

April 11, 1945.

RESTRICTED
DEADEYE DISPATCH

3.

U.S. TO KEEP NAZI GOLD

***Apr 10--A State Department spokesman in Washington has declared that the huge sum of money captured by the Third Army in Germany belongs to the U. S. government as a legitimate prize of war. It is still too early to find out what the U.S. plans to do with the money, added the spokesman.

Engineers blasted a hole through the brick wall protecting millions of dollars of gold bullion. Inside the vault, the engineers found more than two thousands sacks of coins, four thousand bags of 25 pound gold bars and stack after stack of paper currency. Third Army officers started the laborious job of counting it all.

Reichsbank officials say there is three hundred million dollars worth of gold bullion -- the Reich's whole supply -- three billion German Reichsmarks in currency and two million in American dollars. The officials stated that the money is desperately needed to pay German troops and governmental obligations, since bombings have wrecked the German engraving plant.

TRUMAN ESTIMATES POSTWAR EMPLOYMENT

***Apr 10--Vice President Harry S. Truman has estimated that perhaps two million of the 11 million boys in the services will return to school after the war. Another two million are estimated to be self-employed persons such as farmers, doctors, or lawyers. One million may have special jobs waiting for them. That leaves six million vets to find jobs. Truman also estimated that of the present labor force, three and a half million women will return to housework, half a million persons over 65 will retire, and two million boys from 14 to 17 will return to school.

Use DDT Power every day

JAP RESISTANCE ON OKINAWA STIFFEST YET

***Apr 10--Admiral Nimitz announced that the Japanese on Okinawa now are offering American troops the stiffest kind of resistance yet encountered, including round the clock artillery fire. Doughboys of the XXIV Corps advanced along the west coast of Okinawa toward Naha, and inland toward the important Yonabaru airdrome. Despite Jap resistance, American infantrymen made a two hundred yard advance inland and a four hundred yard advance down the west coast.

American infantrymen captured the villages of Uchitoma and Kiniju in southern Okinawa despite terrific opposition from Japanese entrenched in pill boxes and block houses. To the north, Marines advanced northward against negligible resistance, making gains of from 3,000 to 4,000 yards along the Motobuari Peninsula. Marine fighter pilots are already operating from Katena and Yonten fields, rocketing and strafing enemy positions.

YANK FLIERS SCOURGE CHINA SEA

***Apr 10--General MacArthur has stated that Army and Navy bombers blockading the China Sea sank 221,000 tons of Japanese shipping, probably sank an additional 44,000 tons, and damaged 108,000 tons during the month of March. In the latest strike Saturday, heavy bombers with fighter escort sank three escort vessels, seven freighters, and six barges in sweeps off the China coastline.

On Luzon, the XIV Corps infantrymen captured Tayabas and Lucban, to gain control of the main road network in Tayabas Province south of Manila. This cuts all land escape routes for the enemy. Another 6,000 more Jap dead were counted and 179 captured last week in the Philippines.

SUPERFORTS NEUTRALIZE JAP AIRFIELDS

***Apr 10--B-29's struck airfields in southern Japan in what appeared to be a neutralizing operation for the Okinawa operation.

RESTRICTED

THE DEADEYE

DISPATCH

FIRST TO
THE FRONT



11 April, 1945.

PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH DIV I&EO

Tel Ext 300 Vol 4.No.11

DEADEYES FACE TOUGH FOE

9TH ARMY NEAR ELBE, LAST BERLIN DEFENSE

***April 10--Again, the Allied steamroller in western Europe lunged forward, scoring major gains all the way from Holland to Wuerttemberg, Germany. Tank columns of the Ninth Army's Second Armored Division made a breakthrough which carried them to within 128 miles of Berlin. The tanks had slowed down for two days to cross the Weser River, but broke loose again yesterday and when last reported were advancing on the Berlin superhighway only 20 miles from Brunswick. Last principal defense barrier between the Ninth and Berlin is the Elbe River.

In their rapid advance, the Second Armored Division bypassed Hanover, passing within ten miles of the city. General Simpson did not overlook this important prize, however, and assigned seven infantry and three armored divisions to capture Hanover. Farther to the rear, other Ninth Army forces, together with First Army troops, pressed the cleanup of the Ruhr pocket and fought into Dortmund and Geilenkirchen. Dortmund has a population of 537,000 and Geilenkirchen 313,000.

Lieutenant General Courtney Hodges' First Army, pushed eastward against completely collapsed enemy lines along the Weser River. His infantry troops were reported moving forward as fast

(Cont'd on Page Two)

***April 9--Tuesday morning before dawn, troops of the 96th Division launched an attack on Kakazu Ridge, one of the high points of the main Japanese defense line. The surprise carried the men to their objective by 0610 but then they were subjected to one of the most grueling barrages of artillery and mortar fire ever seen in the Pacific war. By late afternoon the blood-stained assault troops were forced to crawl to the safety of their original positions.

The men that reached their first objective were from "C" and "L" companies of Col. E.T. May's 383rd Infantry. Once there, they discovered just the type of troops we are fighting on Okinawa. The enemy had a carefully prepared defense plan which had been in effect for some time.

According to Lt. Col. C.T. DeHaven, G-3, these soldiers are "excellent troops, as good as anything the Germans have, who are led capably and supported by adequate heavy weapons. They know as much as we do, and are following the best of defensive tactics."

When the forward troops reached their objective a Japanese defensive plan went into operation. They hit the elements of the 1st and 3rd Battalions with fire from previously registered artillery and mortars and launched several counter-attacks in company strength. By 1100, Co C was forced to its original lines. "L" withstood several more counter-attacks and

(Cont'd on Page Two)

Published as the official news organ of Major General J. L. Bradley's 96th Inf Div by the I&E Office, G-3 Section, daily except Monday while in the field. First published on 4 Nov 44. We receive Camp Newspaper Service materials and use the facilities of Army News Service. Republication of credited materials is prohibited without the permission of the originating service.

STAFF: Editorial and Combat Writing: T/4 Sid Meyer, T/4 Joe Hannasch, Pfc Gil Feinstein, Pfc Joseph Kahl, Pvt Leo G. Reeder. Administrative and Reproductive Sgt Joseph Bartoszek, T/4 James F. Koon, T/5 William L. Eubank. Signal Intercept: S/Sgt Calvin Clements, S/Sgt Emil Dargis. Art: Pvt A.A. Foreman, Pvt N.L. Kirk. Officer in Charge - Capt D. W. Millsaps, Jr.

ALL REGIMENTS NOW GET "COFFEE-AND"

Red Cross director, Mr. Charles C. Scott has reported that now all three of the major units of the Deadeyes are receiving coffee and two of them doughnuts each day. Mr. Gus Haury, 382nd Red Cross representative arranged for service company personnel under Capt Harry Lee Cross and Sgt Charles H. Butcher to make 4000 to 5000 doughnuts and 200 to 400 gallons of coffee per day and deliver it to the troops actually in the line. Mr. Bill Braband is doing the job for the 383rd and Mr. Jim Hill for the 381st. All fighting units of the infantry are regularly having the benefits offered by the active members behind the lines.

MAIL SERVICE EXCELLENT

Leaving each day from the island of Okinawa are enough ATC planes to carry all the mail the Deadeyes can find time to write during these busy days of fighting, it was learned today. The planes have been leaving for Guam for the last two days without full loads in their noses.

Mail service to the Deadeyes has been described as outstanding since it first began two days ago. Mail the first day was landed at 0900 and in the hands of regimental troops by 1400.

The DISPATCH is out of staples again. All contributions will be fully appreciated.

MEDICS TO RECEIVE COMBAT BADGES!

A Medical Badge has been authorized by the War Department in "recognition of the service rendered during combat" by members of the Medical Department assigned or attached to the Infantry. It is of silver metal, elliptical in shape, with the caduceus, and the Geneva Cross superimposed on a litter surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves. It will be worn on the left breast above decorations and service ribbons.

The badge will be awarded to the Medical Department personnel regularly assigned or temporarily attached during combat to the Medical detachments of Infantry regiments, battalions or elements thereof since December 7, 1941.

The right to wear the badge may be temporarily withdrawn upon transfer or assignment of the individual to duties other than medical in which he may come in contact with the enemy. In such cases, the right to wear the Medical Badge will be restored on relief from combat duties or reassignment to the Medical Department.

Regt commanders are authorized to make the award for "satisfactory performance of duty under actual combat conditions." They also are given the authority to withdraw the badge if the individual fails to perform his duty satisfactorily.

Enlisted and officer personnel below field grade (major) are eligible for the badge and it may be awarded to the regimental surgeon, regardless of his rank.

Have you found any Jap art supplies? The I&E Office has use for any you have.

PARATROOP ARMY LANDS IN HOLLAND

LAST BERLIN DEFENSE: (Cont from Page 1)

as they could march with full packs under the hot sun. They overran the University town of Goettingen where 15,000 wounded Germans had been left in a hospital.

On the Third Army front, a big tank battle roared into its second day and reconnaissance pilots said the Germans were hurrying reinforcements from Weimar. At last reports, the Third Army had destroyed 50 tanks and was within 130 miles of Berlin.

COSSACKS SURROUND VIENNA

***Apr 10--Soviet cavalrymen have virtually completed the encirclement of Vienna. Red Army tommy gunners pushed two to three miles inside the Austrian capital yesterday while scouts were reported in the heart of the city. Cossack horsemen had crossed the Morava River northeast of Vienna and were racing north of the capital to close the Nazis's 24 mile escape corridor. Other shock troops lunged frontally into Vienna from the southeast.

Bitter street fighting is taking place within the city. As almost the entire southern and eastern districts were simmering, Soviet troops moved on to capture two large railway stations.

Meanwhile, Moscow Radio broadcast the declaration by the Soviet government that Russia regarded the Austrian people as friends and that the Soviet Union had no intention of acquiring Austrian territory or changing the Austrian social system.

Another German city was being encircled far to the north, Marshal Vasilevsky's Third White Russian Army has completed the encirclement of German troops defending the Baltic port of Koenigsberg. More than 15,000 German men and officers were taken yesterday.

***Apr 10--A coordinated offensive from the air and ground has been launched in Holland to cut off thousands of Nazi troops still holding out there. Allied paratroopers rained down over Northern Holland yesterday while the Canadian First Army drove up fast to join them. Press reports said that radio communication had been established between the Canadians and the Airborne troops and that the operation was proceeding successfully.

The Canadians were only 14 miles from the Zuider Zee and four and one-half miles from the last good roads and railways along which thousands of Germans in the coastal cities must escape. In the central Netherlands, the Canadian First Army liberated the communications center of Zutphen after several days of bitter house to house fighting.

General Montgomery's British Second Army, driving up seven miles west of Hanover, wheeled abruptly northward and was last reported seven miles from the port of Bremen. The Second stood 64 miles from Hamburg, Germany's second city.

DEADEYES: (Cont'd from First Page)

then it also reorganized on its previous position.

The forward companies were supported by flanking fire from units on both sides and had all the strength which could be mustered at the time but the Japanese presented too much opposition. Even with the results of the push as they were, the enemy paid heavily for his stand: 285 dead were counted in front of our lines.

Voicing the attitude toward future events General Easley tonight said: "We will not go back; we cannot stay where we are; we must go forward," as plans were made for an all-out attack against the Japanese line.

THE DEADEYE

DISPATCH

FIRST TO THE FRONT



12 April, 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH DIV I&D Tel Ext 300 Vol 4. No. 11

NINTH ARMY TAKES HANOVER

DEADEYES GAIN 300 YDS

***Apr 11--(ID)--In a drive yesterday for a ridge in the vicinity of Kakazu, elements of the Deadeye Division drove against heavy opposition and supported by a preponderance of artillery and naval gunfire to make an average gain of 300 yards along her entire front.

Heroic actions by the troops of the line companies of the 381st and 382nd regiments were heralded by all observers behind the lines as the main drive was made and troops of the 382nd received credit for repulsing strong counterattacks made by the Japanese from caves and emplacements in their zone.

Probably the most outstanding results of the day were obtained by the men of Lt. Col. John G. Cassidy's battalion as they pushed energetically onto the ridge that was their initial objective of the day and by repulsing counterattacks in the afternoon. Today troops of Lt. E. A. Moorer and Capt M. M. Burlison carried forward the move to clean off the ridge and strengthen the position of the regiment.

Men of the 1st battalion of the 383rd were able to reach a saddle early in the morning which would lead them to the capture of their objective but the advance was slowed by heavy artillery and mortar fire during the day.

After a night of much heavy

(Cont'd on Page Two)

***Apr 11--Infantry and tank columns of General Simpson's Ninth Army have captured the important German city of Hanover and to the east of that city reached a point on the superhighway just 120 miles from Berlin. South of the Ninth, Hodges' First Army has captured Sigburg and are less than 60 miles from the Elbe River and 130 miles from Berlin. First and Third Armies have now joined forces near Nordhausen. The Third Army is located three miles from Erfurt and Coburg.

The battle of the Ruhr has turned into a military disaster for the Germans that has few parallels in history. By midnight Monday, more than 26,000 German prisoners had been taken. There is estimated to be about 100,000 German troops caught in the huge Allied Ruhr trap. Another 100,000 or possibly 200,000 Germans are in the process of being sealed off in Holland. Supreme Allied Headquarters has revised upward its estimate of the number of Germans trapped in Holland. The Ruhr pocket has been squeezed to less than 2,000 square miles. German transports are landing in the Ruhr pocket at night to salvage what high-ranking officers they can.

Canadian units in Holland are within 15 miles of the North Sea. They have captured the first German V-2 rocket sites. Gelsenkirchen has also been captured and Essen entered.

Since the Allied armies made their bold crossing of the sacred Rhine, they

(Cont'd on Page Two)

April 11, 1945.

5.

WD FAVORS ARMY-NAVY MERGER

***Apr 10--Secretary of War Stimson declared that the War Department strongly favors establishment of a single department of the armed forces which would merge our present Army and Navy. In a letter to Senator Hill of Alabama, Stimson pointed out that joint Chiefs of Staff already have appointed a special Army-Navy committee to study postwar reorganization of the Armed Forces.

Senator Hill is the author of the bill to set up a Department of Armed Forces with one secretary at the head and undersecretaries of Army, Navy and Air, and other activities. Recently James Byrnes asked Congress to consider merging the armed forces, pointing out that the present system is wasteful and duplicates authority.

WHOLE BLOOD TO BE FLOWN TO PACIFIC

***Apr 10--Brig Gen Fred W. Rankin, U.S. Army Medical Department, said yesterday that whole blood will be flown daily from the States by American planes direct to the battlefronts. A newly-perfected refrigeration unit keeps the whole blood in condition for transfusion for 21 days instead of the former time of 16 days. He said about 1200 pints would be collected in the states daily.

96TH BOX SCORE OF GOOD JAPS

Total for April 9.....	539
Okinawa Total.....	2,666
Leyte Campaign Total.....	7,341
Grand Total to Date.....	10,007

WICKS NIXS NIPS TRICKS

Back at Division headquarters there isn't usually an opportunity to demonstrate bravery in action but that the courage is there has been proven by the valiant deeds of Sgt Elmer Wicks, Paterson N.J., of the Deadeye G-3 office, who singlehandedly captured a Jap. It is true that his captive was a half-starved 80-year-old Okinawan woman but under the circumstances it is only fair to chalk up one prisoner for the doughty doughboy.

Our friend, Elmer, was crossing a field near the CP when he noticed movement in a hole not larger than a gopher burrow.

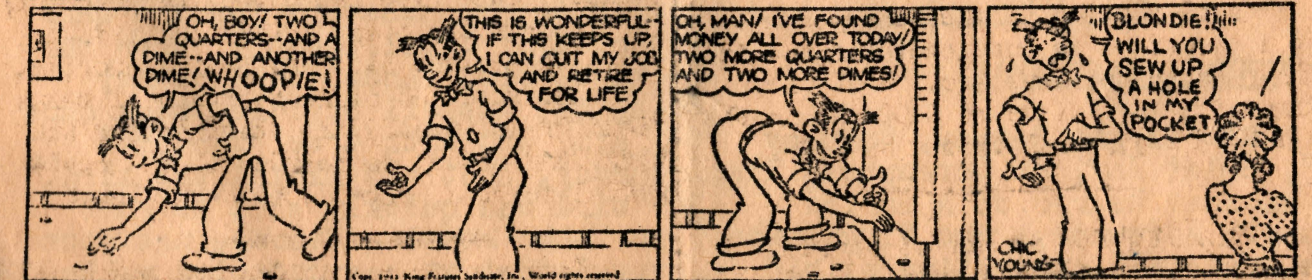
Cocking his carbine, Elmer approached cautiously until he could see a small piece of blanket sticking out of the hole. While another soldier with him went back for reinforcements, Elmer maintained a vigilant guard over the opening!

In the meantime Sgt. Wicks ordered whoever was inside to come out or he would pour bullets down the hole. Then grabbing an end of the blanket, he engaged in a tug of war with the holed up Japanese. With a great display of strength he finally managed to drag out a half-starved old Japanese woman who had been hiding there for over a week subsisting on a few beans.

ITALIAN FRONT SHOWS LIFE

***Apr 10-- The long dormant Italian front showed signs of life today as Fifth Army troops captured Mt. Belvedere, 3,000 feet peak and drove within 2 miles of Mas

BLONDIE Courtesy King Features Syndicate, Inc., Distributed by CNS by CHIC YOUNG



April 12, 1945.

U. S. COMPARES NAHA LINE TO SIEGFRIED

***Apr 11--San Francisco Radio has quoted a Tenth Army staff officer as saying that the Jap defense line near Naha is so strong it can be compared with the Siegfried Line. Every available Marine and Army big gun is being used to pound these positions. Leather-neck artillery not needed in the northern sector of Okinawa has been brought to the front lines of the XXIV Army Corps.

Stateside news credited guns of United States warships with blasting Nip strongpoints. Marine fighter planes based on two captured airfields, are also attacking the Naha line.

Home news about Okinawa strongly resembles in tone, dispatches received from Europe during the western front stall preceding the Ardennes breakthrough.

DEADEYES: (Cont'd from Page One)

artillery falling in their area the "Leaders" of Col M. L. Dill fought against the bitterest resistance yet encountered in their zone of action during the Okinawa Campaign. Supported by tanks until heavy rain bogged them down late in the day and delayed by machine gun fire along their route of advance the stalwarts pushed in their area and the 2nd battalion under Lt. Col Sterner and Capt J. Harbison had one of the fiercest actions in the sector during the afternoon.

Weather conditions rendered the air support which had been planned useless since planes could not fly their missions.

In the 7th Division sector, progress was not as great. On the right flank of this unit no advance was made although numerous caves and pill boxes were mopped up and mines removed from the areas. On the left flank an advance of about 400 yards was made against light resistance from the Japanese.

RED ARMY PLUNGES ON TOWARD MUNICH

***Apr 11--Red Army forces beyond Vienna headed today for Munich and Prague, and link-up with Allied armies in the West. Inside Vienna, Soviet storm units battled the Germans for the last few blocks in the city. Moscow Radio said "the fall of Vienna is imminent."

Far to the north, other Russian troops along the Baltic coast captured the East Prussian capital of Koenigsberg after a massive 33 hour barrage which opened three lines of fortifications. Koenigsberg is known as the cradle of Prussian militarism. Seizure of Koenigsberg was hailed in the Russian press as one of the great victories of the war, comparable to breaching the Siegfried Line in the West.

NINTH ARMY: (Cont'd from Page One)

have found no German opposition of any consequence. Their advance has been limited only by the ability of their troops to keep up with mechanized units. There is the distinct possibility that Hodges' First and Patton's Third armies will meet Russian spearheads now driving up from Czechoslovakia.

With the British and Canadians cutting off Holland and northwestern Germany, it appears that Germany will be cut into three large segments. One segment is the Holland area cut by the British, while the other two portions will be formed of north central and south central Germany when the Allied armies meet the Russians.

96TH BOX SCORE OF GOOD JAPS

Total for April 10.....	378
Okinawa Total.....	3,044
Leyte Campaign Total.....	7,341
Grand Total to Date.....	10,385

Juliet, dearest, I'm burning with love for you. --Come now, Romeo, don't make a fool of yourself

April 11, 1945

UNIT REPORTERS COLUMN

T/5 R. Drechsler; T/5 J. Gordon; T/5 J. Murphy; T/5 N. Hutton. (Unit Reporters)

AT CO, 383rd INF

AT Co is proud to announce that it has finally come into its own on this operation. Its three gun platoons have been on the front lines continuously, and the weapon of S/Sgt Kui Lincoln, Honolulu, Hawaii, has already taken toll of a Jap seventy-five, two pillboxes, a pig, and a low-flying grouse. The 4th platoon has been removing quickly-placed Jap mines, and now have five pounders to their credit. These recent events have already somewhat obliterated the memory of Leyte's ignominious days of ration-carrying.

While rolling down from the hills on the evening of the 3rd day, the AT trucks chanced to pass by the I&R Platoon's location what a sight greeted the eye! Two of the I&R crew were welding shovels, excavating subterranean vaults for the approaching evening, and four others were busily engaged in a chalk talk on the better points of softball. They state that they have been saving plenty of yen for that approaching game with AT Co, -- and have but one stipulation to make before final negotiations may be arranged: the game must be played on a cloudy day, with the likely possibility that it will rain like hell at any minute.

by Gene Dapron, AT Co
383rd Inf

"TRUE INFANTRYMAN"

Pfc Virgil Ramsey, Company "K", 381st Inf, of Davenport, Iowa, is an ammo bearer of a mortar squad. A few days ago Virgil won the grace and admiration of his

comrades in an action that proved he is a man "to ride the River with The Company had been advancing steadily on exceedingly rough terrain all day. Ramsey, along with him comrades of the weapons platoon was almost exhausted after a long climb up a steep hill. Suddenly, the leading platoon of the Company came under heavy enemy fire, and received a number of casualties. Upon hearing the call for help to carry out the wounded, exhausted as he was, Ramsey dropped his ammo bag and rushed forward to give aid. He helped carry two men out of exposed positions and returned all the way to the bottom of the hill with another. When the wounded man was safely delivered to the aid station Ramsey collapsed from sheer physical exhaustion. From such action can be credited the probability of saving a man's life.---Our hats off to Ramsey!

Co K, 381st Inf.

"DEADEYE ACCURACY"

A Japanese message was intercepted in a rather unique manner today. It was getting along toward dusk when sharp-eyed Pfc Wm Scritchfield, Co B, of Searcy, Ark., exclaimed, "Here come a carrier pigeon and there's a note tied to its leg! There was a quick debate, and it was decided that the pigeon should join his feathery ancestors for the benefit of Army Intelligence. When the luckless bird landed in a nearby tree, Sgt Russell Steimle, took careful aim, and with true "Deadeye" accuracy, shot and killed the bird. The bird was quickly sent to the rear, bird hunting Steimle has been assured that it has definite value.