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#### PACIFIC WAR NEWS:-

General Mac Arthur announced that Mitchell bombers hit shipping in Lingayen Gulf west of Luzon and heavily damaged a 7,000 ton freighter while patrol planes strafed two small craft and shot down two Jap planes over Luzon.

Twenty three Japanese planes attacked airfields and shipping at Mindoro and the American forces suffered some damages. Eight of the enemy planes were shot down.

American doughboys continued mopping up on Leyte counting 263 more Japanese dead. Japanese planes ineffectively raided Palompon at night. Our heavy bombers dropped 72 tons of explosives on San Jose Field on Panay and destroyed six parked planes. Other American heavies hit Matina Field at Davao. American patrol planes hit Borneo and also damaged six small craft there. Patrol planes attacked over the Celebes and fighters raided over the Moluccas downing three Jap bombers. Two Japanese planes attempting to raid Morotai dropped bombs in the water.

Admiral Nimitz announced that Liberators hit Iwo Island Thursday for the 21st straight day this month and ran into intense flak but all the Liberators returned safely. Planes from the Iwo area are believed to have been those which raided the Superfortress base at Saipan. Marine planes rocked Eabelthuap in the Palaus and other Marine planes continued blows at the Marshall Islands.

A Tokyo dispatch broadcast by the Berlin radio announced the death of Admiral Nobumasa Suoyetsuou the former head of the Japanese Fleet.

The Japanese Imperial Headquarters, Friday U.S. time, reported an American convoy of thirty transports in the Mindanao Sea which was under constant Nipponese air attack. The report claimed the sinking of six transports and the damaging of two more. All these claims are without American confirmation. The communique said the convoy entered the Mindanao Sea through the Surigao Strait between Leyte and the Mindanao Islands. This route was described as the one followed by the American amphibious force which invaded Mindoro Island in the Philippines on December 15th.

American Superfortress bombers kept the Tokyo populace in alarm for twenty four hours in night and morning visits, Friday. Incendiaries were dropped by single B-29s which made their appearances over south central Honshu.

The Nipponese Hqrs also said that Japanese antiaircraft fire from Halmahera Island just south of the American held Morotai Island shot down 72 raiding U.S. planes and damaged 42 more in Dec.

#### EUROPEAN WAR NEWS:-

U.S. 1st Army troops have driven the German westward thrust in Belgium back twelve miles at points while 3rd Army units slashing north have narrowed the neck of the German salient to 13 miles at last front reports. This was the situation as of Thursday morning. The 1st Army in gains up to a mile and a half had fought back to the edge of Rochefort which is twelve miles from where the German spearheads have approached the Meuse River. Late reports said the Germans were digging in and laying mines.



The Americans drove the Germans from several towns in that area in bitter fighting and cleaned pockets at Cilles with one thousand Germans killed and the remainder of the regiment of three thousand either captured or straying through the woods trying to rejoin the main force. At least one thousand prisoners were taken in the American thrust. Headquarters revealed three divisions figured prominently in stemming the German drive but did not reveal exact location of the operations. They were the 1st Infantry which landed on D-day and broke the Siegfried Line at Aachen and the 82nd Airborne which landed in Cherbourg and in the Holland invasion.

Clear weather returned to the front and everything from heavy bombers to fighters blasted Germans who had moved under the fog cover for two days. The 3rd Army has driven to four miles north of Bastogne and gained on the east and west widening the salient to Bastogne to six miles in places. The 3rd Army drove to the German border in three places in northwest Luxembourg crossing the Sure River at numerous points. They were within three miles of Wiltz which is twenty five miles north of Luxembourg capital. They also were at Rosport four miles east of Echternach and they took towns a few miles from Dierkirk both southeast and southwest. The Germans are now fighting a battle of encirclement west of Bastogne.

Brig. Gen. Mc Auliffe was acting commander of of the 101 Airborne Division and parts of the 9th and 10th Airborne Divisions, some 10,000 men who held Bastogne against attacks from 5 German Div. When surrounded by the Germans his reply to their ultimatum for surrender was "nuts" and four days later 18th Infantry and 4th Armored broke through to relieve them. They found the fields before American lines littered with debris of 200 German tanks. Allied Hqs announced that the Germans had not gained up to Thursday morning. German attacking earlier on the northern flank in the Monschau area had been taken back. On the Roer River front above Bulge, the Germans attacked twice north of Geilenkirchen taking two villages which the Allies then recaptured.

IN WASHINGTON the State Department forwarded "strongest possible protest" to Germany regarding the killing of all but 15 of a group of 130 Americans captured near Malmedy Belgium. German tank men line the Yanks up and then shot them. The protest is being sent through the Swiss.

Two large fleets of heavies blasted railyards and oil plant in the Ruhr Friday night after 2300 Allied heavies and over 1,000 fighters dropped nearly 9,000 tons of bombs on German transportation networks feeding the west front. 800 U.S. heavies with 700 fighters hit transportation centers in a 15 mile arc behind the German bulge including Bingen, Trier, and Frankfurt. The Luftwaffe was grounded but the flak was heavy over Frankfurt. Ten bombers and three fighters were missing.

IN ITALY the German attack down the Serchio Valley near the west end of the front appeared checked after four days of hard fighting in which the Americans were forced back on a six mile sector and driven from Galliciano and Barga. Our planes battered the Germans at Aulla to the northwest and in three days flew over 4300 sorties over the front. The Canadians continued to mop up northeast of Faenza on the other end of the front.

THE RUSSIANS BROKE INTO THE HEART OF BUDAPEST AND BEGAN SLAUGHTERING TRAPPED AXIS GARRISONS IN BITTER HAND TO HAND FIGHTING. North of the city other Russians tightened the trap on the Germans killing 2,500 in a day and capturing 2,200 the previous day. The Red Army units forced the Hron River where it meets the Danube and sped two miles beyond that point. The Russians are now on the Hron River's east bank on a front of several hundred miles of Vienna.



294th Port Company  
Pass

Robert L. Edwards T/5 3274 5877

(Name) (Grade) (ASN)

is authorized to be absent from camp,  
to visit Bauang from 1500

10 May 1945 to 2200 10 May  
1945

William P. Kottmeier  
William A. Kottmeier  
1st Lt., TC., *W.M.*  
Commanding



AP Newsfeatures

## War Nearer in 1959?

With Communist pressure at several points around the world, it can be assumed that this year will bring continued world tension. While war may not come, neither is the world likely to have real

peace in 1959. The Red pressure centers will be met with free world resistance and counter moves. The Communists are expected to use crisis tactics to overcome political setbacks and a mistake might bury the world in armed conflict. — AP Newsfeatures. (Story on Page 13)