The security covering the extent of the armored drives into central Germany is expected to be lifted in a few hours. All along the western front Allied columns have kept up their relentless push into the Reich. British Second Army tanks were last reported nearing the big rail center of Osnabruck, northeast of Münster. German resistance in the center of the 21st Army Group’s front is rapidly disappearing. The Germans say that armored columns are some 40 miles past Munster and are fighting on both sides of Bielefeld, about 100 miles east of the Rhine. British forces have launched an attack to clear a stretch between Ahlem and Nijmegen. German paratroopers have joined the German military traffic streaming out of Holland between Arnhem and the Zuider Zee.

The Rhin Industrial Ruhr Valley has been sealed off from Germany by the link-up of American Ninth and First Army troops at Lippestadt. It is estimated that these are anywhere from 40,000 to 100,000 German troops trapped in the Ruhr. These troops consist of elements of the German Fifth Panzer Army, the 15th Army, and the First Parachute Army. American First Army infantrymen have already started mopping up operations along the flanks of the pocket and German attempts to break out have been smashed. East of the Ruhr, Ninth and First Army troops are pushing to the east and the town of Geske has fallen.

General Patton’s Third Army tanks are fighting in the city of Kassel. It is reported that the Mayor of the city wants to surrender. Below Kassel other Third Army tank columns have driven 20 miles past the Fulda River. The Fourth Armored Division has rolled to within a few miles of Eibach where they are less than 170 miles from Berlin. On this front a prisoner of war camp was overrun and more than 1200 Americans have been liberated. Troops of the American Seventh Army are reported to have linked up with the French First Army across the Rhine near the town of Speyer.

Two Russian Army groups are tearing a gap in the southeastern defenses of Austria. Marshall Tolbukin’s Third Ukrainian Army has driven 30 miles inside the country. The Red Army has pressed on from Sopron almost to Wiener Neustadt. West of Wiener Neustadt, Tolbukin’s men have cut the road to Graz and were last reported 5 miles from the road between Vienna and Italy. Tolbukin’s vanguards at last reports were within 20 miles of Vienna itself.

Marshall Kocich Malinkovsky’s Second Ukrainian Army has battered its way down both sides of the Danube River to a point within sight of Bratislava, guarding the eastern approaches to Vienna.

American troops on the island of Okinawa in the Ryukyu Group south of Japan are extending their bridgehead to the north and south and are driving deep into the center. So far the Americans have met heavy resistance in two spots. Tokyo radio reported today that other American invasion troops were landing on another island in the Ryukyu Group to the west of Okinawa. Admiral Nimitz has announced that British daring planes have been attacking 2 islands southeast of Okinawa.

In the Philippines American troops have gained more ground on Luzon, Negros and Cebu. Nearly 11,000 dead Japs have been counted in the last five days.
PACIFIC CONTINUED:

AMERICAN SUPER FORTS FLYING FROM THE MARIANAS HAVE AGAIN ATTACKED TOKIO. THE GIANT BOMBERS SATURATED THE JAP CAPITOL WITH INCENDIARY AND HIGH EXPLOSIVE BOMBS IN A LOW LEVEL ATTACK JUST BEFORE DAWN TODAY.

LOST:

OFFICERS BEDROLL WITH EQUIPMENT INSIDE. BEDROLL LOST BETWEEN WALSTEDDE, GERMANY AND SECKUM, GERMANY, ON APRIL 1, 1945. BEDROLL CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THE OWNER'S NAME: LT. QUENTIN PEASE, O-44953, PAINTED ON THE OUTSIDE. FINDER PLEASE CONTACT LT. PEASE AT S-2 OFFICE HEADQUARTERS 83RD DIV. ARTY.

GILBERT

BY SGT. N. S. FIRFIRES

HE'S GETTING RESTLESS — WE HAVEN'T MOVED FOR OVER AN HOUR.