

THE DEADEYE

DISPATCH FIRST TO THE FRONT



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BUCKNER COMMENDS 96TH
JAP FLEET DEALT CRUSHING BLOW!CAUGHT BY U.S. CARRIER PLANES

***Apr 8--A good 25 per cent of the remaining Japanese combat naval force was either sunk or put out of action in a naval air engagement Saturday, announced Admiral Nimitz a few hours ago. Nimitz said that our carrier planes caught the Japanese surface task force some 50 miles out of the home island of Kyushu. When the smoke of battle cleared, aggressive American airmen had sent six Japanese warships to the bottom.

Sunk was the 45,000 ton battleship "Yamato," the most powerful fighting ship left to the Japanese. Also sunk was a light cruiser, a small cruiser, and three destroyers. Three other enemy destroyers were left burning. Only three Jap destroyers were able to retreat without harm. We lost seven planes in the encounter.

This momentous sea vs. air battle was fought around noon Saturday, Japan time, climaxing a two-day battle against Japanese forces attacking our ships at Okinawa. In this series of attacks 391 Japanese planes were brought down in flames. Our losses were three destroyers sunk. Late Friday a large force of Japanese planes attacked our ships and shore positions around Okinawa. 116 Japanese planes were then shot down,
(Cont'd. on Page Two)

X ARMY COMMANDER VISITS AREA

***Apr 8--Lt. Gen. Simon B. Buckner, Commanding General of the Tenth Army, yesterday visited the Deadeyes and stated to General Bradley that the Deadeyes "have accomplished more than could have been expected" of them and complimented the men of the division on their excellent work. With him was Major General J. R. Hodge, XXIV Corps Commander, who added commendations also.

General Buckner asked that his words be passed on to all the officers and men of the division and General Bradley expressed a wish to add his own words of praise. General Bradley said that all the men had showed admirable courage and fortitude and had driven ahead of any plans he had for them in this operation up to now.

DEADEYES CONTINUE SOUTH

***Apr 8--An all-out drive by the Deadeyes pushed off this morning and is expected to begin the drive that will carry the men to Naha. No reports of progress have yet been received. Yesterday's action gave gains to all units in the line. In all sectors heavy artillery and mortar fire had a general
(Cont'd on Page Three)

April 8, 1945.

5.

CLARK HITS FIRST JAP STRONG POINT

TAKES IT BY ASSAULT
by Pfc Joseph A Kahl

***Apr 6--Major Prosser Clark's troops advanced 800 yards today and stormed what Brig Gen Esley called "The most well prepared position I have ever seen". This hill, constituting the first carefully organized and well-manned emplacement met on Okinawa by my forces, was covered with cross-firing machine gun nests, mortars, and anti-tank guns.

One 47mm gun was in a deep cave covered with a trap door. The Jap opened the door, fired a shot with smokeless powder, and dropped the door again. Detection was almost impossible. In front of the hill was a deep, mined, anti-tank ditch, and a triple barbed-wire net. Many snipers remained in caves after assault units passed by, disrupting our rear, and slowing down the advance until demolition teams could shut each opening. About 170 Japs were added to the right side of the ledge.

Advancing down the ridge bordering the west coast early in the morning, the battalion was hit by artillery and mortar fire. Capt Jesse Thomas' men advanced frontally from the north, while Capt Irvin T. Larsen went around the right flank, coming in from the west.

I went forward with Capt Kennedy, regimental S-3, his assistant Pfc Fred Shearner, and Major Clark in an attempt to reach Gen. Esley and Col. May, who were with front elements. We went around the base of the hill toward Capt Larsen's OP, descending a very steep slope covered with thick underbrush. Suddenly a man lying on the ground ahead of us yelled: "Get down, there's a sniper in the cave up there". Two Pfc's and lots of rank hit the dirt with no order of preference.

Capt Larsen crawled over. He reported: "Two of my platoons went over the top of that nose some time ago. Then I came along, and a sniper shot at me from the

cave at the top. My men are trying to get him now".

A GI shouted down to us: "This damn thing is a concrete pillbox. How can we get him?"

"Try phosphorous grenades; if that won't work, we'll have to bring up demolitions and shut him in", the Captain answered. Two grenades popped, and under their cover our party moved back to a ditch.

There I found myself next to Pvt Joe Bassett, who was on a patrol linking us with Lt. Col. Stern's men on our right. He was from "K" Company. The first thing he asked me was, "Did you hear the news?" "What news", I replied. "Why, the Jap premier quit, and Russia broke the non-aggression pact with Japan" as he spoke, machine gun bursts were overhead, and I thought it was funny that we should be interested in anything but our necks at such a time.

Between the bullets and the ants crawling into my pants, I was ready for a strategic withdrawal. So were the rest of the party. We started back around the hill, when a sniper shot nicked one of the men with us. We flew in all directions, and dug trenches with our noses as we slid into the dirt.

There was a cave nearby that we all ran to. All around the entrance were nothing, human remains, and excrement. Back in the rear a woman was chattering, and I didn't know who else might be there. Which was worse, sniper in front or question mark in back? We chose the sniper, and one by one dashed back to safety.

The Major told me, "You have plenty of material for a story today."

"Too much", was all I could answer.

(ANS)--Wright Aeronautical produced plane engines totalling 90,000,000 horsepower--enough for 2200 huge B-29's.

Four Western Armies Gird For Battle of Berlin — —

JAP NAVY: (Cont'd from Page One) including 61 downed by anti-aircraft batteries. American carrier planes on Friday shot down 245 enemy planes. Japanese pilots thrust their attacks vigorously, but other than the three U.S. destroyers sunk, no other large units of our fleet were hit.

A naval spokesman in Washington said that these losses leave the Japanese with a task force that can be handled fairly easily by any of our major task forces. The spokesman stated that the emergence of the Japanese fleet from the inland seas apparently was an offensive action since all vessels in the task force were fast ships. However, he continued, the inland sea had become virtually untenable, and it was possible that these ships were trying to get to a more remote position. Right now they are in the remotest position they can get -- the bottom of the sea.

REDS FIGHT IN VIENNA'S STREETS

***Apr 8--Under a hail of shell fire from the city's heights, Soviet troops battered into the southern districts of Vienna last night. Vienna radio reported violent fighting in the city's streets.

Moscow revealed that the Reds had driven up to the city limits on a ten mile front. The Second Ukrainian Army is closing in from the east in a drive to complete the encirclement of the Austrian capital. This was the only major action reported yesterday by the Moscow communique.

BRITISH PACIFIC TASK FORCE DAMAGED

***Apr 8--British naval observers announced that major units of the British Fleet were damaged by a concerted attack of Japanese aircraft while the British Fleet was attacking Sakashima (Cont'd on Page Three)

***Apr 8--Joining the march on Berlin, the American First Army has raced 25 miles in the last 24 hours and now stands at the middle reaches of the Weser River, north of Kassel. The First Army advance put four Allied armies on or across the Weser. Only one more river line now remains between them and Berlin. Meanwhile, the Germans gloomily predicted an assault on their rubble capital from all sides by the Western Allies and the Red Army.

Spearheading the western front offensive, British and American tanks drove to within 17 miles of Hanover, then struck northward to within 30 miles of outflanked Bremen. On the south, Third Army tanks paused 69 miles from Leipzig. South of Leipzig, pilots reported large German columns retreating to a citadel in the Bavarian Alps.

Four large German cities have fallen to the Allies within the last 24 hours. They are Meiningen, Eisenach, Hamm and Diepholtz, with a combined population of 230,000. Hamburg, Germany's second largest city is menaced by the Ninth Army, only 71 miles to the southwest. The American Ninth and British Second, now 152 miles due west of Berlin, threaten to drive a wedge between Hanover and Bremen.

In still another spectacular Allied advance, the Canadian First Army slashed ahead 25 miles in Holland, closing a trap on two German armies of 50,000 troops. The Canadians are 12 miles from cutting the last rail line from Holland to Germany.

CHINESE COUNTER-ATTACK IN HONAN PROVINCE

***Apr 8--Chinese forces in southwestern Honan Province, supported by U.S. 14th Air Force planes threw a counter-offensive against the Japanese westward drive. American planes wiped out an enemy bat- (Cont'd on Page Three)

EDITORIAL: (Cont'd from Page Four)

after Normandy, events of the last two days still permit speculation.

Newly appointed Jap Premier Admiral Suzuki is the man of the hour. Although comparisons are often misleading, Suzuki is compellingly reminiscent of another aged diplomat, namely Marshal Petain of France used Petain as their bargaining agent with the German conquerors, hoping to salvage something of their own holdings. Petain was a feeble and pliable old man.

We only know that Jap Premier Suzuki is old; there is no indication as yet that he will be easily influenced by any group. But it is significant that before the war Suzuki was opposed to the more aggressive military cliques of Japan. And because Suzuki so strikingly contrasts with his extremist predecessors -- Tojo and Koiso -- many are asking this question: "Have Japan's leading families, deciding to preserve what they still have, made their first bid toward peace by placing Suzuki at the helm?"

There are few who can answer that question, for it is difficult for westerners to understand the logic of Japanese thought. And the question is further complicated by the stand America must take -- NO TERMS BUT UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER. But despite our uncertainty, it is encouraging to know that Japan has turned to the tottering old Admiral for her leader.

CHURCH SERVICES Sunday, 8 April, 1945. DEAD EYE CP

- Catholic Mass. 0900
- General Protestant. 1000
- Holy Communion 1100
- Daily Catholic Mass 1600
- Chapel in rear of Hq Co Area

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING (ABOUT US) AT HOME

State-side papers are filled with enthusiastic comments about the invasion of Okinawa. Here's what a few of them have to say:

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER: Less than two weeks after the smoke of the Pacific's most violent battle on Iwo Jima has cleared away, a new American army, the 10th, invaded an island only 325 miles from the most southerly of the main Japanese Kyushu group.....The gains we've made are of such a nature that Japan can read her own doom in her ruined bit the end of her fleet as an effective fighting force, and the strategic encirclement of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere by land and by sea.

LOS ANGELES TIMES: In the face of the presence of American and British fleets in overwhelming strength, it will be difficult if not impossible for any substantial reinforcements or supplies from Japan or other Ryukyu Islands to reach Okinawa, while American forces, with the wide and deep beachhead well-established can reinforce and supply almost at will.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR: We must expect the enemy to make a bitter fight... the Japanese know that thousands of Allied bombers await only the early collapse of Germany to move from their bases in Europe to the Pacific Theater. Okinawa is big enough to provide facilities for swarms of them.

WASHINGTON EVENING STAR: After the bloody battle of Iwo, this relatively unopposed Easter Parade onto Okinawa is hard to explain. Perhaps the enemy may have felt better to withdraw to save his troops -- do or die counter-attacks later.

96th BOX SCORE OF GOOD JAPS

Loyte Campaign Total.....	7,341
Total for 6 April.....	383
Okinawa Total.....	1,534
Grand Total to Date.....	8,875

OKINAWA LOVE STORY
by Pfc Gil Feinstein

Four members of the 88th Chemical Mortar Battalion, Co C, might have shed a tear for the tragic ending of a Japanese woman who accompanied her man into battle if her hand grenades and those of her companions did not endanger their lives.

The woman who was completely armed and dressed as a Japanese soldier from leggings to helmet and four Japanese soldiers walked into a machine gun position manned by Pfc Vincent J. Terenzio, of Philadelphia, Pfc Sam Ferrino, Detroit, Pfc George Nisonger, Columbus, Ohio, and Cpl Walter Goldwater, Chase, Kansas, early in the morning of L plus 3.

Wasting no time, Pfc Terenzio opened fire with his carbine. The Japs dispersed. Two took refuge in a house in the side of the road while the others jumped into a ditch from which they tossed grenades at the mortarmen.

Rapidly bringing their machine gun into action, the doughboys sent a hail of bullets into the house. Presently a Jap, whom they later discovered to their amazement was a woman, walked out of the house, and holding a hand grenade against her side, committed hari-kari. The other Japs were quickly disposed of.

Bearing mute testimony to the blasted romance ended by machine gun bullets was a photograph found on the dead Jap soldier inside the house of himself and a Japanese woman dressed in colorful native garb. It was the woman who had committed hari-kari.

Pfc Terenzio's prize souvenir is the photograph of the two lovers who met such a tragic death to further the ambitions of Japanese war lords.

96TH BOX SCORE OF GOOD JAPS

Leyte Campaign Total.....	7,341
Total for 7 April.....	326
Okinawa Total.....	1,860
Grand Total to Date.....	9,201

SPORTS

Uncle Sam continued to shape the 1945 pennant races today as the threatened loss of Nick Etten, last years American League home run champion, struck a stiff body blow at the heart of the New York Yankees. Etten's reclassification to 1-A by a Chicago Draft Board came on the top of similar news of Oscar Grimm's and Lindley's induction. If Etten and Lindley are inducted there can be no presence of the rampant power of the great New York Yankees of by-gone days. If Grimm also goes then McCarthy will be up against it for a first sacker.

The Golden Gloves Maulers, from Chicago and New York, each took eight victories last night in the annual inter-city boxing tourney, fighting in Chicago. Three Puerto Rican battlers, three marin and two New Yorkers, won for the visitors. Chicago had help from Indiana and Missouri.

Southwest Conference football hit on six cylinders for a couple of years but now it is back on seven. At full strengt with the return of Baylor's Bears. Baylo Bears opened up spring training yesterday and has planned a full schedule for next fall, playing all other conference member as well as West Texas State, Texas Tech, Tulsa and Southwestern University.

Keith Steffee, who will pitch for Michigan State this spring, holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal and four Oak Leaf Clusters, but dows he have a curve ball?

Portland's ever-hopeful Beavers were on top of the Pacific Coast Baseball League hill today after they had edged Sacramento out 5-4 the other night, and the higher rated Seattle Rainiers slid under the batting guns of Los Angeles 8 to 5.

The Beavers and the Rainiers had been tied for two nights running. The two other clubs the experts had pegged for the lower division operations --Oakland and San Diego -- came up with wins as the League started the second half of a split week.

Manuel Ortiz the bantam champ has been inducted into the Army.

LIBERATORS HIT HONG KONG ON 3RD RAID

***Apr 8--American Philippine-based Liberators attacked Hong Kong again with 164 tons of bombs for the third straight day of air strikes. The latest Hong Kong strike fired oil storage tanks. Direct hits were scored on a 10,000 ton freighter and two other vessels. Bombers on the China Sea blockade sank 20 Japanese vessels including a 10,000 ton transport. Other bombers set large fires in the Tarakan oil storage area on northern Borneo.

On Luzon, American airborne units captured Lucena, the capital of Tayabas. Yanks also cleared four more airfields in the Philippines.

CHINESE: (Cont'd from Page Two)

talion on the Honan-Shensi highway. The highway center of Sichwan fell to the Chinese.

Japanese broadcasts commenting on the Russian denunciation of the Russo-Jap neutrality pact, told countrymen that Russia "is bound" to maintain neutrality for another year under terms of the pact. The pact expires April 25th, 1946.

BRITISH TASK FORCE: (Cont'd from P.2)

Islands in the Ryukyus. The naval observers stated that the principal target of Japanese raiders was the 35,000 ton battleship "King George". British fighter planes and anti-aircraft destroyed 22 enemy planes and damaged nine during the attack. The extent of damage to the "King George" was not revealed.

MAIL PLANES ARRIVE

The first ATC planes arrived on Okinawa today to lift the Deadeyes and remind them of things at home, it was announced today by Capt Harris.

96TH STILL NIMITZ'S SECRET WEAPON

***Apr 8--Up to the time Admiral Nimitz's communique was received yesterday, DEADEYES of the 96th Division are still a mystery force to the Japanese. On Okinawa, Tenth Army infantry troops are encountering stiff Japanese opposition from fixed defensive positions north of Naha. Japs above Naha are using everything from artillery on down to small arms. U.S. Army troops nevertheless are overcoming this resistance and are moving ahead slowly. Japanese efforts to infiltrate into our lines at night were repulsed and hundreds of the enemy were killed. Marines, to the north, are having somewhat easier going, and hence are moving their lines northward with greater speed.

DEADEYES: (Cont'd from Page One)

slowing effect on movements. Colonel Dill advanced despite the determined resistance offered by machine gun and rifle fire. One battalion of Col. May advanced 1000 yards before the end of the day.

OTHER OKINAWA FRONTS

***Apr 8--Yesterday the Hourglass troops pushed down the eastern coast to close the gap on our left flank. They are now abreast of the Deadeye's, and both units are pushing the attack on the main Jap defense line above Naha, which has turned out to be an integrated line, organized in depth.

The III Marine Amphibious Corps began to move north of the Ishikawa Isthmus, the narrowest neck of the island, and reached a line from Chuda on the west coast to the mouth of the Kinabaru River on the east.

Take your atabrine daily!

UNIT REPORTERS COLUMN

T/5 R. Drochsler; T/5 J. Gordon; T/5 J. Murphy; T/5 N. Hotten. (Unit Reporters)

NIPS GET THREE COURSE DISH

Standing in the 383rd CP Friday morning, we watched a naval air squadron consisting of torpedo dive bombers deliver a three phase strike at the enemy front lines some 800 yards ahead of us. At 0730, the first wave of rocket firing planes peeled off one by one, dove towards the front lines, and let loose a hail of rockets. We feared that perhaps the rockets were falling within our lines as the projectiles were released almost over our CP position. A telephone check up disclosed that they were falling in the center of the Jap position.

After this first phase of the air strike, which lasted approximately 10 minutes, the second phase began, consisting of bombing attacks. Again the planes maneuvered about waiting their turn to dive on the Jap lines. When this dish had been served, the Sons of Heaven were treated to a dessert of strafing. By the end of this final course, we felt sure the Nips must have had their stomachs' full and ready to commit hari-kari.

The excellent effectiveness of this support by naval aircraft was well demonstrated when the 383rd doughboys pushed on to the objective a few minutes later. The previous day there had been a strong Japanese position there. This morning only a few remnants remained to be dug out.

by T/5 John Jurick, 383rd Inf

BROTHERS MEET AT SEA

Cpl Robert T. Sheets, 22, a runner on a 155 mm howitzer in the 96th Division Artillery, was aboard an assault ship in the rendezvous area when he recognized a number on a repair ship close by. It was the same ship that his brother

John Sheets, 20, F/2c, was assigned to. This was confirmed by the blinker system. He received permission from his Commanding Officer to see his brother and was taken aboard the repair ship where the happy reunion took place.

NEWS OF THE 381ST INF

"G-2 LINDGREN"

We were digging in immediately behind the 3rd Battalion in a race against darkness. Terrified civilians were wandering aimlessly around seeking shelter. One old woman was being led toward a stockade near the Battalion C.P.. Despite the coaxing and pleading of our G.I she shrank back and refused to go any further. Finally, Pfc Andrew Lindgren of Chicago, Illinois, decided to try his hand at calming her fears. He spoke to her and she still refused to budge. Undaunted, Andy spoke to her in Swedish. She brightened up immediately, answered back in Japanese, patted his hand and leaning on his arm walked willingly toward the stockade. When news of this incident came to Lindgren's Company Commander, Captain Buford Bjorklund of El Paso Texas, able leader of the 381st Anti-Tan Company, he said, "We Swedes always did have a way with the women."

AT Co, 381st Inf

CORRECTION

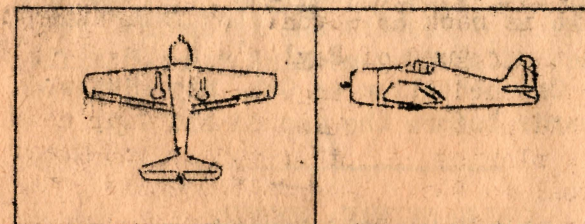
Yesterday's DISPATCH quoted 55 enemy killed for the night previous by the 382nd Inf. This figure was later discovered to be 64 and by the men of Col E.T. May's regiment. Col Dill reported 24 Japs were killed during that night as they infiltrated from the caves.

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MARINE PLANES ARRIVE

In addition to the planes we have had supporting us here the Marine Corps has just announced the arrival of F4U's (Corsairs) and P6F's (Hellcats). They will be flying over. All Deadeyes have been asked to be especially careful about firing so we will avoid all chance of hitting our new support planes. Pictured below is the Hellcat.



DEAD EYES AWARDED SILVER STARS

Nine members of the 96th Division and one member of the attached 763rd Tank Battalion were awarded the Silver Star by the Commanding General of the XXIV Corps. All of the men distinguished themselves in actions against the enemy during the Leyte Campaign.

They are: Pfc Robert Callaway, 381st Inf; Pfc C. D. Mihura, 381st Inf; Capt Garland D. Campbell, 382nd Inf; 1st Lt. Robert F. Glassman, 382nd Inf; Sgt Loren J. Heaton, 382nd Inf; Sgt Earl E. Ritchie, 382nd Inf; T/Sgt Theodore R. White, 382nd Inf; Pfc Clyde O. Franklin, 383rd Inf; S/Sgt George F. Swain, 383rd Inf; Capt. B. P. Moran, 763rd Tank Bn

POLAND GOT GOOD DEAL, SAYS STETTINIUS

Secretary of State Stettinius declared Friday that nothing had happened to shake his belief that the Yalta agreement on Poland would be carried out. Consultations have been going on fruitlessly in Moscow for seven weeks among Britain, Russia and the United States, despite the provision made at Yalta for a new democratic Polish government.

Speaking before the Council on Foreign Relations, Stettinius chided those who express concern over the prospects of the San Francisco United Nations conference because of this delay and the Soviet demand for three assembly votes. He said that the San Francisco conference will be a decisive juncture in the history of American and the World.

HARVARD PROF INVENTS B-29 FIRE BOMB

U.S. Army officials have just released the story behind the new incendiary bomb that is harassing Japanese cities. The bomb is the invention of a Harvard professor who was trying to kill some crabgrass on his front lawn. The professor tried a blow torch, kerosine, and plain gasoline, but the crabgrass still grew in again. Finally he found some substance that thickened the gasoline until it jellied. He put the jellied gasoline in a tomato can, spread it on his lawn, and lit a match. That killed the stubborn weed.

From that time in, the original professor and six assistants have developed the highly effective fire bomb that Superforts now drop on Japan.