

RESTRICTED



The Deadeye DISPATCH

"THE FOXHOLE'S FINEST"

Wed, 20 Dec 44. Published by 96th Div I&EO--Tel Ext--75. Loyte Campaign Series.

77TH NEARS JAP ARMY HQ

***Dec 19--The 77th Division, advancing up the west coast of Leyte, has out-flanked the remaining Japanese in its zone and advanced seven miles north of Ormoc. These troops are now within two miles of the Japanese Army Headquarters at Valencia. Other Americans have driven ahead two miles in their southward drive and have cut the Yamashita line between Palompon and Valencia. During the last few days, 2,000 Japs were killed and large quantities of equipment captured intact.

With his forces surrounded on two sides by the Americans and his back to the sea, surrender would seem the logical alternative for General Yamashita. But it remains to be seen whether Yamashita will break precedent by capitulating on Leyte, or in the usual manner, leave isolated groups of Japs to be systematically destroyed by the Americans.

Meanwhile, American fliers in the Philippines blasted at Jap airfields and installations. They bombed four air-dromes on Negros yesterday and set afire tow freighters off Masbate. Heavy bombers also struck at Jap shipping off Zamboanga.

LUFTWAFFE MAKES DESPERATE DEFENSE

***Dec 19--There was an unusual amount of German air activity over the Cologne and American Ninth Army sector yesterday with an estimated 550 Nazi planes in the air. Allied airman, anxious to
(Cont'd on page two.)

MAJOR GERMAN COUNTER-ATTACK

***Dec 19--The German Army has launched a strong counter-attack against the American First Army southeast of Aachen near Luxembourg. The drive, which has pushed the Allies back in some sectors, is spread along a 60 mile front. It began with small German infantry patrols probing Allied lines, then larger infantry units were committed followed by German armored units. The German counter-attack appears to be a major effort to halt the Allies before they can advance into the Ruhr industrial region. The American Ninth Army also reports unusually strong opposition by the Germans in their sector. Allied Supreme Headquarters says there is no cause for anxiety.

Farther to the south, the American Third Army is giving the Germans no rest. With four American Divisions here moving forward along a twenty mile front, they are pushing the Nazis eastward toward the Rhino River. The American Seventh Army are pouring artillery fire at short range into the Nazi Siegfried line near Strasbourg. A correspondent with the Seventh Army says that German troops in this sector are very young, very old, and generally physically unfit.

96th Box Score of Good Japs.

Previous total.....	7015
December 18.....	47
GRAND TOTAL.....	7062

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20 December 1944.

YANKS CONTROL HALF MINDORO

***Dec 19--The southern part of Mindoro Island is now under control of the American forces which landed there last Thursday. Other American troops have driven ahead another six miles beyond the captured city of San Jose. They were still meeting only slight enemy resistance and had already seized excellent sites for airfields.

Early reports emphasized the high, dry ground on Mindoro. During this time of the year, there is only an average of three inches of rainfall. The island, which is 95 miles long and 45 miles wide, is sparsely populated.

Final figures on the destruction of enemy ships and planes in the three day carrier force attack that occurred at the time of the Mindoro invasion, revealed a total of 435 Jap planes destroyed, 30 ships sent to the bottom and 57 seriously damaged. It was said that every ship in Manila Harbor at the time was either sunk or damaged.

Meanwhile, Radio Tokyo described the Mindoro Operation as a fatal error on our part. According to the Japs, we had played right into their hands and our forces on Mindoro were completely out-flanked by Japs on other islands. Tokyo commentators repeated that the Mindoro landing was exactly what the Japs had hoped for. So far, it was also what the doughfoot had hoped for -- excellent landing field sites and a minimum of opposition.

SUPERFORTRESSES IN TWIN STRIKE

***Dec 19--For the second time in one week, the B-29's of the 20th Airforce bombed Nagoya in the heart of Japan. These superfortresses flew from Saipan bases to strike at Japan's third largest city, whose population is over 1,000,000. Gen Hap Arnold announced that a sizeable force of the superforts participated in the attack. A second large force of B-29's flew from Chinese bases to hit Hankow, China on the east coast. Further details are forthcoming from 20th Airforce Headquarters in Washington.

CHINESE REGAIN LOST GROUND

***Dec 19--Chungking dispatches reveal that Chinese forces in Kwangai Province have advanced to within a mile of the Kwangai-Kweichow railroad. The Chinese Army is pushing forward in a three pronged offensive and has already cleared the Japs from all of Kweichow Province. The important city of Hochih is no only one mile away.

The appointment of 44 year old Chen Cheng as China's War Minister, was already bearing fruit. Cheng, always friendly to the northern Yenan Government, had withdrawn the Chungking troops watching the northern Communists and thrown them against the Japs.

Chen Cheng, sponsor of the Chinese expeditionary force in North Burma witnessed his efforts with satisfaction. These expeditionary forces, together with a few Allied technicians, were a short distance away from the Burma-Lode road. This would open the southern supply route. The danger of the Japs reaching the northern end of the Burma Road in China was now also eliminated and the Chinese were still on the offensive.

WASHINGTON.

Dec 19--The U.S. War Dept has revoked its order evicting all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. The official announcement said that the order was revoked because of favorable progress of the Pacific war.

LUFTWAFFE: (Cont'd from page one.)

meet the Germans in the air, shot down 108 Nazi aircraft with only 33 Allied planes lost. This aerial defense by the Germans is the strongest one they have made in months, and it is evident that they are throwing in their carefully-hoarded reserve of planes in a last desperate effort.

British RAF heavy bombers attacked the German rail and communications centers of Uln, Munich and Nurnberg. London announced that yesterday British aircraft made 2,000 separate flights over Germany, Czechoslovakia and Italy.

DAGAMI NEW SCHOOL BUILDING INAUGURATED
By Genoroso B. Nuevas

Dec 17--Under the direct supervision of PCAU-8, Dagami schools for the Elementary and Intermediate grades had been opened three weeks ago. In view of the lack of sufficient building in the poblacion of Dagami, a Bamboo School House sufficient to accommodate four rooms has been finished, occupied and inaugurated yesterday. A program under the direction of the Mun. Mayor, Mr. Moliton M. Iroy, aided by school teachers was held.

Hon. Atilano Cinco, prominent politician of Loyte and formerly Assemblyman for the fifth district of the island who did not surrender to the enemy, in his capacity as a leader of the US Army and to the people who attended the program. His speech was on behalf of Col. Ruperto K. Kangleon, Acting Prov. Governor of Loyte and Commanding Officer of 92nd Division, Loyte Area Command. He appeals to the people for cooperation. In his speech he said in part: "Let us forget as much as possible politics and petty differences for the sake of unity." In his appeal to have the people unite and cooperate with the present established government, he made his example, the Civil War of China. That civil war for hundreds of years among the Chinese themselves resulted to unity when the bastard son of barbarous Japan took steps in her attempt to crumple to dust the Chinese Republican Government.

Hon. Atilano Cinco commented on the educational system extended to the Filipino people three hundred years ago by tyrannic Spain as "uncomparable with the system of education the American government handed to the Filipinos during the last forty years of sovereignty. We owe these all to the American people and their government". Before closing his speech he made mention of the plan of the Commonwealth Government to rebuild the village of Dagami to a new City and transferring its present place westward. A great applause and the speaker closed "I thank You".

HUNGARY

***Dec 19-- Bad weather over Hungary, which has kept the Soviet airforce grounded for many days, is also hampering Soviet troops in their drive northward. In spite of muddy roads, the Red Army closing in on Budapest captured two more towns. One town is 5 1/2 miles northeast of the capital and the other eight miles southwest. To the northeast, other Russian forces have reached the Slovak border against stubborn German opposition. During the past 48 hours, the Russians have captured 35,000 more Nazi prisoners.

Geometry: The shortest distance between two dates is a good line.

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Reference: See Beautiful Route 203.
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MIMEOGRAPH INK NEEDED

Mimeograph ink supply for the DEAD-EYE is exhausted. Yes, official channels have been used - and exhausted. Also the editors are exhausted from having to "BUM" so much stuff. But if you have an extra can "until that ship comes in", help us out, will you?

ALLIES CAPTURE FAENZA

***Dec 19--Culminating a drive of many weeks, the British 8th Army and other Allied units yesterday captured the key German communications center of Faenza. Faenza was the last major German stronghold between the Allied armies and the city of Bologna. It is reported that the British are already making use of Faenza. After capturing Gaenza, Allied troops pushed ahead six miles northeast of the City.

The new Italian cabinet has now been approved by all the Allied governments. The cabinet has stated that the people of Italy will eventually have a free choice of government.

GREEK UNREST GROWS STRONGER


***Dec 19--For the second time in eight days, Prime Minister Winston Churchill spoke before the British house of commons regarding the political situation in Greece. Although a satisfactory solution between the British and the EAM group was reported forthcoming, both forces continued their bitter clashes in the Athens area. On the main road north of Athens, the British are employing tanks, artillery and aircraft against the revolting forces.

RUSSO-FRENCH AGREEMENT

***Dec 19--Head of the French Provisional Government, Gen DeGaulle, reported to the French Cabinet that a treaty had been signed with Russia pledging mutual assistance for 20 years and cooperation with the Allied governments to effect the defeat of Germany.

SPORTS CHATTER

(ANS)--When the Norman Naval Zoomers upset the Second Air Force Superbombers in their football meeting in Norman, Oklahoma, a B-29 Superfort tried to drop a football on the field, missed by two blocks and bounced the ball off the roof of the Oklahoma U. fieldhouse. That's about as far as the Bombers football team missed winning the game, but a lot greater miss than any of the real B-29s made on their run over Japan's steel center and shipyards on the same day.---Lt Joe Maniaci, the football coach at Bainbridge Naval Station, recently won the station's Officer-Chief golf tournament with a 77. Joe spent most of the round telling visiting officers about Choo Choo Charley Justice the 18-year-old scaback who is the spark of the undefeated Commodore football team.-----Miss Nightingale, the ambulance plane purchased by contributions of the Women's International Bowling Congress, made 28 flights to the invasion area from August 1st to October 1st with a 105-hour total of air time. The plane carried in 14,000 pounds of medical supplies and evacuated wounded on return trips. The gal pin-spillers were so impressed that they now have a drive under way to buy two more ambulance planes.-----Curt McCary, Fargo, N. D. High School sensation, is just another of the young athletic greats heading for Annapolis. McCary just received an appointment but will remain at Minnesota to deal Big Ten foes a fit for one season.---Lt. (j.g.) Alfred Gwynn Vanderbilt, racetrack bigwig recently returned from the South Pacific, has been assigned to Hollywood duty as technical advisor on a PT boat film.---
(Cont'd on page four.)

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		SEALS

Unit Reporters Column

NEWS FROM THE 381st.

ANTI-TANK HAS BIG COMOTION

Pfc Noah Simpson of San Antonio, Texas, and S/Sgt Zalpukis of St Louis, Mo. were awakened by a strange sound inside of the kitchen tent. Simpson, with carbine ready, gave Zalpukis the high sign. Zalpukis turned on his flashlight toward the left of the tent. All of a sudden pots and pans flew--The two guards in some shape or form, made it outside. Quickly deciding they needed more help. Simpson fired a shot up into the air, knowing this would bring help quicker than anything else. At the same time, too, they could keep the tent covered.

Captain Buford Bjorklund, CO, of Minnesota, awakened to the fact that something was wrong, and hurried to the scene. Then Simpson decided that help was not coming quick enough so he fired another shot into the air. The Captain came to an abrupt stop, and said, "Where did that shot go?" No answer. "Surround the tent", ordered the CO. At this command everyone hit the ground and waited tensely for the next command, when finally comes a harmless, but much scared dog from a near-by slit trench. Well, at least the men of Anti-Tank are on the ball. How about it Captain, where did that shot go?

(Story by Omer H. Smith, Pfc.)

"BLACKIE DENNIS"

A somber stillness crept over the barren, moonlit jungle clearing. Here and there could be heard the occasional breaking of a twig, the whispering of the tall jungle grass, swept over by a gently soothing wind. To those possessed of a more vivid imagination, that very same crackling and rustling might just as well have been some little, slant-eyed "Sons of Heaven", crawling steadily through the brush in preparation for one of their ill-famed Banzai raids. A tense shrill voice broke the silence. "Halt-who the hell is that?" "Godamnit, take it easy Joo, try to get a little sleep willya?" The last was

the slow drawl of T/Sgt David Dennis, Co. "A", of Shackelford, Mo. He entered the army, before Pearl Harbor, at the age of 27, and soon after was promoted to the rank of pre-war sergeant, due to his great leadership ability. He was chosen as one of the select group to form the cadre or nucleus of the 96th. The story, so far as the great majority of us know, up until we hit this gorgeous land, is a familiar one.

At Catmon Hill, our first real test under fire, Dennis distinguished himself by his cool, calculating decisions, his utter inability to lose his head - even in the face of blood chilling, deadly accurate enemy machine gun fire. Being the weapons platoon leader, his uncanny ability to pick out enemy positions soon resulted in the Japs visiting the Heavens of the Land of the Rising Sun--thereby enabling our troops to secure the Hill in a much shorter time than had previously been thought possible.

Again, At Mt Poli, Dennis has unerringly directed the destruction of countless machine gun and mortar emplacements.

Sure, I know, by this time you're all saying to yourself, "Hell, this guy hasn't done anything spectacular--look at Joe Blow here--he's killed a thousand Japs, etc., etc." Yes we know that he hasn't done anything that would rate the so-called "Headlines"--and that's exactly why we've chosen him as one of our top ranking soldiers - He's the man behind the guys that go out killing Japs and getting Congressional Medals, and Silver Stars--He's the guy that "Rosie from Tokyo" is referring to when she says, "We have an especially urgent score to settle with the 96th Division Murderers."

Although perhaps some of the other guys may be the actual murderers, T/Sgt David Dennis is the one that's saving a lot of us others Joe's from meeting a similar fate--at the hands of the Nips.

By Sal Riskin.

Still water runs deep.

DEADEYE DISPATCH

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RUMOR CLINIC

A VICIOUS MONGER: "He said that Joo told him the lieutenant said our mail isn't goin' out any more than its comin' in. The folks went know what's happenin' to me."

MEDICINE MAN: We had a talk this morning with the DEADEYE Postal Officer, Lt Wendell Harris, who said that all outgoing mail is leaving the island by plane daily. That should ease our pain a bit on that angle of the mail situation---all letters are going back home without a hitch.

We know too that no mail for the 96th is being held up on this island. The lack of mail is only due to lack of shipping to the island. In this connection all the bags seen in Tanauan are for units other than the regular members of the 96th. A few of our attachments have received mail but their mail channels into the island are different from ours.

SPORTS CHATTER (Cont'd from page 3.)

Most all the big racing stables that were running at New York during the past few months are taking a terrific raking over the coals for their action in shipping out as soon as the regular season was over instead of hanging around for the nine-day War Relief meeting at Belmont. Instead of keeping around their name horses on hand, the big stables shipped to California for the rich sunshine season, and the

SUPERIOR PRIVATE SADSAKIMOTO



"THE RESERVE"

New York tracks had trouble filling their cards for the Charity Races.