GENERAL MACARTHUR IN A SPECIAL COMMUNIQUE THIS MORNING ANNOUNCED THAT AMERICAN AMPHIBIOUS FORCES HAD STORMED ASHORE ON LEYTE ISLAND IN THE CENTRAL PHILIPPINES. THE TROOPS THAT LANDED WERE AMERICAN TROOPS OF THE AMERICAN SIXTH ARMY AND ALSO OTHER TROOPS FROM THE CENTRAL PACIFIC. THIS ASSAULT TROOPS ESTABLISHED FOUR BRIDGEHEADS ON THE EASTERN SHORES OF THE ISLAND AND THEN QUICKLY PUSHED INLAND. CORRESPONDENTS REPORT THAT THE LANDING TROOPS MADE NO RESISTANCE BUT LATE REPORTS SAY THAT THE YANKS ARE MEETING "SOME RESISTANCE" INLAND. THE FOUR BRIDGEHEADS ARE ALL ABOUT THREE AND A HALF MILES LONG AND NO ONE BRIDGEHEAD IS MORE THAN 15 MILES FROM ANOTHER BRIDGEHEAD. THE ACTUAL LANDING BEGAN EARLY THIS MORNING AND ALL DURING THE DAY HUNDREDS OF HEAVY MALLS HAVE BEEN POURING ASHORE. TANKS ARE BEING PUT IN ASHORE RAPIDLY AND ARE IN USE AS SOME OF THE TANKS ISLAND IS EXCELLENT FOR TANK WARFARE.

ON TUESDAY OF THIS WEEK, AMERICAN TROOPS HAD LANDED ON ISLANDS GUARDING THE APPROACHES TO LEYTE. THE JAP NAVY WAS NOT TO BE FOUND AND THE AIR RESISTANCE WAS FUTILE. ONE JAP BOMBER ROSE TO MEET THE CHALLENGE IN THE AMERICAN SKIES. THE AMERICAN SEVENTH FLEET AND US CAPTAIN GENERAL MACARTHUR ESTIMATES THAT THE JAPS HAVE 225,000 MEN IN THE PHILIPPINES BUT THEIR FORCE IS UNDOUBTEDLY CUTOFF IN TWO BY THE LANDINGS BETWEEN THE MAIN ISLANDS OF LUZON AND MINDANAO. THE JAPS HAVE TURNED THEIR BIG GUNS ON THE CITY. FRENCH TROOPS ABOVE SELPORT ARE 14 MILES FROM THE ALPS BORDER.

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS SAY THAT THE SIZE OF THE NAVY FLEET AND THE AMERICAN AIR FORCE TAKING PART IN THE OPERATIONS WAS "MAMMOTH." IT WAS THE BIGGEST CONCENTRATION OF NAVAL AND AIR POWER EVER ASSEMBLED IN THE PACIFIC. NOT ONE OF THE NAVAL VESSELS WAS LOST IN THE OPERATIONS. THE AMERICAN FLEET LEFT DUTCH NEW GUINEA ON FRIDAY THE 15TH. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IN A BROADCAST TO THE NATION SAID "WE PROMISED TO RETURN AND WE HAVE RETURNED."
RUSSIA:

The Germans admitted today that the Reds have torn another breach in the German lines in East Prussia about 20 miles south of the railroad running to Insterburg. Soviet troops are pressing still further to the west of Riga. The Germans' only escape from Latvia is by sea and the Red Air Force is attacking every German ship in the waters off Latvia. North of Sigulst near the Czech border, Russian troops have made good gains. Soviet forces approaching the Hungarian border from northern Transylvania are closing in on the big city of Satu-Mare from three sides.

The Germans said today that they had evacuated Debreczen in Hungary. Moscow has shed some light on the great tank battle reported to be raging near Debreczen. The Reds trapped the Nazis between two canals here and in a savage battle knocked out or captured 113 tanks and 400 guns. More than 11,000 prisoners were taken.

A German relief column trying to break through to help the Nazis fighting in Belgrade has been surrounded by the Russians.

ITALY:

American Fifth Army troops have captured more hill positions on the road to Belgrade. Troops of the British Eighth Army have taken the town of Cesena on the Adriatic coast. Allied bombers yesterday hit rail targets and bridges in the Po Valley. Mediterranean based aircraft flew more than 900 sorties yesterday.

British troops have taken the city of Thebes in Greece. Thebes is about 35 miles northwest of Athens.