

VOLUME VI NO. 26

THE SIGNAL CORPS

24 FEBRUARY 1945

#### GERMANY:

AMERICAN FIRST AND NINTH ARMY TROOPS FIGHTING ACROSS THE ROER RIVER HAVE MADE GOOD HEADWAY DESPITE STIFF GERMAN RESISTANCE. AT ONE POINT BETWEEN DUREN AND JULICH THE AMERICANS HAVE DRIVEN  $3\frac{1}{2}$  MILES PAST THE ROER AND HAVE CROSSED ANOTHER RIVER, A TRIBUTARY OF THE ROER AND HAVE CAPTURED 2 TOWNS ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE RIVER. FROM NORTH OF LINNICH TO SOUTH OF DUREN THE AMERICANS HAVE CROSSED THE ROER AT MANY POINTS AND TROOPS AND SUPPLIES ARE STREAMING ACROSS THE BRIDGES AND THE BRIDGES ARE BEING BUILT UP AND STRENGTHENED. AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS ARE REPORTED TO HOLD  $\frac{1}{3}$  OF DUREN, LESS THAN 20 MILES FROM COLOGNE. UP TO MIDNIGHT YESTERDAY THE AMERICANS HAD TAKEN 1200 PRISONERS. GERMAN RESISTANCE STIFFENED LATE IN THE DAY YESTERDAY BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THE GERMANS HAVE BROUGHT UP REINFORCEMENTS YET.

NINTH ARMY TROOPS HAVE TAKEN ALL OF JULICH EXCEPT THE CITADEL AND HAVE TAKEN AT LEAST 6 OTHER TOWNS. THE GERMANS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE 6 DIVISIONS FACING THE AMERICANS. AMERICAN CASUALTIES IN THE BRIDGING OF THE ROER WERE EXTREMELY LIGHT.

GENERAL PATTON'S AMERICAN THIRD ARMY TROOPS HAVE BEEN MAKING EXCELLENT PROGRESS SOUTHWEST OF PRUM WHERE A NUMBER OF SMALL TOWNS HAVE FALLEN. GERMAN RESISTANCE ON THIS SECTOR IS CRUMBLING AND THIRD ARMY MEN TOOK OVER 1000 PRISONERS YESTERDAY. THE AMERICANS HAVE STRENGTHENED THEIR BRIDGEHEADS OVER THE SAAR BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH OF SAARBURG AND THE TOWN OF SERRIG ON THE EASTERN BANK OF THE SAAR IS REPORTED TO BE COMPLETELY IN AMERICAN HANDS. AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS ARE REPORTED TO BE FIGHTING ACROSS THE SAAR RIVER SOUTH OF SAARBRUCKEN.

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS ARE REPORTED TO BE WITHIN A MILE OF WEEZE AND LESS THAN A MILE FROM CALCAR.

ALLIED BOMBERS KEPT UP THEIR NON-STOP BOMBING OF GERMANY LAST NIGHT AND IN DAYLIGHT TODAY. RAF BOMBERS LAST NIGHT HIT BERLIN FOR THE FOURTH NIGHT RUNNING AND ALSO ATTACKED GERMAN TRANSPORT TARGETS ALONG THE UPPER RHINE. TODAY, MORE THAN 1100 EIGHTH AIR FORCE HEAVIES ESCORTED BY 500 FIGHTERS RIPPED OIL REFINERIES NEAR HAMBURG AND HANNOVER AND ATTACKED GERMAN U-BOAT PENS. IT IS NOW KNOWN THAT IN THE RECORD ATTACK ON GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS ON THURSDAY, BETWEEN 8000 AND 9000 ALLIED PLANES TOOK PART.

GENERAL EISENHOWER IN A SPEECH HAS ENUMERATED THAT THE U. S. NINTH ARMY IS STILL UNDER THE COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHALL MONTGOMERY FOR OPERATIONAL PURPOSES. THE SUPREME COMMANDER FURTHER SAID THAT "THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW OFFENSIVE WAS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE GERMAN ARMY ON THE NORTHERN FRONT WEST OF THE RHINE." GENERAL EISENHOWER SAID THAT "HE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE THAT PURPOSE."

#### RUSSIA:

THE RUSSIANS HAVE CAPTURED THE HEDGEHOG CITY OF POZNAN IN WESTERN POLAND, BY-PASSED IN MARSHALL ZHUKOV'S DRIVE TO THE MIDDLE REACHES OF THE ODER EAST OF BERLIN. POZNAN, THE LAST GERMAN BASTION IN WESTERN POLAND, COST THE GERMANS 50,000 MEN IN KILLED OR TAKEN PRISONER. THERE IS FIERCE STREET FIGHTING GOING ON IN BRESLAU WHERE RED ARMY ASSAULT TROOPS HAVE BROKEN INTO THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE CITY. IN EAST PRUSSIA THE RUSSIANS HAVE TIGHTENED THEIR HOLD ON KOENIGSBERG. THE GERMANS SAY THERE IS GRIM FIGHTING GOING ON NEAR THE BORDER OF POMERANIA, 60 MILES SOUTH-WEST OF DANZIG, WHERE THE RUSSIANS ARE HEAVILY ATTACKING.

MARSHALL KONEV'S TROOPS ARE HAMMERING THE GERMAN DEFENSES ALONG THE NEISSE RIVER. THE GERMAN RADIO CLAIMED TODAY THAT KONEV'S MEN HAD ESTABLISHED BRIDGEHEADS ACROSS THE NEISSE RIVER YESTERDAY AND WERE ATTEMPTING FURTHER CROSSINGS OF THE RIVER TODAY.

#### ITALY:

FOR THE FOURTH DAY RUNNING, ALLIED PLANES FROM ITALY FLEW MORE THAN 2000 SORTIES YESTERDAY. THE PLANES ATTACKED GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS IN AUSTRIA AND IN NORTHERN ITALY.

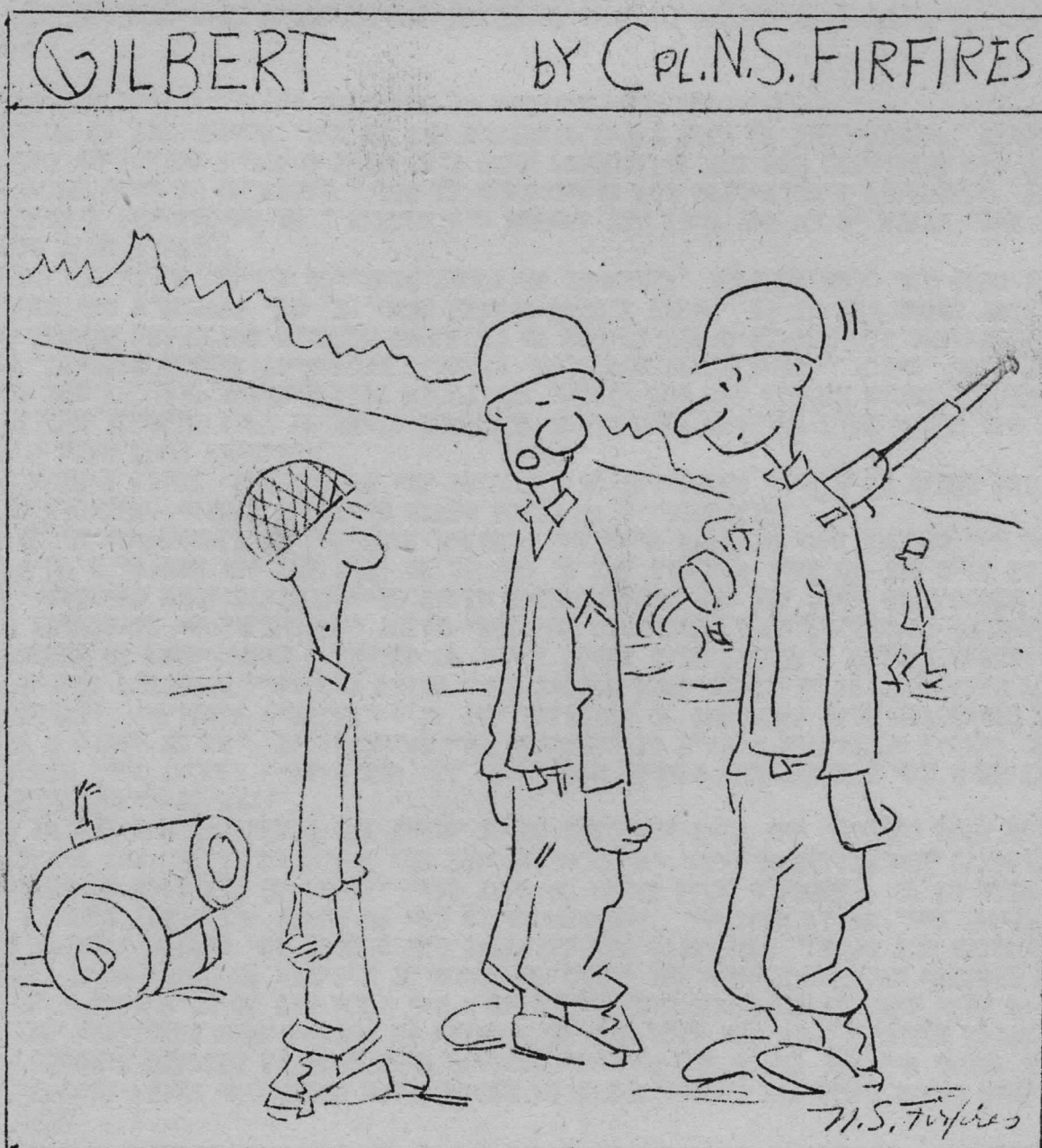
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PACIFIC:

ADMIRAL NIMITZ HAS ANNOUNCED THAT AMERICAN MARINES HAVE REACHED THE SOUTHERN TIP OF THE CENTRAL AIRSTRIP ON IWO JIMA AND THAT THE MARINES ARE STRIKING OUT FROM THEIR POSITIONS SUPPORTED BY THE HEAVY GUNS OF AMERICAN WARSHIPS. THE JAPS HAVE BEEN USING A 1000 POUND ROCKET MORTAR AGAINST THE MARINE BEACHHEADS. THE JAPS SAID TODAY THAT THE MARINES HAD ESTABLISHED 2 NEW BEACHHEADS ON THE ISLAND.

TROOPS OF THE AMERICAN 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION HAVE DROPPED 25 MILES BEHIND THE JAP LINES ON LUZON TO RESCUE 2000 CIVILIAN INTERNEES FROM A JAP PRISON CAMP. THE PARATROOPERS WERE HELPED BY GUERRILLAS WHO HAD INFILTRATED BEHIND THE JAP LINES. THE JAP GARRISON WAS WIPED OUT. TWO PARATROOPERS WERE KILLED. THERE IS HAND TO HAND FIGHTING GOING ON INSIDE THE WALLED FORTRESS IN MANILA FOLLOWING A PENETRATION OF THE WALLS BY AMERICAN GUNS AND ARMOR. AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE OCCUPIED A SECOND ISLAND IN THE SAN BERNARDINO STRAITS BETWEEN LUZON AND SAMAR.

A FORCE OF 150 AMERICAN SUPER FORTS FLYING FROM INDIA BOMBED RANGOON TODAY. ANOTHER FORCE OF THE GIANT BOMBERS FROM INDIA ATTACKED SINGAPORE. TROOPS OF THE CHINESE FIRST ARMY IN NORTHWEST BURMA, ARE MOVING STEADILY TOWARDS LASHIO.



HE WANTS TO KNOW WHERE TO SET UP. ✓