

April 18, 1945.

RESTRICTED  
DEADEYE DISPATCH

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MOLOTOV TO REPRESENT RUSSIA AT S.F.

Apr 17(ANS)--Foreign Commissar Molotov of Russia is expected to come to Washington and confer with President Truman en route to the San Francisco Conference. Diplomatic officials speculated on such visit Sunday as a second gesture by the Russian Government toward closing the Big Three ranks following the death of President Roosevelt.

The first gesture was Premier Stalin's assent to Mr. Truman's request that Molotov be designated as the Soviet representative to the United Nations' meeting starting April 25th. The prospect of a meeting with Molotov and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden of Britain promises a busy week of international affairs for Mr. Truman. His first full week in office will be highlighted by a 15-minute address to a joint session of Congress on foreign affairs.

BIG LOHOKOW BATTLE

Apr 17(ANS)--For the first time in the war, Chinese troops are winning the initiative in the fight for their homeland. Widespread fighting is raging north and southeast of Loehokow, American airbase taken by Jap troops only a few weeks ago. Inside the city of Loehokow, Chinese were liquidating Jap suicide troops trapped in a Catholic church. Street fighting raged at Kikwanchiao, highway town 15 miles north of Loehokow.

Farther north, the Chinese were at the gates of the walled town of Sichwan. They also reached the Han River port of Siangyang, 30 miles southeast of Loehokow.

On the Hunan front, where the Jap objective may be the Yank airbase at Chihkiang, bitter fighting was in progress in the Paoching area.

American planes from China bases hit railroads, river shipping and air-dromes. Six Yank planes failed to return from the raids.

OKINAWA PICTURE

STATESIDE NEWS RELEASES

Apr 16- American forces on the southern Okinawa front continued to pound Jap defenses with heavy artillery and repulsed three counterattacks with heavy casualties to the enemy. In one of three counterattacks launched by the enemy along the southern sector, 96th Division troops killed more than 100 Japanese along Kakazu Ridge. The ridge is 2,000 yards inland from the western shore of the island. American artillery then smashed a second column of Japs as it prepared to attack.

There was virtually no other change along the southern front where the Japs are defending strongly prepared positions about four miles north of the island's capital city of Naha. Japanese artillery fire was reported lighter. At the same time, the Japs moved up some supplies under harassing Yank artillery.

Third Amphibious Corps Marines pushed toward the island's northern tip against light resistance. They were less than 10 miles away. The 4th and 29th Regiments of the Sixth Marine Division attacked a large pocket of Japs offering stiff resistance in the hills along the southern coast of Motobu Peninsula. The remainder of the Peninsula, which juts off the northwest coast of Okinawa, was in Marine's hands.

Other Yanks occupied tiny Koufu Island in the Kerama Group, off southwestern Okinawa. 77th Division infantry had occupied eight of these little Kerama Islands six days before the Easter Sunday landings on Okinawa.

Radio towers and buildings on Tanega Island in the northern Ryukyus were attacked by carrier planes and a small cargo ship off the island was damaged.

Chicago, (ANS)-Servicemen got a real surprise in the Easter egg-rolling in Grant Park Easter Sunday. To save food, brightly colored wooden "eggs" were used.

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THE DEADEYE



DISPATCH

FIRST TO THE FRONT

Wed. 18 April, 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH DIV I&EO Tel Ext 300 Vol 4 No 17

U.S. 7TH CAPTURES NUERNBERG

TOKYO FLAMES VISIBLE 100 MILES AT SEA!

Apr 17(ANS)--For the second time in 48 hours 400 Superfortresses rained thousands of incendiaries on Tokyo. The capital was still burning from last Saturday's attack, which had burned out eleven square miles of the arsenal area.

In the latest two pronged attack, the B-29's hit the main industrial area and Tokyo's industrial suburbs of Kawasaki. Large fires flared up within the industrial areas in the southwest part of the city. Crews returning to their bases reported that fires set off by incendiary bombs merged into a conflagration visible one hundred miles at sea. One Superfort crew was 137 miles enroute home when it observed explosions that illuminated the whole sky over Tokyo.

Reconnaissance photos showed 296,000,000 square feet of Tokyo's arsenal area were burned out in the two raids preceding yesterday's. This brought to 28 square miles the area devastated in Tokyo by the two attacks.

96TH BOX SCORE OF GOOD JAPS

Total for April 16.....	19
Previous Okinawa Total.....	4,644
Loyte Campaign Total.....	7,341
Grand Total to Date.....	12,004

Apr 17(ANS)--Spearheads of General Patch Seventh Army entered the Nazi Shrine cit of Nuernberg in Bavaria on the night of April 16, several hours after Patton's Third Army cleared through to the Czech border. Units of the Third Army from the south and the First Army from the north are closing in on Chemnitz, a communications city 33 miles west of Dresden. Yanks of Patton's Third Army are already disrupting German supply lines to the Eastern front.

The Eleventh Division of the Third Army captured the Wagnerian festival city of Bayreuth, first locality to fall in the American drive into Bavaria. Distance of the U. S. First and Third Armies from the Russian lines varies from 70 to 75 miles.

French Army forces, aided by French naval units broke through the outer German defenses around the Atlantic port of Bordeaux. The French were bent on clearing this port so that more food and civilian supplies could be brought into hungry France.

U. S. First Army spearheads have begun shelling the German city of Leipzig from three sides as they places that city under seige. (See map on P. Two)

Ninth Army forces pounded four mile beyond the Elbe River Sunday in furious fighting 53 miles southwest of Berlin. Previously, the Germans dealt the Americans a setback by smashing our second  
(Cont'd on Page Two)

April 18, 1945.

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General Eisenhower has stated that American troops in Europe will be alerted at an hours notice for transfer to this theater when VE Day arrives. This statement implies a major change in plans. It means that millions of troops will come this way immediately instead of returning home under the provisions of the Demobilization Act. Having decided to finish this war in the shortest possible time, the War Department will use the bulk of our European armies to deal Japan a knock-out blow.

But how will the GI in Europe feel? Perhaps he has fought all the way from Casablanca to Berlin. He's certainly tired of war and longs to see his family again. The nerve shattering effects of enemy guns and the bitter cold of winter haven't sharpened his appetite for war. Will he welcome the prospect of slogging thru another campaign in the Pacific?

He knows it won't be fun. If he ever had any illusions about war, he lost them long ago. But he's realist enough to see that it will take a terrific wallop to finish off Japan. She is gambling on just the possibility that guys like himself, growing weary, will want a peace that leaves her a few stolen fruits. This GI also knows that he, personally, will be needed to convince the Japs that they must give up ALL they have stolen, that they've stepped on other peoples for the last time.

And being a soldier, he senses the tide of victory, knows that the time to crush Japan is on the momentum of that tide. This GI wants to finish the war once and for all.

Today, General Eisenhower announced that there would be no peace in Europe until all pockets in Germany had been cleared out -- which probably will take some time. So that our hopes for a quick transfer of troops here must not be high. But it is encouraging to note the change in policy of the overall picture.

TIME MARCHES ON!

(Radio Tokyo April 15, 1942) "With the imminent fall of Corregidor, the entire waters of the southwestern Pacific will become an exclusive lake for the Japanese navy. Now American and British warships will be completely shut out."

(Japanese Radio Manila, April 18, 1944) "At the rate the American army and Navy are going, it will take them a hundred years to reach Japan."

(Radio Tokyo April 15, 1945) "Our forces in Burma completed a strategic readjustment of their lines as the focal point of the war moves southward..." "Japanese civilians hitherto exempt from military service are now entitled to play an important part in the volunteer army and dedicate every ounce of their energy to the cause."

April 18, 1945.

SOVIET BERLIN DRIVE STILL UNCONFIRMED

Apr 17 (ANS)--The German Radio said Sunday night that Russian armored forces had ripped new breaches in Berlin's outer defenses only 24 miles from the Nazi capital. The Soviet communique made no mention of the large Russian offensive which German broadcasts claimed was underway toward Berlin. One Russian officer was quoted as saying, "When this offensive starts, the whole world will know about it. The Germans should not be so impatient. It is coming."

To the south, Stalin announced that Soviet tanks rolling across Austria toward Hitler's hideout at Berchtesgaden had captured St. Pölten on the Vienna-Munich super highway. Moscow dispatches said that the Red Army had driven 28 miles beyond Vienna. Soviet Army units in Vienna have captured a huge German underground rocket factory where 200,000 Germans transferred from the Reich manufactured the robot weapons. A large automobile factory was also captured.

YANKS NEAR BAGUIO

Apr 17 (ANS)--Sixth Army troops are fighting their way through the Benguet Mountains to reach the Philippine summer capital of Baguio. Other Yank forces cleared the Japs from Cagayan, a small island off the port of Legaspi in southeastern Luzon.

On Mindanao, the Jap stronghold of Davao was plastered with 387 tons of bombs.

Gen. MacArthur reported that the doughfeet in the Philippines killed 8,156 Japanese and took 205 prisoners during the last week. This boosted the Nippon total to more than 323,000 casualties in the Philippine campaign.

Formosa's airports and rail and dock areas were blasted by Philippines based Yank fliers. Others hit the big Jap supply terminals at Hong Kong and Canton on the China coast with 170 tons of explosives. Indo China rail lines and shipping were also hit.

WESTERN FRONT: (Cont'd from Page One)

bridgehead across the Elbe. Closest American units are about 45 miles from Berlin. The Ninth Army was assaulting Magdenburg, while south of that city the Second Armored Division was driven back to the Elbe with heavy losses after being battered by leveled German anti-aircraft guns.

To the north, the German-held Dutch city of Groningen, largest city in the northern Netherlands, surrendered to the Canadian First Army yesterday. The British Second Army, despite great resistance rolled to within two miles of the great port of Bremen while other units are within 40 miles of Hamburg.

MORE NAZI FISH NETTED IN FUHRER TRAP

Apr 17 (ANS)--More big names in the Nazi party are coming to light as the Allies slowly squeeze the Fuhrer trap smaller. Latest is Prince August Wilhelm, son of the Kaiser and through Nazi.



THE DEADEYE



# DISPATCH

FIRST TO  
THE FRONT

Thurs. 19 April, 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 96TH DIV I&amp;ED Tel. Ext 300 Vol. 4 No. 19

## REDS OPEN BERLIN DRIVE!

### U.S. NINTH FIGHTS BACK ACROSS ELBE

Apr 18(ANS)—After they had been pushed back into the Elbe River with heavy losses American tanks and troops of the Ninth Army battered their way back to the east bank and fought five miles beyond the river. Other Ninth Army forces burst across the river farther north at Havelberg, only 45 miles northwest of Berlin and 94 miles from the Soviet lines.

Third Army tanks and infantry laid siege to Chemnitz, battled seven miles from the Czech border and thrust a steel fist within thirty miles of Dresden. The Third is now 85 miles from the Red Army.

Forty thousand German troops are defending Leipzig against the American First Army. The U.S. First hammered up to seven miles south of the great fortress which has been swollen by one million refugees.

Nuernberg, second largest Bavarian city and former Nazi convention center, was invested with Seventh Army troops. They were fighting in Nuernberg's streets after capturing Lauf, eight miles to the north.

British troops of Marshal Montgomery's command advanced 18 miles on a 20 mile front southeast of Bremen. They cut the last rail line between Bremen and the traffic hub of Soltau. In Holland, trapped and desperate Germans breached the dikes holding back the Zuider Zee.

Near the Atlantic coast, General  
(Cont'd on Page Two)

### "ACH, THIS IS IT": HITLER

Apr 18(ANS)—Adolph Hitler, calling for a death stand, announced Monday night that the Third White Russian Army had opened its final all out offensive against Berlin. As he spoke, the thunder of 1,000 Russian guns shook the Nazi capital and Soviet troops won high ground only 23 miles away. Berlin reports indicated that four Red armies with perhaps 2,000,000 men were on the move.

Unofficial reports to the Soviet press also hinted that the long awaited offensive had begun. Soviet historian Eugene Tarle, in a talk over Moscow Radio, said the attack on Berlin had been opened, from the east and west. The Red Army was reported making steady progress east of Berlin. It has overcome great chains of anti-tank defenses and an elaborate system of underground defenses. This indicated the opening phase of the final offensive.

Marshal Stalin made no mention of the Berlin front in his order of the day. The Second Ukraine Army captured Zisterdorf, Austrian oil producing center twenty six miles northeast of Vienna. Other Soviet forces were pushing up the road to Bruenn in Czechoslovakia and on separate fronts toward Linz and Graz.

As the American Ninth Army pushes in 45 miles west of Berlin, that capital faces imminent siege from two sides.

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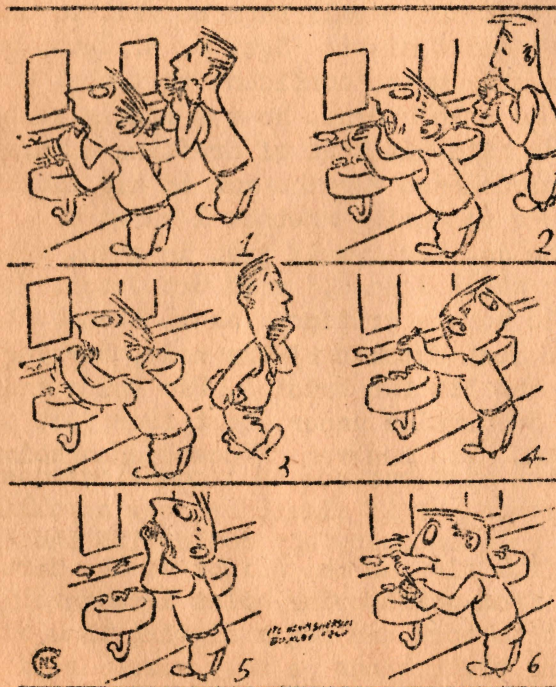
### DONUTERS REACH 30,000 MARK

Bringing all the materials from Leyte with the foresight born of a battle Service Company of the 382nd Infantry were ready by the third day of this campaign to deliver donuts and coffee to the fighters at the front every day. Up to now, some 30,000 donuts and 1500 gallons of coffee have been served from their "Donut Dugout" and taken by them to the lines.

They have perfected their procedure by now and got the welcomed items ready to leave their interesting CP by 1300 each day. During the wet cold nights of the first offensive here the doughfeet really knew who was backing them up. The names of all the men involved in the wholesale cooking were given to the war correspondents and a story went to each of their home-town papers through the Public Relations Office of the Deadeyes.

### LOST

One 4" x 8" color photograph of a woman and baby. In waterproof wrapping. Also baby's shoe. Only mementos of home this soldier carried. Call I & ED, 382nd Inf.



### SOUVENIR

by B. Freedman

The perils that lie in wait for confirmed souvenir hunters are graphically illustrated by the recent experience encountered by T/5 Clayton "Slim" Neilson and T/4 Melvin Moore, both of C Btry, 302nd FA Bn.

During a tour of the battalion area, Neilson accompanied by Moore, came across a cave just inside the entrance of which could be seen a woven straw suitcase.

Despite the fact that the entrance was an opening only large enough to permit a man to crawl through, "Slim" was determined upon examining the suitcase. He stands well over six feet, so it was with difficulty that he squeezed his way in. Moore, meanwhile, remained outside and waited.

Slim had just gotten to his feet inside and was about to open the suitcase. Suddenly from a dark corner of the cave a Jap soldier leaped up at him. Slim let out a yell, "There's a Jap inside!" and on all fours lit for the outside closely followed by the Jap who emerged with upraised arms.

Alerted by Neilson's warning shout, Moore was ready. He never wavered. Suspecting the advancing Jap of treachery he fired his carbine point-blank at him discharging nine rounds, one after the other into his body.

A subsequent search of the dead soldier produced a Jap flag and three medals evidently connoting three campaigns. The suitcase contained old rags - and nothing else.

"Slim" Neilson has a prediliction for finding excitement wherever he goes. Not long ago, as a member of a Forward Observer party, he slept one night in a cave at the front. Only later, did he learn that he had been sleeping atop an anti-personnel mine.

Share the DISPATCH

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WESTERN FRONT: (Cont'd from Page One)

Jacques LeClerc's French Second Armored Division captured Royan in a drive up the Gironde Estuary. The French forces are attempting to free the Nazi held port of Bordeaux.

With Allied forces besieging Berlin, Dresden, Leipzig and Bremen, the overall picture was one of tanks and men assaulting large, isolated resistance pockets where Nazi commanders intend to fight to the last man. The Nazis were holding up in one of Germany's last major cities.

BURNING TOKYO RAIDED AGAIN

APR 18 (ANS)—Superfortresses on April 17 blasted six enemy aircraft staging bases on the Japanese home island of Kyushu, following destruction of at least 204 Jap planes in yesterday's all-day battle in the skies between Okinawa and Kyushu. A large force of B-29's swept out from bases against six airfields at Kanoya, East Kanoya, Izumi, Kokubu, and Nitagahara at the southern end of Kyushu.

AP stated that "unlike their fire attacks of Saturday and Monday when B-29's hit industrial areas in and around Tokyo, today's attackers loosed demolition bombs on enemy air installations. A tactical campaign to knock out Kyushu's airfields was launched Sunday by carrier planes when they destroyed 87 enemy planes. Carrier fighters struck again Monday destroying 22 enemy aircraft. They were followed by another sweep of Iwo based Army Mustangs. Results of the strike are not yet available.

A conflagration visible from more than 100 miles at sea raged in Tokyo Monday following the Saturday B-29 fire attack. The fires from that attack were still blazing when Monday's raiders roared in. 27 square miles of Tokyo had been devastated. 20th Air Force said 11 of our giant bombers are missing, but added that some of them may turn up later. B-29 staff officers at Guam believe they can bring all Tokyo war production to a standstill.

## OKINAWA PICTURE

STATESIDE NEWS RELEASES

American invasion of Ie Island ju off the Motobu Peninsula on Okinawa was made against initially light opposition which stiffened as the Yanks drove inland. Most of the island has been secured. It is only about five miles long and over two miles wide. Twenty Fourth Army Corps units have already seized the four strip airfield with runways up to 5,110 feet. Ie Island is important because American seizure of its airfield will provide a bomber base for operations against Japan. American invaders of the island stated that the estimated 1,000 men Japanese garrison was virtually encircled on the heights at the southern corner of the island.

There was almost no change in positions along the southern sector of Okinawa, where the artillery carried the burden of activity. On the northern sector, the Marines pushed steadily northward, at the same time reducing resistance on Motobu Peninsula. The Leathernecks of the Sixth Marine Division enveloped the pocket of 1,800 to 2,500 Japanese on Motobu Peninsula.

JAPS TRY AERIAL STRIKE

Japanese air power took another heavy defeat yesterday with the loss 204 planes in its third unsuccessful attempt in three days to hurl a large aerial armada against American shipping and amphibious forces at Okinawa. UP correspondent Frank Tremain stated, "Blazing battles were fought between American and Japanese pilots in the skies along a 360 mile front between Okinawa and Kyushu. Navy gunners on ships ranging from gunboats to carrier of the Essex class joined in the fight

"The battle lasted all day. Jap planes trying desperately to reach the U.S. Fleet were sent hurtling in flame into the sea." At Admiral Turner's flagship it was stated that the result of this attack brought the toll of Jap planes in the last month to 2,626.

April 18, 1945.

## UNIT REPORTERS COLUMN

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

WHEN THEY THREW THE KITCHEN SINK

T/Sgt R.T. Fitzgerald

Although most of the situations Cannon company has seen have been on the grim side here have been lighter moments.

First Sergeant Ernest Kinsley, Winter cousin, checking his perimeter in the earlier stages of the campaign noticed a hole in the side of a wall. Investigation seemed to be called for so the top kick went to look into the orifice. He lost several of the future summers of his life when a pair of eyes stared back at him calling up the reserves of Company Headquarters.

He widened the breach and in the staccato tones of a First Sergeant demanded the culprit to come out or receive a grenade in his lap. Immediately recognizing a First Sergeant's wish is a command, a plant eyed house cat leisurely came out and rubbed himself against Kinsley's legs.

Pfc Leland Kokon sat in his foxhole the same night and listened to shots following some quarry down the ridge line in front of him. Being on the alert he peered into the night awaiting his adversary who he was sure would come from his front. The next thing that could be recorded, was a wild screech, perhaps a war cry from some Missouri tribe of Indians as Kokon swung his rifle at a Nip who wanted to share his foxhole with him. It was too late to fire for the skulker had come up behind him. With a Joe DiMaggio swing Kokon tried for home run on the Nips head. His yellow foxhole mate was pretty fast though for he was out of the hole and had himself already shot by the men in another foxhole before Kokon could finish the follow thru of his swing.

Pfc Russ Colbourn, Goose Creek, Texas, was had two antennas shot off his radio. He and your Cannon correspondent heard that shine the other day and started chewing dust. When we dug out of the mud and the smoke cleared we were on the lip of a 15-foot crater. Colbourn said, "That was the kitchen sink".

"LUCKY" BOLAN

There's an old saying about the "Luck of the Irish" and it was proven true once again by Lt. Robert Bolan, the commander of "Charley" company in Col. Dill's regiment. In the battalion attack on "Tombstone Ridge" a few days ago, Lt. Bolan was leading his company up one slope of the hill when he was struck in the shoulder by a heavy metal object which, upon examination, proved to be a round from a Nip knee mortar — a dud. A direct hit from a knee mortar normally would be "curtains" for the recipient and Lt. Bolan was quite happy about getting off with only a broken collarbone.

"YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD MAN DOWN"

Three members of Company D of Col. Dill's "Leaders" were lying in their foxhole the other night hoping that the Japs had run out of artillery ammunition and that they would then be able to enjoy a quiet night. Sgt. J. W. Caton was evidently quite confident that that would be the case because he was calmly going ahead with his task of drafting letters of condolence for the men in his company "I was wondering whether I ought to write one for myself just in case, when this shell landed," said Sgt. Caton. For while he was writing a shell landed about five feet outside of his hole, burying him and his two buddies, Pfc Thies and Pvt Schnitzius under about four feet of earth. The men were knocked unconscious by the dirt but regained consciousness in about a half minute and began yelling for help as best they could with the limited air and the weight of the dirt. Men from neighboring holes immediately went to work and began digging them out, using their hands as they were afraid of injuring the buried men if they used shovels.