

27 March, 1945.

RESTRICTED
DEAD EYE DISPATCH

3.

AIRBORNE ARMY: (Cont'd from Page One)

According to AP correspondent, Howard Cowan who accompanied the 17th Airborne Division landing by glider, the German Air Force put up no opposition at all to the daring daylight invasion of the Reich by big C-46 planes towing pairs of gliders.

He said, "Our glider wasn't fired upon until about four or five minutes before we landed. Then shrapnel rocked the craft and machine gun bullets tore through the fabric. No one was hit until we got on the ground. Then two men were wounded. Since we landed dozens of Liberators have been skimming in dropping supplies in chutes of red, yellow, blue and green silk. We saw three planes go down in smoke and flames. Casualties in the landings have been low."

Charles P. Arnot, United Press Correspondent who witnessed the show from a British plane, said there was an intense barrage of small arms fire and sporadic outbursts of medium flak directed against the gliders.

He said, "Just how intense the fire became is attested by the flaming wrecks of five Allied planes on the ground below. For two hours British and American troops have been pouring from gliders and transports falling straight into the line of enemy fire."

BRITISH ARMORED DRIVE IN BURMA

CALCUTTA, March 26 - British armor is slashing north between captured Mandalay and Meiktila have occupied Kame, important town on main Mandalay truck road. Motorized infantry is also in the advance.

JAP SHIPPING HIT IN RYUKYUS

GUAM, March 26 - Avenger Torpedo planes and Helldiver bombers of the Fifth Fleet accompanied by Corsair and Hellcat fighters destroyed a convoy of three large cargo ships, two destroyers and three other escort vessels west of Amami Gunto in the Ryukyus Saturday, it was announced at Pacific Fleet headquarters. On the same day, Navy Search Liberators of Fleet Air Wing One attacked a medium sized cargo ship in the northern Ryukyus.

Navy Search Venturas strafed two small cargo vessels north of the Bonins Sunday leaving one ship sinking and the other damaged. Liberators of the Seventh Air Force paid another visit to Chichi Jima in the Bonins to bomb the airfields.

Meanwhile, more results of Admiral Mitscher's carrier task force forays were coming in. An Associated Press dispatch said fighter pilots shot down 42 Japanese planes and probably destroyed three others last Wednesday when enemy planes attempted to attack the task force after its crippling blow on Japanese naval and air force in southwestern Japan.

The dispatch characterized the Japanese assault on the Task Force as "one of the heaviest to attain some degree of vengeance for assaults on homeland air and fleet bases."

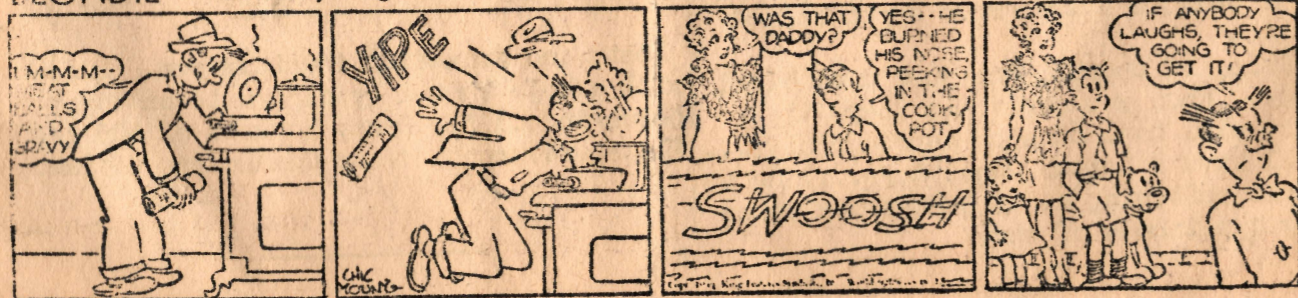
DEAD EYE LOSES ARTIST

Absence of maps, cartoons, printed heads and artwork in this issue is the result of the DEAD EYE DISPATCH losing the services of its talented artist, Pfc Norman Kirk. His two tours of duty as a guard prevented him from serving on the staff.

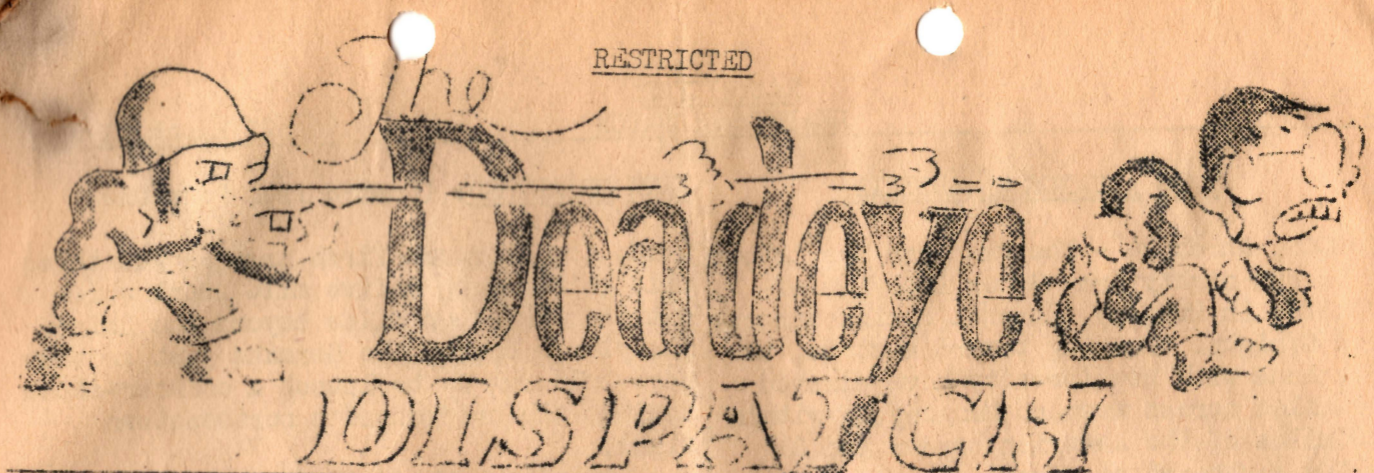
BLONDIE

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by CHIC YOUNG



RESTRICTED



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YANKS BREAKTHRU IN RUHR

AIRBORNE ARMY SURPRISES NAZIS

PARIS, March 26 - Describing the spectacular airborne landings across the Rhine, Brig. Gen. Floyd Parks, Chief of Staff of Lt. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton's Allied First Airborne Army, said, "The Germans were apparently caught by surprise. It was a whale of a success."

He declared that they surprised the Germans by landing so near the Rhine instead of deeper inland where the Germans were expecting them.

Not one of the five-hundred mile long sky train was lost to enemy fighter action as the result of strong Allied attacks on enemy air fields and the close fighter screen.

Gen. Parks said 3000 transports and gliders with 2000 protecting aircraft went in together in double column and dropped three air-borne divisions in the greatest massed parachute landing in history. More than 16 tons of supplies were dropped to troops immediately after their landing by 240 U. S. heavy bombers.

For the first time, quick release parachute harnesses were used in a large scale and troops jumped from both sides of their plane in double quick time.

A Reuters dispatch described the C-46 giant troop carrying planes used in the operation as employing a "new drop technique revolutionizing airborne operations". The technique doubles the fire and fighting power each transport can carry into battle.

(Cont'd on Page Three)

PARIS, March 26 - Both the American Ninth and Third Armies have made decisive breakthroughs east of the Rhine as Allied armies attacked along the entire length of the Western Front.

The Ninth Army's famous "Old Hickory" Thirtieth Division broke clear through the German lines in an eight mile smash beyond the Rhine in what was called the most brilliant infantry success of the war. It was reported "out in the open" in the northern Ruhr. The powerful surge carried it to the side of all other advances of the 21st Army Group within ten miles of Essen, industrial heart of the Ruhr.

Simultaneously, Third Army tanks tore loose in a 27-mile breakthrough from its Rhine bridgehead between Mainz and Worms to capture intact a bridge across the Main River. Location of the bridge was undisclosed but it was a great military prize, for the Main river was considered a major barrier.

While the Third Army's Fourth Armored Division made this breakthrough carrying them forty miles beyond the Rhine, other Third Army units made several new Rhine crossings between Coblenz and Boppard and were reported within 11 miles of the First Army's bridgehead at Remagen. One of the principal worries of the Fourth Armored Division was prisoners. American tank men were advancing too fast to bother with them. A frantic appeal was sent back for transportation for the thousands of prisoners taken.

Bursting out of their Remagen bridge-
(Cont'd on Page Two)

TOKYO: WORLD'S CRAZIEST CITY

Throughout our Pacific Island bases, there are dozens of signs reading something like, "Tokyo - 1874". And with each new base we liberate a new sign sprouts up on which the distance to Tokyo diminishes. Looks as though you're headed for Tokyo, directly or indirectly. Will you like it? That depends whether or not you like places with a hut-house atmosphere. If you could tour this inconsistent city today, you'd find DURING A DAYTIME EXCURSION...100 plants making parts for planeslight industries (the heavier stuff is all in Manchuria) ...many small decentralized industrial plants...you'd find small power-driven lathes in the display rooms of bookstores today...and if they haven't fled to the countryside...the Mitsui, Mitsubishi and Yasuda families, who control two-thirds of Japan's industry and live off the sweat of the workers' brow... on the wide, main thoroughfare you'd see 12 story, fireproof department stores... air conditioned theaters, the ultra-swank Imperial Hotel.....and around the corner.....flimsy paper houses on a narrow darkened streets..... A CITY OF MIXED MOODS.....Old style Japanese stage plays about loyalty to ones superiors.....modern American plays except that all the characters wear red wigs because that represents a white man.....238 daily newspapers, some getting their news by carrier pigeon and all churning propaganda..... and finally Hirohito's palace, blending the straight formal lines of European architecture with the moats and arches you've seen in Japanese gardens. TOKYO'S CITIZENS are just as much of an enigma as their city. They're fond of Popeye, Deanna Durbin and "My Blue Heaven" but at the same time they worship a volcano called Mt. Fuji as well as a low grade moron called Hirohito.

This, of course, was just a mythical journey. When you arrive in Tokyo the picture will have changed considerably.... It will have a softer atmosphere....due to frequent softening up by B-28's and other sundry appliances of war.

FRANCE TO FORM FRENCH UNION

PARIS, March 26 - General Charles De Gaulle has formulated a new plan for the government of French possessions. According to New York Times correspondent Dana Adams, the plan sets up a "French Union" which will be composed of "all part of France."

In a statement to be issued tomorrow, the French government will declare the citizens of French Indo-China will be simultaneously citizens of the French Union.

French officials explained while the details remain to be worked out in the new French constitution, each dependent territory would send representatives to sit in Paris alongside assemblies of metropolitan France. Each colony or protectorate would be given status commensurate with its development.

French Indo-China will gain limited self-government. Its laws will guarantee liberty of thought, liberty of creed, liberty of press and liberty of assembly and all other democratic liberties.

These announcements, observers agreed are measures to anticipate the proposals for "international trusteeship of colonies" that are likely to be submitted to the San Francisco Conference.

LOST AND FOUND COLUMN

"I found a pair of pants in the head, \$20.00 in the pockets and a new knife, etc. I turned them in. I lost a Park cigarette lighter that was a birthday gift from my "buddy". How about doing the same.

Please return to the Troop Commanders Office.
D.L.G., 173rd Engrs.

Lost, one Schaeffer fountain pen. black with a hole burned by cigarette in top. belonging to Pfc Dewey Roberts of 485 AAA. Please return to Troop Commanders Office.

REDS ADVANCE ON AUSTRIA

LONDON, March 26 - The Red Army has thrown a second mighty Army Group into its offensive in Hungary, Marshal Stalin announced tonight. Lunging toward Austria, the Russians with new ferocity have slashed 28 miles across western Hungary to within 40 miles of the Austrian border and 81 miles southeast of Vienna.

There were indications of new blows in the front east of Berlin. The German High Command reported the Soviet Army was attacking east of Cottbus, key German stronghold 47 miles southeast of the capital.

In a second order of the day, Stalin announced the clean-up of the last big Nazi center of resistance on the East Prussian coast with the capture of Heilingbeil by the Third White Russian Army. More than 7000 prisoners were taken.

10,000 ALLIED PLANES IN ATTACK

LONDON, March 26 - German strong points and reinforcement centers in front of General Montgomery's drive into Germany crumbled today under the storm of bombs from thousands of planes striking from bases in Britain and the Continent. Yesterday over 10,000 Allied planes were in the skies over northwestern Germany. Allied plane losses were amazingly low. Only 35 planes failed to return of which 28 were heavy bombers.

Airfields near Prague from which the Germans have been operating against Rhine-land troops were attacked by U.S. Fifteenth Air Force flying fortresses and Liberators flying from Italy.

A strong force of Britain-based Lancasters and Halifaxes with fighter-escort of about 800 planes in all - smashed Hannover, Osnabruck, and Muenster, main rail centers ahead of the advancing British and Americans. Over 3,000 tons of bombs were dropped. Pilots reported the cities were left in flames.

The incessant aerial attacks kept the Luftwaffe out of action during the crossing and afterwards of the Rhine.

YANK BREAKTHRU: (Cont'd from Page One)

head, the American First Army scored three mile gains along a five mile front which put them thirteen miles beyond the Rhine. The plunge caught the Germans just as they were building up to launch a counter-attack against the bridgehead's northeastern flank.

On the northern end of the front, the British Second Army strengthened their thirty mile bridgehead with the capture of Wesel. They then drove eight miles out on the North German plain across the Essel River on a bridge which had been captured by the Allied First Airborne Army.

Elements of the Canadian First Army were more than twelve miles west of Wester and battling beyond the German strongpoint of Rees, half of which was in the hands of Scottish troops.

Resistance was strong at Rees where re-inforced Nazi paratroops were strongly entrenched.

At the southern end of the front, the American Seventh Army drove up all along its front to the Rhine to liquidate last enemy stragglers west of the river.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill inspected the Wesel bridgehead and came within fifty yards of being hit by German artillery shells. General Montgomery has crossed the Rhine to direct operations and is pouring men and materials across the river for what is expected to be the knockout blow.

WAR END IN EUROPE SEEN NEAR

ABOARD THE NESHOPA, March 26 - A news broadcast from station WTVK on Leyte heard here today quoted an Associated Press dispatch from Washington D.C. which stated that military experts in Washington believe that organized resistance in Germany will end within two weeks. With the exception of guerrilla warfare in isolated spots, the German Army will be unable to continue fighting. There was no confirmation or mention of this story over the press-radio facilities used by the DEADEYE.