

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.

(Cont'd on Page Three)

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 Okinawas 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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HALLORAN PURGES 900 CAVES

110,000 RUHR NAZIS TRAPPED!

***Apr 4--A gigantic trap containing an estimated 110,000 Germans has been sprung by Allied armies in the shattered Ruhr. Attempts of the possible 21 German divisions to break out of the trap were repulsed Monday by American troops. Allied Headquarters admitted that it would take some time to liquidate these enemy forces, but said this would not keep their armored units from plunging on toward Berlin. A dispatch from General Omar Bradley's headquarters reported 350,000 Germans captured during the juncture of the First and Third Armies.

Farther north, the security blackout has been lifted enough to reveal still another huge trap in the making, being formed by the British and Canadian Armies. The Canadian First Army has reached the Enschede Zutphen Canal in Holland. British forces jumped off from the Rhine and raced northward 25 miles into North Holland fashioning a large box for the western Holland German armies. Other British forces battered into Munster and threatened Osnabrueck.

Swift American Ninth Army tanks have driven more than 100 miles east of the Rhine and are nearing the Weser River in the vicinity of Mannelin. Simpson's boys are a mere 155 miles from Berlin. Patton's Third Army to the south has raced to the Werra River on a broad front. The

(Cont'd on Page Two)

***Apr 4--In a surge of strength, pushing from the vicinity of Momabaru, Col. M. E. Halloran moved his troops at a fast pace yesterday accomplishing amazing gains over tough terrain in the western sector of the Deadeye zone, and clearing out 900 caves in the sector.

The caves were of the same general type encountered in other sectors of this island, from large cavernous ones to small angular trenches in the terraced hills. While many of the caves were not occupied they were all organized in a strong mutually supporting manner and frequently inhabited by stragglers, riflemen, civilians, and soldiers with automatic weapons and explosives. Each cave offered a threat to troops advancing and had to be approached and cleared at a great expense of time and energy. This has a general slowing effect on movements.

In one area which was booby-trapped Halloran accounted for 35 Japanese, destroyed eight cases of 75mm ammunition, 12 land mines, numerous rifles and other equipment. The roads at all bridges were mined in this sector.

96TH BOX SCORE OF GOOD JAPS

Previous Total.....	7,341
Grand Total 3 April.....	491
Total for 3 April.....	148
Grand Total to Date.....	7,980

4 April, 1945.

3.

RUHS SPRING TRAP: (Cont'd from P. Two)

Red Army vanguards are within eight miles of the Austrian industrial city of Wiener Neustadt.

In Czechoslovakia, Red armies slashed out to within 13 miles of Bratislava, capital of Slovakia. Moscow also announced that 26,000 enemy prisoners had been taken in 24 hours in southern Hungary.

ADOLPH WORLD PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE

***Apr 3--Adolph Hitler has earned the notorious distinction of "World Public Enemy Number One." This dubious title was conferred upon Adolph by the Allied War Crimes Commission. According to a London Dispatch, the Commission placed his name at the top of a list of German war criminals. Heads of states will have no immunity from prosecution for Axis atrocities said the Commission.

Five lists of criminals, including those from Germany and other countries have been drafted, and the hunt for these individuals is already under way. Names of indicted Nazis other than Hitler are being withheld to prevent tipping off the culprits, thus aiding their escape.

The breakdown of the five rosters includes two lists of German criminals, one of Japanese, one of Italian and a fifth composed of Albanian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Italian and Romanian henchmen. A sub-commission was also set up in Chungking in 1944 to investigate the situation in the Far East and Pacific areas. At present, the sub-commission is examining material and information against the Japanese war criminals and will prepare lists to be forwarded to all participating United Nations.

All members of the Command are now permitted to write in their personal letters that they are "Somewhere in the Ryukyus". Do not mention Okinawa. You may write of your Personal experiences.

YANKS ON LUZON: (Cont'd from P. Three)

mountains northeast of Manila. The Japs also tried a counter-attack in the Balete Pass sector of Luzon, but were bloodily repulsed.

Yanks scored new gains on both Negros and Cebu Islands, while our fliers again blasted Legaspi port on southeast Luzon. Other Army fliers hit the Sulu Archipelago, Formosa and shipping in the China Sea.

MARINES FOLLOW 96TH ASHORE

Of the tales of misplacement, the best that has been reported to the DEADEYE is one of a lone company of Marines who barged into the 96th Division beaches on L-Day. An unidentified first lieutenant and two thirds of his company assaulted one of the beaches of this sector in late afternoon Sunday. The unit was believed to be Co K of the 7th Marine Regiment. Brought ashore by a coxswain who apparently was in quite a rush to return to the comfort of one of the larger transports and who dropped off part of the lieutenants troops and carried part of them with him on his return trip to sea. No reports as to the support given our troops by the Marine detachment have been announced.

The lieutenant corroborated previous reports that the III Phib Corps had advanced 4000 yards the first day and had dozers working on the airstrips in their sector.

KERAMA JAPS IN MASS SUICIDE

***Apr 3--Landings by the 77th Inf Division on the Kerama Island group, just south of Okinawa, preceded the big Okinawa invasion by six days. In the Kerama Islands, some 200 Japanese civilian men, women and children committed mass suicide in the face of invasion. American troops also seized scores of explosive laden suicide boats intended for use against the invasion fleet.

NAZIS TRAPPED: (Cont'd from Page One)

Third Army is now running neck and neck with the American Ninth in the race for Berlin, as Patton is also just 155 miles from the German capital. Third Army units are now 90 miles from the Czechoslovakian frontier.

Germany has had her first two successive days and nights free from air attack this year. Allied heavies were grounded by bad weather. During March, Allied planes dropped almost 180,000 tons of bombs on wrecked Germany.

SOVIETS NEAR VIENNA

***Apr 4--Berlin reported Monday that Soviet assault troops had smashed to within 20 miles of Vienna and had thrust more than 32 miles inside Austria. They stated that giant Soviet tanks were spearheading the assault. Moscow clamped a news blackout on the Vienna sector. Soviet troops were also reported to be fighting in the streets of Wiener Neustadt, the Messerschmitt plane assembly center.

Moscow announced that Red Army assault forces have advanced to within two and a half miles of Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, for a gain of 14 miles in 24 hours.

FRANCO-ITALIAN BORDER FIGHTING

***Apr 4--Allied warships raked Nazi positions along the French-Italian frontier, including the harbor of San Remo. The German High Command Communique said that fighting had broken out on the forgotten front in the French-Italian region and acknowledged Allied seizure of a small fort on a 7,000 foot mountain top.

IWO ISLAND GETS NEW COMMANDER

***Apr 4--Major General James Chaney of Wichita Falls, Texas, has assumed duties as island commander of Iwo.

OKINAWA SEVERED BY SEVENTH

***Apr 4--News dispatches received last night from the United States from Admiral Nimitz' headquarters credited "crack troops of the XXIV Corps" with severing Okinawa in a swift drive from the west coast of the island. American troops have reached the village of Tobara on the east coast, immediately north of the extensive fleet anchorage at Nakagusuku.

Marines of the Third Amphibious Corps met only scattered Jap resistance in the extreme north of the American line. They are pushing north and east to cut off Zampa Cape.

It was in the center of the island that the heaviest enemy resistance and most rugged terrain was encountered. This was taken as an indication that the Japs, as usual, were holed up in caves and commanding any high ground they could hold.

Although the exact location of the Jap forces was not revealed, American officers expressed the belief that the Nips expected landings on the southern tip of the island. The officers said that the enemy is concentrating his main defenses around the important town of Naha in the southern sector.

Admiral Nimitz announced that observation planes are already operating off the two captured airfields. The Cub planes were being assisted in their missions by 1500 Navy planes operating off about 30 carriers. Heavy guns of the fleet together with field artillery are also giving close support to ground operations.

CHINESE HANG TO NANYANG

***Apr 4--The Chinese High Command reported that the strategic cities of Nanyang and Loehokow in Hupeh Provinces were still being held by Chinese forces. Japanese troops had fought into both cities over the week-end, but were driven out. Loehokow was, until recently, American forward air base.

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THE SAGA OF "I" CO'S FLAG

Back in the good old days at Camp White when barracks rumors persistently had the 96th garrisoning the West Coast, Co I of the 383rd Inf dedicated an American flag in their orderly room with a vow that the next time it flew would be upon Japanese soil. Of course at that time most of the men took it as a jest. Nevertheless, the flag was kept in a secure place and withstood the many moves the Deadeye's made including the entire Leyte campaign. As this operation came into focus, the men of I Co no longer jested about the vow. An opportunity for realizing their dedication was now available.

On the morning of I-Day, Capt Von Holle, Co of I Co, tucked the flag into his jacket. Within an hour after hitting the beach his company reached a rocky knoll overlooking the bay. Investigation of a cave underneath the knoll revealed an abandoned Japanese CP, which was well furnished with office equipment. On top of the knoll stood an "honorable" Nipponese flag and staff. With little ceremony and some hastiness down came the Nip and up went the American flag. Our colors are proudly unfurled now on a rocky knoll north of Chatan -- a tribute to the valor of the Minutemen and the foresight and determination of Capt. Von Holle's I Company troopers.

Share the DEAD EYE with your buddy

ARNOLD CUTS ISLAND IN HALF

***3 Apr--Meeting practically no resistance, the troops of Major General Arnold's Hourglass division drove across the island and reached the east coast last night.

WHAT, NO BATH?

Those Deadeyes who slept in foxholes last night were disappointed at not having their bath drawn when they awakened this morning. Gone was the luxury of awakening with that relaxing, luke-warm rainwater creeping into their pores, refreshing them for the coming day. Deadeyes were heard remarking, "Is this dry desert what the Jap Better Business Bureau referred to in its advertisement, 'Come to Beautiful Okinawa'? Other 96th men missed the cheerful early morning laundry service. None were heard complaining however that their reception was less enthusiastic than the advertisement promised.

Sticking to its guns, the Jap Better Business Bureau promises continuing dry weather. Altho the lack of rainfall may evoke mixed emotions among the Deadeyes, it will certainly dampen the spirits of the local residents.

DDT POWDER DUSTS
DOWN TYPHUS