

April 16, 1945.

RESTRICTED
DEAD EYE DISPATCH

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WORLD PAUSES TO MOURN FDR

Apr 14 (ANS)--Saturday was set aside as a day of national mourning for Franklin D. Roosevelt. President Truman, in his first proclamation, set the tone for the occasion by urging all Americans to gather during the day at their places of worship and pay homage to the memory of his predecessor.

Similar in tone was the spontaneous reaction of sorrow and grimmer determination that spread over the world except in Japan and Germany. A British parliament adjourned by Prime Minister Churchill out of respect to a man of "immortal renown". Throughout Mexico there will be three days of official mourning; battle flags are at half mast on bloody Okinawa; and General Eisenhower messaged to Mr. Truman, "The American armies in Europe pledge to you, our new Commander-in-Chief, our unremitting efforts for the achievement of final victory." A three minute silence period proclaimed yesterday in China the same tribute the Chinese pay weekly to their greatest national figure, Sun Yat Sen. Such was the feeling of the civilized world.

WARM SPRINGS FRIENDS SAY GOODBYE

Apr 14 (ANS)--At Warm Springs Georgia, the crippled friends of Franklin Delano Roosevelt bade him a last silent farewell yesterday. In wheel chairs they stood with heads bowed as the caisson passed on its way to the train. They formed a semicircle in front of the white columned portico of the big administration building in the heart of the Shady Cottage reservation.

More than a hundred of the 125 patients were there. All but the few who could not leave their beds sat in wheel chairs, none of them with braces. In the brilliant morning sunshine, the procession moved slowly to the tempo of 2,000 combat troops from nearby Fort Benning. With Mrs. Roosevelt and other friends and relatives near him, the body was under a constant military guard.

HOW THEY SEE US
OKI HOME DISPATCHES

For the ninth straight day, the Okinawa southern battle front remained unchanged. Yank doughboys smashed back a Jap counterattack in battalion strength while American naval guns and field artillery joined the roaring fight to repulse the fanatical Japs. On the norther Okinawa front, Marines continued to gain ground against sporadic resistance.

In his Friday communique Admiral Nimitz added more than a hundred Jap planes to the 118 he reported destroyed around Okinawa the day before. Nimitz reported more than 1300 Jap planes destroyed in the last 12 days.

Those were the outstanding developments in the Okinawa battle as seen by newspapers and radio throughout the United States.

DEAD EYES GET PUBLICIZED

With the Deadeye's no longer the "secret weapon" of the Okinawa campaign war correspondents are continuing to spotlight the heroic doughboys of the 96th.

Recent American additions at "Futome Lodge" - the Division press shack include Tom Morrow of the Chicago Tribune and Nixson Denton of the Cincinnati Times-Star. Earlier in the week, men from the Cincinnati area also were in the news through the presence of Milt Chase of WLN, only independent radio station represented in this theater.

Also with the Division now are three representatives of the Australian press - Bill Marlen, Axel Olson, and Alwyn Lee.

Recent visitors have included Gilbert Bundy of King Features and other correspondents, previously named, who drop in regularly.

Take atabrine daily

RESTRICTED

THE DEADEYE



DISPATCH

FIRST TO THE FRONT

Mon. 16 April, 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH DIV I&SO Tel Ext 300 Vol 4, No 16

VON PAPEN CAPTURED!

VIENNA FALLS; SOVIETS RACE ON TO PRAGUE

Apr 15 (ANS)--The Red Army Friday captured Vienna after a week's siege, taking more than 130,000 Nazi prisoners. This clears the way for a drive on Prague and Hitler's mountain resort in Bavaria. The second city of Hitler's greater Germany, 2,000 year old Vienna was where Hitler as an embittered and obscure young artist first dreamed of world conquest. It was the tenth European capital to be occupied by the Red Army, and the 18th to be liberated or dominated by the Allies. Eleven German tank divisions were smashed in the fighting in and around Vienna, Moscow said.

Marshal Gregory Zhukov's Army is reported by Berlin to be probing defenses west of the Oder River toward Berlin in "regimental strength." Moscow Radio yesterday broadcast an official statement that the Red Army had captured Lidice, the Czechoslovakian town of death where the Nazis murdered an entire population in reprisal for the assassination of Reinhardt Heydrich, German controller of Bohemian Moravia.

TRUMAN ASSUMES HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES

Apr 15 (ANS)--With a tearful "please pray for me," Harry S. Truman gathered up the Presidential reins of a nation at War as nations the world over mourned the passing of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The

(Cont'd on Page Two)

PATTON'S THIRD CUTS GERMANY IN HALF!
U.S. FIRST ARMY 55 MILES FROM BERLIN

Apr 15 (ANS)--LATE FLASH! FRANZ VON PAPAN SUPER DIPLOMAT AND SALESMAN OF NAZISM, HAS BEEN REPORTED CAPTURED IN THE RUHR POCKET. HE WAS GERMANY'S "WHITE HOPE" IN TRYING TO WIN TURKEY TO THE NAZI CAUSE, BUT HAD LOST OUT TO ALLIED DIPLOMATS. BY HIS CAPTURE, THE ALLIES HAVE TAKEN THE FIRST OF THE HIGH NAZI LEADERS.

General Patton's Third Army virtually cut Germany in half Friday with a sensational 32 mile armored spurt that roared to within 90 miles of the Russian line and 38 miles from Dresden. This brings Third Army units almost due south of Berlin. Rocketing eastward almost unopposed, the Fourth Armored Division hurdled the Mulde River ten miles northwest of the big communications center of Chemnitz, whose fall would cut the last main rail line from Berlin to the Brenner Pass.

Third Army doughfeet were racing to cut off all chances of a Nazi retreat into the Bavarian mountains, toward which huge forces of the enemy are already streaming. Farther north, Patton's Sixth Armored Division was outflanking Berlin itself, reaching the Mulde River southeast of embattled Leipzig, and about 85 miles due south of Berlin. The Third Army took 1,588 German prisoners yesterday, which brings their total for four days to 136,741.

(Cont'd on Page Two)

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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 Reproduction: Sgt Joseph Bartoszek, T/4 James F. Koon, T/5 William L. Abank, Signal Intercept: S/Sgt Calvin Clements, S/Sgt Emil Dargi. Art: Pvt A.A. Foreman, Pvt N.L. Kirk.
Officer in Charge - Capt D. W. Millsaps, Jr.

THE JAP SOLDIER

The average Japanese soldier is an ignorant peasant and a bandy-legged runt of a weakling who is no match physically or mentally for an American soldier. That's what Americans believe who haven't had anything to do with Japanese soldiers.

Americans who have fought them know better, reports YANK, The Army Weekly.

The Jap soldier has great strength and endurance. Jap patrols have been known to start out at midnight and make a point sixty miles away by next afternoon marching steadily without a break.

In a recent report, the OWI also scotched the commonly held belief that the average Jap is an illiterate dope: 99.6% of the total population can read or write -- better than we can say for the U.S. -- and the average Jap soldier has had at least two years in high school, which is also the average for the American GI.

According to OWI, the Jap soldiers are just about our equals in fighting ability, endurance and all other departments except one. Their one fault is lack of individual initiative.

On the other hand, the Japs are hard fighters and dangerous because they place a low value on human life, particularly their own. They have two great incentives to risk their lives: (1) the belief, taught from infancy, that their Emperor is divine and that the greatest glory of the Jap is to die for the Emperor and (2) the fear encouraged by their officers, that if they surrender, they will be tortured and killed.

Editors Note: You, DISPATCH reader, have fought these men. What do you think of them? We welcome comments for publication.

NOT YET, BUT SOON, WE HOPE

Well fellas, we jumped the gun yesterday. Rumors of German surrender and that Russia had declared war on Japan were unconfirmed at 1300 yesterday. Higher headquarters phoned down that the news was "official" and we passed it on to you as such.

The source of rumors is usually a mystery, but this one was traced to a garbled radio message. Because a Navy radio operator had pounded out "THAT resistance has ceased in Germany" instead of "WHEN resistance has ceased in

Germany" the whole XXIV Corps, in fact the entire Pacific Command, thought of packing duffle bags.

But don't despair. And you can bet your last yen that when the real news comes in, it will be sent out by all air wire services to you.

HOME-TOWN SHORTS

Des, Moines--Four discharged Iowa war vets who went into business for themselves - were paid a total of \$368 for October because their businesses as yet failed to support them, done thru the GI Bill of Rights.

PATTON: (Cont'd from Page One)

Not to be outdone by Patton, General Hodges' First Army to the north raced ahead 30 miles to capture the industrial center of Burgisbor, 55 miles southwest of Berlin. Still farther north, the British Second and Canadian First Armies were driving toward the North Sea, flanking Bremen and rapidly cutting off all Holland and northwestern Germany. General Patch's Seventh Army, on the southern end of the western front, reached points within 30 miles of Nuernburg.

ITALIAN FRONT ACTIVE AGAIN

Apr 14(ANS)--Rome announced that Eighth Army troops have driven along the Rimini Highway into the outskirts of the Po Valley Highway center, 21 miles southeast of Bologna. They reported only scattered resistance. Farther north, heavy fighting continued in the bridgehead across the Santerno River.

On the other end of the Italian front, Fifth Army troops moved farther north along the coast against light enemy resistance. They captured Lapizza, a 3,000 ft. peak northwest of newly-occupied Castell-poglio.

TRUMAN: (Cont'd from Page One)

new President went quickly to work conferring with the heads of the state and military departments of government. But the emotional weight of his new responsibilities came down upon him at noon as he returned to his old haunts at the Capitol to confer with congressional leaders.

Tears swelled in his eyes when he saw the familiar capitol newsmen. He reverted to the language of his Missouri farm youth to describe the crushing weight of his new job. "I don't know if any of you fellows ever had a load of hay or a bull fall on you," he said, "but last night the whole weight of the moon and stars fell on me. I feel a tremendous responsibility. Please pray for me. I mean that."



RECORD SUPERFORT RAID ON TOKYO

Apr 14(ANS)--Tokyo is still blazing today from what may prove to be its greatest aerial lashing of the war to date. American superfortresses in "very great strength" - possibly 400 sky giants -- blasted the Tokyo arsenal area with incendiaries a half hour after midnight Friday, Japanese time. Hitting a half dozen miles of the Imperial Palace, the B-29's rained fire bombs on a five mile square area. (See above map).

Concentrating on three major arsenals, the low flying superforts had thirty additional specific targets. All of the objectives were in the heart of a fire trap area containing hundreds of wooden houses. Tokyo Radio acknowledged that fires raged in the city until dawn Saturday when they were brought "under control" by civilian fire brigades.

It was the second B-29 strike against Tokyo in the past 38 hours and the 15th on the Jap capital.

THE DEADEYE

DISPATCH

FIRST TO THE FRONT



Tues. 17 April, 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH DIV I&D Tel Ext 300 Vol 4, No 1

PATTON NEARS RED ARMY

BERLIN SAYS REDS OPEN FINAL DRIVE

Apr 16(ANS)--DNB, German news agency, said Saturday night that massed Red Army forces are attacking on the Berlin front after paralyzing barrages by six inch artillery guns. According to the Germans, these huge guns opened the assault against Berlin and had already torn breaches in defenses 30 miles from the capital.

Scores of tanks were reported in action and a big armored battle was developing. Berlin believed that the last grand scale Red Army offensive of the war was opening.

JAPS FEAR RED MOVE

Apr 16(ANS)--A Chinese Army spokesman at Chungking said the Japs were rushing their mechanized forces from the Shanghai region to Manchuria as a result of Moscow's abrogation of the Russo-Japanese non-aggression treaty.

Bitter warfare raged on many fronts in China as the advantage was reported to be with the Chinese. Japanese threats to Shensi Province and Chungking were said by the Chinese High Command to have been frustrated by the general counter-offensive in southwestern Honan Province. The important highway town of Siangyang, 30 miles southeast of Loehokow, was placed under direct assault by the Chinese. In the south, the Japs drive was repelled.

Apr 16(ANS)--Germany's remaining army must now turn for a back to back stand or be cut off from retreat into the southern mountains of Bavaria. Three tank columns of the American First and Third Armies drove deep beyond embattled Leipzig in the heart of Germany and ripped thru rear supply bases of the German forces facing the Soviets before Berlin. Trapped between the American First and Third, and the Red forces, the Nazis must fight their way out if they are to reach the relative safety of the Bavarian Alps. A mere 85 miles now prevents the Eastern and Western fronts from becoming one steel ring around Germany's battered remnants.

The American broadcasting station in Europe told the German people that the entry into Berlin was imminent and asserted a state of tension existed in the capital. Berlin is now menaced by American forces 45 miles away and Soviet troops 30 miles distant. A partial news blackout is screening movements of the Ninth Army, which may be even closer to the Reich capital.

Armored divisions of the First and Third Army have struck deep into the heart of Germany south of Berlin. The last large-scale fighting may well take place in this southern sector.

The American Seventh Army continued to advance in the sector of Stuttgart, while the French First Army also made progress in the direction of Freiburg.

April 16, 1945

DEADEYE DISPATCH

ESCAPE FROM HELL

by Pfc Joseph A. Kahl

April 10 (delayed)--"Leo, I hope I'll see you again, but I don't understand how you can make it. God help the bunch of you." Thus over the radio came the emotion-filled voice of Capt Hugh D. Young, battalion staff officer, who once was company commander of many of the men he was now giving up for lost.

He spoke to 1st Lt. Leo W. Ford, sole remaining officer of a group of men who were cut off from our lines with small chance of return.

Their harrowing story began in the middle of the morning of April 9th, when all available men of the 1st Battalion, 383rd Infantry, were gathered together to make a second assault on a promontory of Kakazu ridge, after a pre-dawn attack had failed. 46 men were the only uninjured ones in the vicinity. They were led by Capt John C. Van Vulpen, 2d Lt. William R. Neiman, and Lt. Ford.

They found it impossible to advance up the hill; enemy fire was too severe. Seven men were wounded, and were carried on stretchers improvised from ponchos. The field behind them was swept by fire, cutting off retreat. In desperation, they fled down a gulch cutting to the right.

Lt. Neiman and two machine gunners acted as the point. After a bit they advanced beyond the rest of the party, and lost contact. Later in the day,

two of them reached our lines.

Capt Van Vulpin and T/Sgt John J. Summers, went to reconnoiter an escape route. They reached battalion headquarters, and sent a volunteer litter party back to the trapped group, consisting of S/Sgt William McElheran, radio Sergeant, Pfc Tom Yee, Pfc William Leonchik, Pfc John Kwasnik, Pvt Allan Schmidt and T/5 James Goodart, medical technician, who had received a radiogram two hours previously announcing the birth of a son.

When McElheran arrived, he and Pfc Chuck Bassett ran out into enemy fire to retrieve a walkie-talkie, and re-established radio contact with battalion headquarters. They asked for mortar smoke, but the Japs sent shells of their own over at the same time, confusing the observers and making it impossible to get the smoke over the right area. It was then that Capt Young bid farewell to his men.

Moving further down the gulch, the men were showered by huge boulders loosened by an air strike in progress against the Japs on the top of the ridge just 300 yards away.

They finally reached the lines of the 3rd Battalion, and after a hellish night during which they were bombarded with mortar fire, reported to an astonished regiment that had given them all up as "missing in action."

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



LONDON, MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON
HOLD ROOSEVELT MEMORIALS

Apr 16(ANS)--Men and women of the United Nations joined in mourning President Roosevelt's death yesterday. Churches throughout the United States held memorial services for the late President and for divine guidance of the new President, Harry S. Truman.

On the battle fronts of the world, men of all the armed services paid tribute to their former commander-in-chief as military conditions permitted. Five minutes of silence was observed by Allied armies throughout the European theater at 3:00 P.M. yesterday. The whole U.S. Army and Navy entered a thirty day period of mourning. Men of the armed forces stood in close formation to attend memorial services on the decks of American ships in every ocean of the world. In many of these ships, the sound of battle was clearly audible in the background.

Millions of Britons joined in prayers for President Roosevelt at Anglican Church Services. The British Empire's memorial will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. In Moscow, black bordered red flags flew from all official buildings in accordance with official Soviet decree ordering two days of mourning. This was the first time in Soviet history that black bordered flags have flown for a foreign statesman.

In Washington, a solemn procession thru the capital's streets was witnessed by thousands. The services, attended by a small group that included members of the family, President Truman and other dignitaries, were majestic in their simplicity. In the flower docketed East Room where the Roosevelts had known many happy hours during their White House residence, Bishop Angus Dun called on the Lord to "Remember thy servant, Franklin Delano."

A brief rainstorm about a half hour before the services sent thousands of Washingtonians who had witnessed the military funeral procession, scattering for cover, but the sun soon shone again.

HOW THEY SEE US

OKI HOME DISPATCHES

Ground fighting remained in a stalemate on southern Okinawa, as American and British carrier aircraft raked airfields and towns on Formosa and adjacent islands on Friday and Saturday.

Infantrymen of the Ninety-Sixth Infantry Division threw back a small counterattack on southern Okinawa, while Marines swept ahead in the north against still minor opposition. They were within ten miles of the northern tip of the island. Although Radio Tokyo mentioned the stalemate on Okinawa, she admits the situation is changing for the worse.

U. S. pilots destroyed seven enemy aircraft aground and damaged 25 others. The British damaged a number of enemy planes on the ground on Formosa and heavily raided hangars, barracks, and buildings. Three Jap planes were shot down out of a group attacking the British Task Force. AP dispatches from Okinawa state that 218 Jap planes were shot down in two days in the Okinawa area, and that Jap pilots appear to be inferior.

POLISH TROOPS CAPTURE IMOLA

Apr 16(ANS)--Associated Press dispatches say that Imola, important junction town on the Bologna-Rimini Highway in Italy, was captured yesterday by Polish troops of the British Eighth Army. The Germans were reported throwing in heavy reinforcements in a desperate effort to smash hard won Eighth Army bridgeheads over the Sillaro River. In the face of bitter opposition Eighth Army attacks made only modest gains northwestward towards Ferrara.

American troops of the Fifth Army advanced through rugged terrain northwest of Vergato and seized control of the two mile long Buffono Bridge. Vergato is 17 miles southwest of Bologna, important German supply and communications center in the Po Valley.

BOHOL FALLS WITHOUT FIGHT

Apr 14(ANS)--One day after American troops landed on Bohol Island in the Visayas, General MacArthur reported the island "under our control." Yanks had poured ashore yesterday, meeting practically no resistance on Bohol's beaches. Located just northwest of Mindanao, Bohol became the last major Jap-held island in the Philippines to be invaded by American troops.

American doughfoot on Luzon were closing in on Baguio, the summer capital of the Philippines and key point in Luzon's Benguet Mountains. They are now three miles from Baguio's city limits.

Our forces hacked out gains on Bicol and Balate Pass areas of Luzon. In the latter sector, they wiped out several Jap infiltration units.

DEAD EYE KILLS 15 JAPS

Pfc Delmar Parrish, Liverpool, W. Va., a member of Company C, 383rd Infantry, believes in doing business wholesale.

Recently his company was hit by a banzai charge. Fifteen Japs, led by a saber-wielding Lieutenant, charged right for Parrish's foxhole. He jumped up out of his hole with his BAR, and kept firing until his hand was burned by the hot barrel. Next morning all 15 were lying in front of his position, very much dead.

TAKEN BY MISTAKE

Taken by mistake from the Deadeye Signal Co Radio Section was a Hallicrafter radio set belonging to someone who did not see it. Please call the Deadeye office, Frontier 300 if you have it and do not know where to return it. The set was an S-20-R with a Mallory Vibrapak #557.

96TH BOX SCORE OF GOOD JAPS

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Total for April 14..... | 262 |
| Previous Okinawa Total..... | 4,216 |
| Loyte Campaign Total..... | 7,341 |
| Grand Total to Date..... | 11,819 |

NIMITZ ISSUES STATEMENT ON JAP PILOT

"For some months the Japanese have been employing aircraft on a gradually increasing scale in suicidal attacks upon our forces in the Western Pacific. These aircraft were initially piloted by a group of pilots who were known as Kamikaze corps by the Japanese. The enemy made much in his propaganda of this "sure death-sure hit" suicide technique, which is simply an attempt to crash planes on the decks of our ships.

The enemy has expended a large number of planes on missions of this nature with negligible effect on the continuing success of our operations. Some major units of the fleet have been damaged, but no battleship, no fast carrier, or cruiser has been sunk. Some smaller ships have been sunk, but in the great majority of cases they have remained in operation after being struck by one of these suicide planes. This reflects credit on our officers and men and also on the designers of our ships.

Effective methods of meeting and destroying suicidal attacks have been developed and will continue to be employed to increase the toll of Japanese aircraft shot down by our aircraft and by our anti-aircraft guns.

The "Kamikaze corps" is apparently being used not only to attempt to damage our forces, but also to try to stir the lagging spirits of the Japanese people. Although these "Sure-death-sure hit" pilots are reported to be volunteers many have very willingly become survivors of "suicide" missions and are now prisoners of war.

The enemy claims for "suicide swimmers", human torpedoes and suicide speedboats hardly need comment. In the majority of such attacks up to this date, these personnel have failed completely in their mission but have been successful in committing suicide.

The suicide technique is continuing. It cannot prevent our continuing success in the war in the Pacific!

(Extracts)