released on the many other units which were to be landing simultaneously with the DEADEYES. In all, more than 1,200 naval vessels and more than 1,500 planes were involved. So many carrier planes were flying over the landing beaches at 0800 that the Division Air Observer had to fly farther inland to avoid crowded airways!

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THE DEADEYE

# DISPATCH

FIRST TO  
THE FRONT

4 April 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH DIV I&O. Te Ext-300. Vol 4. No. 2.

## OKINAWA NEWS HITS STATES!

### MAY MAKES A "PATTON DRIVE"

\*\*3 April--Carrying the Deadeye beachhead to its 6000 yard depth of yesterday, Col. E.T. May's troops lead the way to the south during the first two days of the operation with spectacular speed. Altho it was most cases not opposed by particularly heavy Japanese resistance, the drive south was fast and furious. CLARK GETS BAG OF 214 -- Driving against the strongest resistance yet encountered in the division sector, troops of Col. May under Lt. Col. P;E. Clark broke through a roadblock which was apparently covered by a good Japanese position and reported 214 enemy dead for their total for April 2nd. The battalion was supported by a platoon of Col. H. L. Edmonson's medium tanks. This was the largest number of enemy dead reported by a single battalion for a one day period during the operation to date.

### ARTILLERY LANDS WITH LIGHTENING SPEED

\*\*Apr 3--The Deadeye's three battalions of light artillery of General R. G. Gard were landed and in position to fire by 1730 on L-Day. Cubs of that command were being assembled to operate from a strip on Okinawa yesterday and one L-5 has been operating from another island throughout the operation.

### 96th DIVISION BOX SCORE

Number of Good Japs April 1 - 130  
Number of Good Japs April 2 - 361  
Cumulative total of Good Japs 491

\*\*3 April-- News of the invasion of Okinawa has been given to the world. Banner front-page headlines telling of our landings are momentarily crowding all other world news into the background of American newspapers. An Associated Press dispatch said that American infantrymen and Marines landed on Okinawa Island, southern gateway to the Japanese homeland, on Easter Sunday morning. No mention has yet been made of any of the divisions on Okinawa, although the dispatch said that the XXIV Corps and Third Marine Amphibious Corps, both under the Tenth Army, were on the island.

The AP story said that by nightfall doughfoot had pushed inland to a depth of three miles at some places and captured three airfields. Resistance was amazingly light and American casualties exceptionally small. With eight miles of beachhead secured on the first day, American commanders still felt there was a tough fight ahead.

Ten days of pre-invasion air and naval gun bombardments had apparently driven the Jap soldiers to the hills. There was little opposition as the assault waves hit the beaches, but an hour later the Japs opened up on the beaches with light mortar and artillery fire. They also tried a brief and unsuccessful tank attack in the northern sector. Waves of troops and supplies continued to pour ashore Sunday afternoon while American planes were blasting and strafing along the front lines.

News of the 77th Division's landings on the Kerama Island group have already been announced.

RESTRICTED  
THE DEADEYE DISPATCH

A TRUE STORY  
By - JAK

Here's a true story with a moral to it. It happened on Leyte. During the early stages of the campaign, a sketch was seized that showed all the Japanese gun emplacements and battalion command posts on Citron Hill. It was passed out to our artillery units and you can guess the result; it was used to blast the Jap positions right straight to hell. The next day, the 383rd was able to storm the hill with small losses.

Now supposing some clever GI had gotten hold of this sketch from the body of a Jap he had killed. It was done up in pretty colors and had lots of fancy Jap characters on it. Sad Sack says to himself: "I killed the bastard, so I'll keep this map and send it home to my wife as a souvenir." If he had done so, dozens, maybe hundreds, of his buddies would have been killed the next day by undestroyed Jap batteries.

The moral of the story is as plain as the stupidity of the aforementioned Sad Sack: TURN ALL CAPTURED MATERIAL IN TO INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL. And do it fast - complete plans were captured before the Japs landed paratroops on Buri airstrip, but didn't reach headquarters in time. Americans died as a result.

Does that mean that you can't get my souvenirs? Certainly not! Here's the procedure: When you lay your hands on anything Japanese, even if it only has one character written on it, take it, or (if you are busy at the moment, as is quite likely) send it up through regular command channels to your regimental, Divarty, or special troops headquarters. Most of the stuff will be of no tactical importance. The interpreters right at the regimental HQ will glance it over and if it is OK, will stamp it, give you a clearance slip, and hand it right back to you on the spot. When things quiet down, you can send it home.

If you turn up with something that looks like it might have value in giving information about the enemy's plans, the regimental intelligence people will send it on up to higher headquarters. But you

still have a chance to get it back. Turn it with your name, organization and home address. After it is no longer needed, will be mailed directly to your home. Every effort is made to return each item when it is no longer needed to save our lives and destroy the enemy's

Here's the stuff that's needed most: Any papers with sketches or Jap writing on them. Can you speak Japanese? If not don't try to decide for yourself whether or not it means anything. Let the expert do it. Also needed are samples of new types of Jap equipment, such as mortars or gas masks.

Most ordnance materiel will not be returned to you. It is needed for detailed study. You will get back swords and knives, however. And of course flags and personal papers of dead Japs will be given right back to you, as soon as they are checked for possible intelligence information.

There's no point in risking your life or that of your fellow soldiers, by keeping something because you are afraid you won't get it back. The price you might have to pay is too big. Higher headquarters know you are souvenir-happy, and will send it back if they can - rumors to the contrary. And don't forget: before you go home, you will have a showdown inspection. Any fool who has withheld valuable papers will be court-martialed. Don't take the chance!

SUPERFORT RAID: Cont'd from page two.

returned safely.

Superforts based in the Marianas hit the industrial target of Nagoya for the second time this month. Nagoya is a Jap aircraft production center and the site of the big Mitsubishi plant. Major General Curtis E. LeMay's Twenty First Bomber Command flew the mission.

You still take your morning bath, I suppose?

Never miss it. Sometimes I take it hot, sometimes cold, and when I'm in a hurry, I take it for granted.

PATTON'S TANKS 162 MILES FROM BERLIN

\*\*\*Apr 3--Despite desperate German attempts to halt the American advance, General Eisenhower's armies continued their smashing drive across Germany to within 162 miles of Berlin. The first organized German resistance since the Rhine breakthrough produced furious fighting at Paderborn and in the Kassel area. Tanks of the Fourth Armored Division of the Third Army raced up the Frankfurt-Berlin highway 18 miles west of Paderborn. At that point they were 162 miles from Berlin.

Encirclement of the Ruhr Basin was completed by the juncture of the American Ninth and First Armies. Climaxing a drive across 75 miles of enemy territory by the Ninth Army in less than a week, they joined forces at Lipstadt.

Vanguards of both the American Third and Seventh armies plunged to within one hundred miles of Czechoslovakia. The Third Army is racing toward a juncture with Soviet forces now on the Niesse River, southeast of Berlin. Less than 200 miles separates the Americans and the Soviets. Seventh Army columns are also within 45 miles of Nuernberg and 315 miles of Red troops striking into Austria.

CONTINENTAL AIR FORCE FINISHING LUFTWAFFE

\*\*\*Apr 3--Planes of the Allied tactical air force are roaming the skies over Germany, bringing destruction to remaining Nazi armor and grounded aircraft. In the Kassel sector alone Allied pilots shot up enemy armored vehicles and destroyed or damaged 82 German planes in a surprise attack. Severe weather over Europe grounded heavy bombers based in Britain.

REDS SPRING TRAP ON VIENNA

\*\*\*Apr 3 --Two Soviet armies are closing on Vienna from the south and east. They have already engulfed two towns only 22 miles south of the Austrian capital.

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JAPAN NOW ISOLATED SAYS NIMITZ

\*\*\*Apr 3--In his first communique on the Okinawa operation, Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz declared that our new foothold will enable us to cut Japan off from the world with a sea and air blockade. Standing guard at the entrance to the East China Sea, the Ryukyus will give America an excellent pivot for air and naval attacks on both Formosa and the Japanese homeland.

Admiral Nimitz concluded his commentary with a very optimistic statement. "As our bombing increases in strength and proficiency, our final victory is assured." And while Nimitz spoke of victory, hopes of an early restoration of peace were reflected in the celebration of Easter throughout the world last Sunday.

SUPER-FORTS STRIKE BEWILDERED TOKYO

\*\*\*Apr 3 -- Striking on the heels of the Okinawa invasion, a large force of super-fortresses from the Mariannas attacked Tokyo Sunday. B-29 targets were military installations in the Tokyo district. Although the Air Force communique did not describe the nature of the military targets, it is possible that the B-29's were pinning down Jap aircraft during the first phase of the Okinawa invasion.

YANKS FIGHT JAPS IN LUZON MOUNTAINS

\*\*\*Apr 3--Remember the Philippines? Most of us associate the Philippines with Leyte Island - now tranquil and seemingly a part of the ancient past. But heavy fighting still goes on in the Philippines on Luzon, Negros and Cebu. Gen. MacArthur's latest communique reveals that almost 11,000 more Japs have been killed in the Philippines since March 26. This brings the total figure since the Leyte landing to 311,000 good Japs.

On Luzon, Jap resistance has stiffened along the upper Marikina line, in the

(Cont'd on Page Three)

POLISH FLAG RAISED OVER DANZIG

Mar 31--Marshal Stalin announced that the Baltic port city of Danzig has been captured and that the Polish flag now flies over that city. Over 10,000 German prisoners and 45 U-Boats were taken when German resistance collapsed inside Danzig. This great international naval base was the scene of the first shots of World War II. On Monday September 1, 1939, the Free City of Danzig was shaken by the explosion of shells fired from German batteries of the Schleswig-Holstein, pocket battleship.

While the new Soviet Slovakian offensive on the south battered toward Vienna, other Red Army forces moved toward Neusenden in Austria. Soviet troops have crossed the Austrian frontier town of Koszeg, 50 miles south of Vienna. Moscow said that the German Army's confusion there bordered on panic and that Soviet tanks found it difficult to keep up with the retreating enemy.

LARGE BRITISH FLEET WITH US.

Mar 31--Pacific Fleet headquarters at Guam has revealed that the powerful British naval task force now pounding the Ryukyus is composed of both carriers and heavy surface warships. The task force, attached to Admiral Spruance's Fifth Fleet, sped out from a secret American base on March 22nd to join American units in their attack on the Ryukyus this week. Containing ships famed for Atlantic operations, such as the 35,000 battleship King George and the 23,000 ton carrier Illustrious, the force has been converted

into a fast, self-sustaining, long range unit. Battleships, carriers, cruisers and destroyers are included in its numbers.

Concentrating on the Sakishima Island group, southwest of Okinawa, the British force's planes bombed and strafed installations, destroyed 20 enemy aircraft on the ground and sunk a number of small coastal vessels.

Altho it is a part of the American Fifth Fleet, this task force is self-serving. It uses British made shells and bombs and gets much of its food and equipment from Australia and New Zealand. Vice Admiral Bernard Rawlings commands the force.

YANKS DROP LAOHOKOW AIRFIELD

Mar 31--Facing a new drive by 80,000 Jap troops, the American Fourteenth Air Force has abandoned its base at Laohokow in Hupeh Province. Jap forces pushing westward through Hupeh and Honan provinces from the Hankow-Canton Railway were reported only three miles from Laohokow. The Yanks left the field on March 26 and have bombed it twice since that time.

Laohokow is approximately 350 miles northeast of Chungking and less than 200 miles northeast of Hankow.

They were at sea, the boat was rocking and rolling something awful. One sailor got pretty sick and soon he was leaning over the rail. The captain came along and said "You can't be sick here, sailor. The sailor regarded the captain for a moment and said "Watch."

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