

CHINESE GRAB BACK PIECE OF RAILROAD

***Feb 12--Chinese troops have struck back at the communications-hungry Japs who had cleared the Canton-Hankow Railroad for themselves a few days ago. In a fierce counter-attack near the fallen American air base at Suichwan, the Chinese killed 200 enemy soldiers, while another 300 Japs were slain near Chenhsien, a town on the rail line. Although the offensive is not sensational, it has interrupted north-south rail traffic for the Japs. With American naval forces controlling the China Sea, the Canton-Hankow Railroad is a Jap must.

LIGHTNINGS STRIKE IWO

***Feb 12--Army Lightning fighters bagged a nice chunk of Jap planes at Iwo Jima yesterday. Earlier in the day, Liberator bombers had dropped 60 tons of bombs on Iwo. Following up this raid, the P-38's strafed a Jap destroyer and knocked out four bombers and three fighters on the ground. One U. S. fighter was lost in the action.

In other air activity over the weekend Marine planes hit Eabelthaup, Yap, and Puluwat, while rocket firing Navy Ventura planes from the Alcutians smashed radio and light house installations on the northern tip of Shumushu in the Kuriles.

DEWEY ON WAR AND PEACE

***Feb 12--Governor Tom Dewey of New York, still head of the Republican party, spoke about the Big Three meeting last night at a Lincoln Day dinner. He said that President Roosevelt has the wholehearted support of the Republican party in any decisions he may make at the Big Three meeting between himself, Churchill and Stalin.

Dewey went all out for the conferences, stating that occasional Big Three meetings were not enough. He urged that the U. S. conduct frequent discussions with our Allies on problems of war and peace.

NAZIS SEE LONG ALLIED OCCUPATION

***Feb 12--Nazi propagandists told the German people Saturday that if they failed to fight to a finish, they could expect dire results. The propaganda statement said that Germany will be occupied by the Allies for 12 years and strategic points will be held until the year 2000. According to an enemy broadcast, the propaganda continued, "Germany knows the price of continued warfare. But it is preferable to be killed in battle than to commit suicide by capitulation."

BLIZZARD HITS NEW ENGLAND STATES AGAIN

***Feb 12--Boston, Mass. is digging out of its worst blizzard since 1940. Previously snows had paralyzed railroads and air transportation, causing a serious fuel shortage. Now the new blizzard has piled 17 inches of fresh snow on the old drifts. 14 people were known dead in the raging storm. Schools and stores closed while autos were stalled on the highways. Thousands of commuters in Boston had to spend the night in Police Stations, bus terminals, and hotel lobbies.

THE WOLF by SANSONE

Tues. 13 February 1945 Published by 96th Div R&EO-Tel Ext 75 Vol 2. No. 38

CANADIAN 1ST ADVANCESMEMORIAL SERVICES HELD SUNDAY

Men of the 96th Division who gave their lives on the battlefields of Leyte were honored in a memorial service of impressive simplicity yesterday in the Special Troops chapel.

"Their's was a glorious death," said General Bradley in the memorial address. "I know of no finer way to die than fighting for your country and your loved ones in a cause which you know to be just.

"It is with the deepest humility that I stand before you and in their presence. You and they have done so much and I have done so little.

"We are dedicated to finishing what we have begun and what our comrades died for. Imbued with their spirit and marching with God, we shall not fail."

The Division band opened the service with the National Anthem and the choir sang two anthems, "The Lord's Prayer" and "Abide With Me." A lone bugler sounded Taps at the conclusion. Services were conducted by Major Virgil W. Jackson, Acting Division Chaplain, who dedicated the new chapel to "The Glory of God and the memory of our departed comrades."

HOUSE TO HOUSE FIGHTING IN MANILA

***Feb 12--Jap defenders of South Manila are fighting fiercely for every block they yield to the Americans. With bitter house to house fighting now in progress, the
(Cont'd. on Page Two)

***Feb 12--On the western front, the Canadian First Army broadened its front in its new big offensive to almost ten miles after gains of five miles. Together with British Divisions, the Canadian First Army fought to within two miles of Kleve, northern tip of the Siegfried line. These troops are also within 27 miles of Wesel at the northwest corner of the Ruhr industrial area. The left wing of the Canadian First has reached the Rhine northwest of Kleve. They were encountering profuse enemy minefields in the Reichswald Forest area before Kleve.

General Hodges' First Army troops have captured the important Schammunauel Dam on the Roer River. This dam controls the flow of the Roer River and has been of paramount importance since the British Second and American Ninth armies are poised on its west bank. Capture of the dam followed one of the greatest Allied artillery barrages of the war. Earlier in the day, the Germans had blown the gates of this great dam, but there was no indications that the flood thus loosed would seriously impede Allied operations.

Had the Nazis blown all seven dams on the Roer around the Schammunauel Dam, they would have loosed an 18 foot tide. As it was, the river level rose about three feet near Julich, and is already reported falling in the Duren area upstream. The dam is behind the town of Prum, which is now ringed on three sides by American troops. Since the river flows north, Prum is behind the path of the flood.

13 February 1945

1.

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Dear Editor:

Just a brief note of thanks for your effort and successful attempt to get my friend and I together. It was through your able assistance that we made contact with each other. Our visit was very enjoyable. Thanks again for your great help.

Sincerely,
Bill Schanz,
Co G, 383rd Inf

Editors Note: We are glad to locate people wherever our circulation goes. If you want to find a friend let us know.

MAYBE IT WILL BE TRUE MIGHTY SOON

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY--(U.P.)--A huge Russian officer, with a scarlet sash, fur hat, and red star, strode into a battalion command post of the 44th division.

In a thick accent he demanded billets for his troops. He swept his hand over a map of Europe and proclaimed:

"We have just taken all of this. Now Comrades, we must have a little rest."

The flustered battalion commander mumbled that the Red army had not been expected so soon in Alsace and was treading verbal water when the officer's whiskers slipped, exposing Headquarters Sgt. Leonard J. Fooskill (home town unlisted).

The commander was so amused that he sent Fooskill to regimental headquarters to demand billets for the Red Army.

PIPE BENEFIT FOR 96TH

In a letter to his friends in Palo Alto, California, Mr. Charles G. Scott, chief American Red Cross representative for the Division, mentioned that he was unable to obtain any pipes for us. The recipients of the letter immediately began collecting briars, kaywoodies, yellow-boles, and meerschauams, and within a short time a total of 144 pipes had been assembled. These were sent to the Division, and are now somewhere between the States and Leyte.

But Mr. Scott's friends were not satisfied with this amount and have organized a bazaar, the price of admission to which will be some sort of pipe. So in a short time every cigarett-shy Deadeye should be able to pull out a package of Granger or Kentucky Club and puff away.

People of Palo Alto, the Deadeyes salute you.

JJA

Major General H. L. George, chief of the Army's Air Transport Command, blamed ATC officials yesterday for recently giving Colonel Elliot Roosevelt's dog, Blaze, an "A" priority on an ATC cargo plane, in which three servicemen were displaced. Needless to say this caused a real blaze. However, he said it wasn't the dog that was to blame. The service men would have been put off at Memphis anyhow where there was a backlog of "B" priority freight. So the sin lies in the fact that "Blaze" displaced an equal amount of "B" priority freight.

13 February 1945

2.

FIGHT IN MANILA: (Cont'd. from Page One)

enemy's last stand in Manila threatens to turn into a prolonged struggle.

Yank infantry found the streets heavily mined and Jap machine gun positions established in the second floors of modern business buildings. Much of the heart of Manila is now blackened ruins, said Major General Griswold, XIV Corps commander, who added that American forces has so far been powerless to stop Jap demolition crews from wanton destruction. Fires are burning in three sections of the city, consuming civilian property that can be of no military value to either side.

Joining forces in the south part of the city, the 11th Airborne, 1st Cavalry and 37th Infantry Divisions are ferreting Japs out of houses and public buildings that have been converted into pill boxes.

In the north, 6th Division units have reached to within 22 miles of the east coast, while the 32nd Division continued its advance along the Ulla Verde trail.

American planes continued to range over all the Philippines and some swept as far north as Formosa. Others ranged southward to Java, Dutch New Guinea and the Solomons.

TOKYO IN TRIPLE SHAKEUP

***Feb 12--Tokyo has undergone a triple shakeup. The imperial city was first rocked by an earthquake of moderate intensity, not nearly as strong as the one which recently shook Tokyo.

As the quake was rocking the city, Premier Koiso shook up his cabinet. The relatively minor positions of Welfare Minister and Education Minister as well as Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Japanese Government were filled by new men.

Then came the third shake -- from the skies above. A mighty armada of B-29's hit the capital early in the afternoon. The target was the Nakajima plane factory on the suburbs of the city. To compensate for the only moderate earthquake, the B-29 attacking force was the largest to yet.

SOVIETS CAPTURE ELBING

***Feb 12--Saturday the Red Army captured the encircled East Prussian fort of Elbing. Premier Stalin announced the capture of this Baltic port in his first order of the day in several days. The Soviets took 4,300 Nazi prisoners at Elbing, while other Red Army troops killed 4,000 Germans south of Konigsberg. Elbing is 32 miles southeast of Danzig. In a second order of the day, Stalin announced the capture of Pruessich Eylau, a strong point and eight-lane road junction 20 miles south of Konigsberg.

German broadcasters, without Moscow confirmation, said that the Red Army south of Breslau has driven 35 miles west into Silesia after crossing the Oder River. Moscow has announced the Oder crossing, but has clamped a security blackout on all subsequent action in that sector of the front.

THREAT SEEN IN NAZI JET FIGHTER

***Feb 12--Thirteen hundred United States heavy bombers and nine hundred escorting fighters attacked targets in Germany yesterday. Nazi jet propelled interceptors broke through the U.S. fighter screen for the first time. AP dispatches said that the jet planes literally flew rings around the American bombers and that the bomber crews failed to bring down a single jet fighter as they flashed by a speed approaching ten miles a minute (600 m.p.h.). American Mustangs, however, shot down 18 ordinary fighters and destroyed 41 more on the ground. 19 American heavy bombers and three fighters failed to return.

NAZIS IN ITALY REPULSED

***Feb 12--In Italy, German counter-attacks have been repulsed at both ends of the battlefield. Fifth Army artillery knocked out one attack in battalion strength on the western end of the Serchio Valley. On the eastern end of the Italian Front, British forces beat off attacks.



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REDS BROADEN SOUTHERN FRONT

FIRST CAVALRY MAKES NEW CROSSING OF PASIG

***Feb 13--In Manila, the bitter struggle is intensifying between American forces and Japanese troops caught in the wedge between the Pasig River and the shores of Manila Bay. First Cavalry Division tanks crossed the Pasig River in Manila again and have driven deep into South Manila from the east. They have cleared the Santa Ana district, which is about three miles southwest from the center of Manila. The dismounted Cavalrymen pushed from there south to Neilson Airdrome. Supporting ground troops, 75 Marine dive bombers attacked one large Jap concentration in the Fort William McKinley area near Neilson air field.

37th Division infantrymen continued their dogged house-to-house fight through the Ermita district along the bay shore, despite heavy opposition which included big guns and mortars. Many of these enemy weapons are mounted amid the ten foot walls of the old Intramuros district in central Manila immediately north of the combat area. The American 11th Airborne Division is pushing around three sides of Nichols Field on the outskirts of southern Manila. A dozen large enemy field guns were captured.

A Saturday dispatch from Luzon reported that successive waves of fire could be seen spreading over the fortress of Corregidor, which U. S. bombers have been pounding regularly for many days. The

(Cont'd. on Page Two)

***Feb 13--Surging northward on a 100 mile front in southern Germany, Soviet forces have driven to within 84 miles of Dresden. They have almost encircled Breslau on the Oder River and captured the big industrial center of Liegnitz, 35 miles west of Breslau.

About 18 miles southwest of Breslau, the Soviet forces approached the edge of the super-highway running from Breslau to Berlin, while Red shock troops neared the highway at other points.

Breslau itself is surrounded, save for a 15 mile escape gap. Two secondary railways run through that gap to the city, but they are both under Soviet artillery fire.

In the last four days this great Silesian drive has been extended to a 100 mile front. It is headed toward Saxony and has now reached a point 11 miles northeast of Bunzlau in that direction. Bunzlau lies about 28 miles from the Saxony frontier.

CLEAVAGE AT KLEVE

***Feb 13--Kleve, fortress city at the very top of the Siegfried line, was entered yesterday by Canadian First Army troops. The enemy has been driven from the western part of Kleve and is making his principal stand in the southern part of the town. Front dispatches say that German paratroopers have turned up on this front, apparently after being moved from Alsace.

(Cont'd. on Page Two)

SSO SHOW A SUCCESS

Though handicapped by the late arrival of instruments and limited rehearsals, the show presented by Special Service at the Deadeye Theatre, Saturday night, February 10, met with a good measure of success.

For the individual acts, no apologies need be made; indeed, would be ill-advised considering the over-all excellency. Justifiable, however, is some criticism of length and pace; matters simple to adjust.

The most critical could mete naught but highest praise to violinist Richard Kesner and accordionist Chiasa. Each a soloist of professional standing with his own instrument, Chiasa on this occasion chose to provide sensitive and artistic accompaniments to Kesner's brilliant solo work which came well-nigh being the hit of the show. Missing in this combination, known as the "G.I. Gypsies", was the bass player, Bill Stone, who, owing to the difficulties of procuring a bow for his string bass, had to be counted out this and Al Villarreal, guitarist.

Strong contenders for top honors were the 96th Division Chorus directed by Jack Stewart. Here is an organization that has demonstrated in short order a standard of excellency indicative of hard work and close-knit co-operation among its members. Adding further to its strong appeal was the powerful and resonant voice of Lt. Col. De Haven, soloist with the Chorus, in "Ol' Man River."

On its side of the ledger, the "blue" quintet gave a fine account of itself, singing its own arrangements and featuring in the solo spot the smooth voice of Frank Magliocco. Prefacing and closing the show

was the band, presenting Bob Allspaugh, vocalist, who exhibited a fine voice and evidence of his professional experience.

The Master of Ceremonies, "Chuck" Banciu, added a mystifying act combining mind-reading and feats of memory.

The show now in the editing and grooming stage, soon will start a tour of the units of the Division, the schedule of which will appear later.

ODEN AND CHORUS SCORE AT 382ND

Complimenting each other in a well-balanced concert at Third Battalion Headquarters, 382nd Infantry, Sunday Evening, were pianist Lt. Michael Oden, of the Fifth Air Force, and the 96th Division Chorus.

Oden's program containing works of Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, and Schumann for his first two groups may have been a little too severely classical for his listeners, as it was not until his final group in his own "Coteau Suite", where he played with newly-found flash and brilliance that he won unqualified success.

Sharing honors as well as the concert platform, the Chorus with its soloist, Lt. Col. De Haven met with unstinted applause from an audience whose enthusiasm was sufficient to induce them to sit out a heavy downpour.

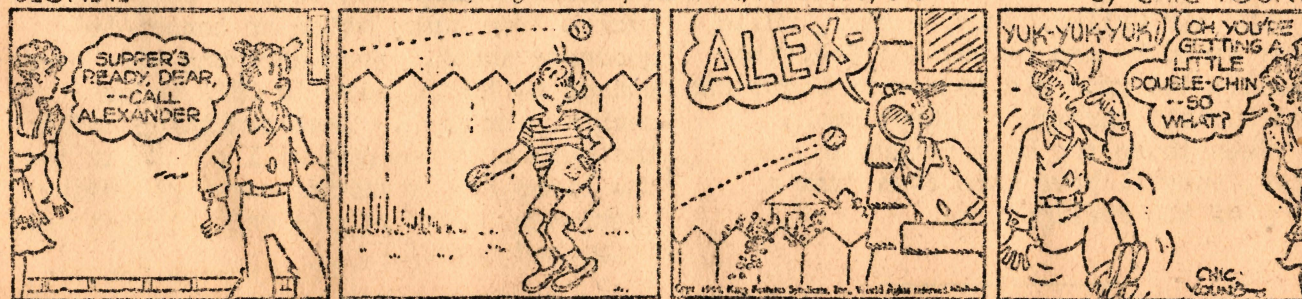
Did you hear about the man who smoked so many Camels that his nerves go so steady that he couldn't move?

She was an electrician's daughter -- but she had low resistance.

BLONDIE

courtesy King Features Syndicate, Inc., distributed by CNS

by CHIC YOUNG



1ST CAVALRY CROSSING: Cont'd from Page 1)

explosions seemed to be rocking the small island. According to the dispatch, the bombing may have set off enemy ammunition stored there.

Elsewhere on Luzon, the bulk of the Japanese garrison is bottled up in mountain valleys of northern Luzon. Another small force of the enemy is trapped in the Zambales Mountains in the northeast coast. There is a sizeable force of enemy concentration now bitterly resisting American forces driving into the Bataan Peninsula. Light American naval craft sank 20 Japanese coastal vessels at San Fernando on the north coast of Luzon.

CHINESE TROOPS MAKE PROGRESS

***Feb 13--The Chinese High Command says that Chinese troops have made some progress in attacks on Japanese positions outside Suichwan and have pushed against the enemy lines outside Kanchow. Both these points were formerly U. S. air bases, but were captured by the Japanese.

In Chungking, the 14th Air Force reports a strike for the first time at the Shantung seaport of Tsingtao in the Yellow Sea area. 46 enemy planes were destroyed on the ground and another 52 damaged.

GUAM TO BE GREAT U.S. NAVAL BASE

***Feb 13--American construction forces on Guam are rapidly making this island, a stepping stone to Japan, one of the greatest Naval bases west of Pearl Harbor. In the six months since organized Japanese resistance has ceased, Army and Navy engineers have erased most battle scars and are far ahead of schedule in reconstruction and fortification. Their projects include dredging, construction of harbor facilities building new air-fields, and repairing those used by the Japs.

Scores of hard surfaced roads through jungle swamps and over rivers have been
(Cont'd. on Page Three)

KLEVE: (Cont'd. from Page One)

On the British Second and American Ninth Army front, the Nazis have turned the Rour River from a tiny stream into a current 400 yards wide. The river is up to seven feet above normal north of Aachen and at another point has spread to a two mile width. Fighting is still going on atop the big dam which the Germans opened to loose the flood. Although an earlier report said the Americans had captured the dam, it now appears that the Yanks hold one end of it and control the other with artillery fire.

Fighting in the mountains of western Germany, U. S. Third Army units yesterday entered the fortress of Prun. They have now merged their ten crossings of the Sure River into three bridgeheads on a 25 mile front. Over the rest of the Western Front, there settled a lull. Especially significant was the lack of any news of the U. S. First Army.

NEW BIG THREE AGREEMENT

***Feb 13--A communique from the Big Three meeting of Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin infers that the momentous conference, taking place in Russian Crimea, has been concluded. The results were announced in the communique.

Plans were made for shortening the war in Europe, on the complete elimination of both Nazism and German militarism and on cooperative action in liberated Europe. As for Germany, there was no effort to soften the force of unconditional surrender. The three leaders declared:

"It is not our purpose to destroy the people of Germany, but only when the Nazis and militarism have been extirpated will there be hope for a decent life for Germans and a place for them in the comity of nations."

At another point they stated, "Nazi Germany is doomed. The Germans will only make the cost of their defeat heavier to themselves by attempting to continue a
(Cont'd. on Page Three)

Unit Reporters Column

HQS CO, SECOND BN, 382 INF

Men of the 361st FA Bn are pretty proud of their air strip which was constructed for the use of our liason planes. The field had a surprise beginning in that the space now allotted to it was originally intended for a ball field. After numerous stumps were knocked out and dragged to the side, and the ground was leveled off, it was discovered that the place was an excellent site for an air strip, so the battalion diligently set to work under the supervision of Lt. Col. Masters to produce one. First, there was levelling off, then came sand, then came crushed rock, then steel matting. Then more sand, after approximately three weeks of hard-spent effort in rain and mud, the first plane landed on it, January 18th and later took off with perfect ease. Since then, several landings have been made on it, and the boys are pretty proud of their handiwork. January 29th the strip was named "Hiser Field", and a big sign put out accordingly, in honor of Lt. Kenneth Hiser, a former liason pilot who lost his life during the Leyte Campaign. Now comes the surprise ending - The ball field was also completed directly beside the air strip, and everyone is thoroughly happy.

Two 363rd FA Bn men, Sgt. Chet Komensky, Hqs Cook, and Cpl Fidel G. Flores, C Battery, have acquired responsibilities in the Philippines in the form of two recent blessed events ---they are God Fathers.

The event took place in 363rd Chapel, February 4th, Chaplain Edward J. Konisky officiating.

Komensky, became the Godfather of two year old Orlinda Jose, a girl, while Flores stood by and became the Godfather of petite two year old Anacrita Digor who cried lustily through the baptismal.

When these two boys return to the States, they'll have more than just a memory of the Philippines.

"I guess it's all right, but remember no flowery stuff!" Sgt. "Si" George looked up from the letter he was writing to his wife in Detroit. Yes, it was all right to tell the story of the Second Battalion wire section of the 382nd Inf but there was to be no flowery stuff. That was final. After all, it was only fair. Theirs was a record that required no exaggeration.

The section had laid wire under almost every possible condition. Everything from hand carrying 86 pound drums of wire to a native taxi service has been utilized to keep communications intact. That native taxi service has been necessitated by an OP line which runs for nearly a quarter of a mile over a large lagoon. It looked like a major "amphibious operation" would be needed to tend the line until two helpful Filipinos offered to row the team across in their canoes. Splicing wire while balancing yourself in a native canoe is no easy job, but the line was in that evening. Canoeing toward camp in the dusk, S/Sgt John Robinson of Colina, Texas, and Pfc Paul Barksdale of Deming, New Mexico, in one boat and Sgt. George, Pfc Ernest Clayton of Marshall, Missouri, and Pfc Charles Messick of Elenwood, Delaware in the other were serenaded by the natives singing "God Bless America". Perhaps, they thought, this wire section has something special about it.

That "something" is made up largely of hard work, determination, and skill. It means going out on wire lines when the rest of the company is just getting up. It means coming back to late chow wet all over - from swamp water or honest-to-goodness sweat. From carrying wire over swamps to laying wire to OP's under machine gun fire. That something utilized the native canoes and will see to it that the lines are in during any forthcoming operation. Some people call it plain old-fashioned guts.

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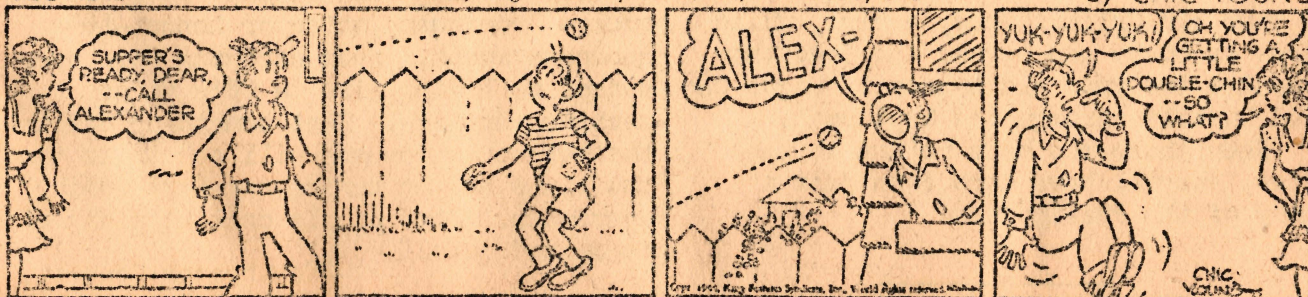
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