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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

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***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.

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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 Roer 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

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PROMOTION POLICY: (Cont'd. from Page Three)

the United States will be counted as time and a half.

The new policy of promotions, the War Department warns, will NOT be used for automatic promotion of officers or enlisted men in the lowest pay grade, but will be reserved for those who have been denied merited advancement solely because they haven't been assigned to positions which were established for a higher grade.

U.S. WAR DEPT. PLAYS SANTA CLAUS

The War Department has revealed how six thousand infantry replacements got Christmas furloughs at home even though a sudden need for the replacements developed on the Western Front. The need developed when the Germans made their surprise breakthrough into Belgium just before Christmas. For a time, it looked as if the men would ship overseas without a last visit home. However, Army Chief of Staff, General Marshall, ruled that embarkation leaves would be granted, although curtailed.

Trimming had to be done someplace, and Army officials decided to do it on travel time. Air Transport Command men conferred with related commands and assembled a fleet of 400 transport planes. Then, the 6,000 soldiers got a rush trip to a point near their homes, took their furloughs, and assembled for the rush trip back to Fort Meade. Who says there ain't no Santa Claus?

(ANS)--Three types of British tanks that landed on D-Day at Normandy were equipped with 95-mm howitzers, the British War Office has just disclosed.

This larger weapon, measuring about three and three-quarters inches, replaced the regular three-inch howitzer.

The new gun was fitted to Churchill, Centaur and Cromwell tanks, the War Office said.

CATHOLIC SERVICES

MEMORIAL HIGH MASS - Sunday 0900 hours in memory of the men of the entire 96th Division who gave their lives to free the Philippines. 96th Div. Arty. choir will assist.

Ash Wed. - Mass at 1800 hours and distribution of blessed ashes.

Friday - 1800 hours, Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction

Saturday - 1730 hours, Mass. Confessions will be heard after Mass.

All Services in Special Troops Chapel.

SERVICES FOR MEN OF JEWISH FAITH

96th Division Chapel, Dagami Area --
Thursday, 1730
Eighth Army Command Area - Friday, 1815
118th General Hospital Area -
Friday, 1815
312th Bomber Group, Tolosa Area -
Friday, 1815
872nd Engr. Avn. Bn., 1 block south of
Palo Cathedral -Saturday, 1100
Base K, Tacloban Area - Saturday, 1930
Sub Base K, Dulag Area - Sunday 1000

The service to be held at the 96th Division Memorial Chapel at 1700 Thursday evening, will be conducted by Chap. Silver of Base K, who is making a visit to the 96th Division Chapel.

At the conclusion of the service, tribute will be paid to those Jewish men who gave their lives in the Leyte operation.

All men of Jewish Faith are invited to attend. The 96th Division Memorial Chapel is located at the Division C. P., two miles south of Dagami on the road to Burauen.

GUAM NAVAL BASE: (Cont'd. from Page Two)

built. Buildings for 22,000 service men have been erected. Guam is being made a communications center with every modern sending and receiving device, including radios, teletypes, and photo transmitters. Hospitals with several thousand bed capacity have been set up. Even two mimeographed newspapers are being distributed with a daily printed paper planned.

B-29'S BOMB RANGOON

***Feb 13--U. S. Superfortresses based in India have bombed a big Japanese supply station in the Rangoon area of Burma. Good results were reported with only weak enemy opposition. All planes returned safely.

In Saturday's big Superfortress attack on Tokyo, the principal target was identified as the Nakajima Aircraft factory at Owa, 40 miles northwest of Tokyo. Twenty enemy planes were destroyed, 19 probably destroyed, and 27 damaged. Three of our giant bombers failed to return.

One Army Liberator was lost in an attack on Haha Island in the Bonins. It was brought down by anti-aircraft fire. Mitchell bombers flown by Marine crews made rocket attacks on a medium enemy tanker and large cargo ship north of Iwo Jima. Explosions were seen on both ships.

(ANS)--A new policy for promoting Privates and Second Lieutenants regardless of the units TO has just been announced by the War Department.

Privates who have completed one year of satisfactory military service in the States, or have served overseas or in Alaska, may now be promoted to Private First Class at the discretion of their commanding officer whether or not there is an opening in the outfit's TO.

The new ruling also says that the commanding officer may promote any Private to rank of Private First Class as soon as he leaves the States.

Any Second Lieutenant, who has com-

BIG THREE: (Cont'd. from Page Two)

hopeless resistance." There was certainly no fear of over-optimism this time -- it was clearly stated that Germany is doomed.

Also agreed upon was the merger of the present Polish government now functioning in Warsaw. It was decided that Poland's eastern border should follow the Curzon Line and that Poland should be compensated with German territory in the west for what Russia takes from her in the east.

Finally, a United Nations conference was decided upon under the plan set up by the Dumbarton Oaks security organization. It will meet in San Francisco on April 25th.

pleted 18 months of service in that grade may be promoted to First Lieutenants without regard to a unit's authorized vacancies in the higher grade. The only requirement is that the officer must be qualified for the promotion.

The new policy permits promotion of Second Lieutenants while in an unassigned status, such as at a school, in a hospital, or in a replacement depot. In figuring time for the promotions, service outside (Cont'd. on Page Five)

THE WOLF by SANSONE

"Cherchez la femme?"

Unit Reporters Column

Our head mailman, Lieut. Wendell Harris, who has been rushing our mail to us faithfully when it comes in was given a "well-done" yesterday by being promoted to the rank of Captain. Captain Harris has been in the 96th since October 1942, when he was assigned to the 382nd as S-4. A year later he was assigned to APO as Postal Officer. Okanogan, Washington, is the home town of Captain Harris.

The day before the publication
Of my poetic inspiration,
I hope for fame: I swell with pride.
Instead, there's shame; I run and hide
Escaping mocking, raucous laughter --
Upon that tragic morning after.
Therefore
To insure my friends proximity
I must keep my anonymity.

363RD FA BN

Just as George Brent makes an amorous pass at La Hedy Lamarr, and all Deadeyes are sitting on the edges of seats, logs, G.I. cans and ground in general -- sizzle, pop, and George and Hedy complete their clinch in a total blackout, and by the time the projector is grinding again, Georgie is getting stiff in a local pub---disconcerting aint it? Yet it never fails

any time a crisis, climax, or seduction arises out go lights, sound and all. It might not be so bad if just the sound cut out or the lights, but when both occur simultaneously, G.I.'s so long removed from the intricacies of civilization, just can't take it, and suffer a momentary nervous collapse. Some are panic stricken, giving way to cries of agony when the big screen moment goes out, tossing epithets like confetti at a Mardi Gras in the general direction of the little black flicker machine. In the love episodes, all suffer from frustration when some gorgeous damsel is about to plant the old red grease on some lucky 4-F. This is usually typified by remorseful wailing and a wringing of the hands, and occasional cries of "They can't do this to me."

381ST INFANTRY

Ow-o-o-o! Who has a horror of a dentist! Not the 381st Inf Regt. From the period of 1st to 31st of January, 499 men have received treatment. Lucky devils! 811 fillings were put in these patients teeth, and just for good measure 63 teeth were extracted.

Our Regtl Dental Surgeon, Capt Jack and Ass't Regtl Dental Surgeon, Capt Max G. Aiken, work in shifts and ably handle an average of 17 patients daily.

MALE CALL

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



LACKEY IN KHAKI GOES WACY

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Dear Editor:

Why all this howl because a beautiful girl with a seemingly second-rate mind adorned the cover of Time Magazine? Wars are periodic diversions while I for one hope the Colbys go on forever. Of course those in the Armed Forces for the first time in their lives are able to feel and rightly so that they are the all-important beings and while no one is more impressed with the greatness of our Generals than the writer, I must admit in all honesty, Miss Colby is more attractive for a magazine cover or any other place your imagination may take you.

The American soldier doesn't need any reminder that a war is in progress. But he must be reminded of a certain amount of beauty that still exists. This is all the more true if he takes a gander at his present surroundings.

The whole business is a great break for Miss Colby who must agree "that there is only one worse thing than being talked about and that is not being talked about."

Time's eye for beauty has not been dimmed by the succession of strong faces with mighty abilities--hurrah! for Time and Miss Colby.

Bennett H. Berman
WOJG, 382nd Inf.

Editors Note:

Two comments: We think Leyte is very beautiful now. We are glad to have this prompt retort to our facetitious letter to the Editor of the most recent issue of the FEATURES.

OFA AIDS VETS

In Washington, Price Administrator Chester Bowles has announced a program to aid returning vets in starting new businesses. Bowles said the OFA is even modifying price changing regulations which would affect veterans as businessmen and that all business needs of the veterans are being given consideration.

As an example, Bowles cited rationing regulations on sugar and fats. In some instances, veterans have not been able to obtain these foods to stock the stores which they planned to open. These regulations will thus be modified, but only for the veterans and those businesses which are providing special services for them.