

THE DEADEYE



DISPATCH

FIRST TO
THE FRONT

in, 1 April 1945. PUBLISHED BY THE 95TH DIV I & O. Tel Ext-300.

Vol 4, No 1.

DEADEYES LAND ON RYUKYUS STORM BEACHES OF HAGUSHI, OKINAWA

CORRESPONDENTS LAND WITH ASSAULT TROOPS

April--Full news coverage of the Eastern landing of the DEADEYES is to be given by newsmen and photographers who landed this morning with the initial waves of troops. Equipped with notebooks, pencils, cameras and film, five correspondents are covering the landing from ashore while two additional ones are reporting to the world from aboard General Bradley's Command Ship and preparing to land with him.

Eugene Smith, well known LIFE photographer stated before he landed that he expected to have a sizeable number of shots before the afternoon when he plans to return to ship to carry in the larger cameras which he has awaiting him there.

Three Army photographers were among the group landing this morning. They are Robert Viken of the Signal Corps and Bennett Wood and T/5 Gerald Able, both of Pacific Ocean Areas.

Accompanying the landing forces also is Gilbert Feinstein, known to all 95th Division men as our own Public Relations Assistant and a Special Correspondent for the DEADEYE DISPATCH.

With General Bradley's command group are Herb Paul of the Minneapolis Star-Journal and Des Moines Register-Tribune; Roy Jennings of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin and Chicago Sun; and S/Sgt Franklin P. Hall, my radio correspondent.

Lt O. R. Davidson, Division Public Relations Officer, is coordinating the activities of the various news services.

(0930-- April 1--Preceded by a terrific bombardments from land, sea and air, elements of Major General Bradley's DEADEYE Division landed today on Okinawa Jim in the vicinity of Sunabe in the first amphibious landing carried to territory which the Japanese call "homeland." The first waves of troops under the command of Colonel E. T. May and Colonel M. E. Palloran landed as scheduled at 0830 against what appeared to be light opposition.

Swarming ashore after the shelling had been moved inland and aided by the excellent landing conditions on most beaches, front line companies rapidly reorganized and plunged ahead after tanks had preceded them, passing through holes blown in the sea wall which lined the beaches. By 0900 the troops were 300 yards inland.

A part of the much larger force comprised of both Army and Marine troops in overpowering numbers, the DEADEYES were carried to their target in vessels of Admiral Nimitz's command under Commodore Hardson. At this time there is no information released on the many other units which were to be landing simultaneously with the DEADEYES. In all, more than 1,200 naval vessels and more than 1,500 planes were involved. So many carrier planes were flying over the landing beaches at 0800 that the Division Air Observer had to fly farther inland to avoid crowded airways.

Cont'd on page two.

FRENCH OPEN DRIVE INTO NORTH ITALY

Mar 31--A French communique has reported that French Forces had opened a campaign near the Franco-Italian border just below Switzerland. The report stated that French troops had captured the German strong point near Saint Bernard Pass leading into northern Italy. There was little other action on the Eighth Army front. It is possible, with the French forces driving into northern Italy from the west and Tito's forces driving into Italy from the east, that the Allies are attempting to seal off the strong German army in Italy from the rear.

TITO'S FORCES ROUTE GERMANS

Mar 31--The Yugoslav communique announced a major victory for Marshal Tito's Partisan forces over the Germans after eight days of heavy fighting in the Gospic area near the western coast of Yugoslavia. Gospic lies 13 miles inland from the Adriatic coast and 57 miles southeast of Ljubljana. In the eight days of fighting, heavy losses amounted to 4,000 and 2,000 captured.

SECOND ALLIED AIR ARMYADA HITS GERMANY

Mar 31--Over 1,400 American heavy bombers and 900 fighters attacked Germany's North Sea ports of Bremen, Hamburg and Loholshaven yesterday. This armada is the largest sent out by the Eighth Air Force this year. The massive attack was intended to cut off any seaborne supplies destined for the German armies in the north. Bomber targets included submarine yards, naval vessels in port, and oil storage depots.

RAF Mosquitos bombed Berlin for the 37th time in 38 nights. The orders "Hold your fire" were flashed to Allied pilots chasing Germans across the Westphalian plains because the British tanks were breaking into the fleeing enemy columns. Italy based bombers made over 900 sorties against targets in northern Italy and the Brenner Pass.

ALLIES SPEED ACROSS GERMANY

Mar 31--Allied Armies are still racing across the plains of Germany, finding no solid German line from Montgomery's armies on the north to Patch's Army on the south. The British Second Army sped ahead just north of the Ruhr operating under a censorship blackout. Hodges' First Army boldly cut through the Ruhr, smashing into Paderborn, 185 miles west of Berlin. Paderborn is on the main railway connecting Berlin with the Ruhr. Late dispatches placed First Army columns at Fritzlar, which is 14 miles southeast of Kassel. First Army troops are cutting directly west into Germany on a rolling terrain favorable to mechanized warfare.

On the north flank of the First Army, Simpson's Ninth Army is rolling through the Ruhr after clearing Duisburg. While the exact whereabouts of the British and Canadian Armies is not known, vanguards of these forces were reported to be in the Westphalian capital of Muenster. The British troops are fanning out northeastward in the direction of Bremen and Hannover.

Patton's Third Army to the south, after cutting deeply into Germany, veered northward from Giessen and headed towards the First Army. It appears that Patton is swinging shut the door on a giant trap; whether there are any units of the German Army in this encirclement has not been announced. Third Army troops have virtually cleared Frankfurt of enemy resistance.

Far to the south, General Patton's Seventh Army entered the anchor city of Heidelberg, while the French First Army was reported by Brussel's radio to be holding a bridgehead ten miles deep across the Rhine near Baden.

Scores of great German cities have fallen to the swiftly-advancing Allied armies; among the larger Allied held German cities are Coblenz, Ludwigshafen, Wiesbaden, Trier, Saarbrucken and Heidelberg. The extent of the German debacle on the western front can be gauged by the number of Nazi prisoners taken in the past few days. Radio London said that dispirited Germans were surrendering at the rate of 2,000 hourly.

Established as the official news organ of Major General J. L. Bradley's 96th Div, by the I & B Office, G-3 Section, daily except Monday while in the field. First published on 4 Nov 44. We receive Camp Newspaper Service materials and use the facilities of Army News Service. Republication of credited materials is prohibited without the permission of the originating service.

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EDITORIAL

TODAY IS EASTER!

To the religious, the Resurrection is the rising of Christ from the dead; to the world the Resurrection is a revival -- a new beginning. To us this Easter is the day of the beginning of a new victory over the Japanese. The landing we are making on this issue of the DISPATCH is published our way of observing the day. Our people at home are praying for us today in every Church or home, -- whether they are religious or not it means the same.

"Easter" was derived from the name of the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring "Eostre" or "Estará". Spring is at home now and we fight for a return to that spring. The DISPATCH wishes its readers today, good luck, good shooting and many good Japs -- as we make a new beginning in the war. The war on Japanese home territory.

Here's something for the papers
For news dissemination
The 96th has now begun
Her second operation.

Hot and fast the fire falls
And many Japs now die.
Because there's grit in every crew
Of every damn DEAD EYE!

DDT POWDER

IT --- It Dusts Down Typhus!
It's in that little grey tin box they gave
you. USE IT EVERY DAY!

FIRST!

We are happy to announce that this issue of your DEAD EYE DISPATCH is the first American (and the first Army) newspaper to be published at what the Japanese consider home territory. We will come to you each day with the latest news of the fight -- while the spotlight of the world is on this Island and you. We propose to let you know what is being said of you and what your buddies are doing.

A ROLE OF DISTINCTION.

In his speech to the troops yesterday, General Bradley stated, "You go into this operation as conquerors; you will land on the soil of Japan." To be the first to land on Japanese home soil is truly a distinction. A distinction because it has long been inevitable that SOMEONE destroy the cancer that is Japan. There can be no place in a free world for a people who condone the cruelty that their nation has inflicted on its neighbors. Invasion of the Japanese homeland is the only way to "persuade" them that America will not tolerate their present form of government. Altho we come here as conquerors and not as liberators, our role is one of distinction. That role is well described by General Bradley's words, "You are...the warriors of a free land striking against a country of fanatical, power-hungry people."

A TRUE STORY

by - JAK

Here's a true story with a moral to it. It happened on Leyte. During the early stages of the campaign, a sketch was seized that showed all the Japanese gun emplacements and battalion command posts on Catmon Hill. It was passed out to our artillery units and you can guess the result; it was used to blast the Jap positions right straight to hell. The next day, the 383rd was able to storm the hill with small losses.

Now supposing some clever GI had gotten hold of this sketch from the body of a Jap he had killed. It was done up in pretty colors and had lots of fancy Jap characters on it. Sad Sam says to himself: "I killed the bastard, so I'll keep this map and send it home to my wife as a souvenir." If he had done so, dozens, maybe hundreds, of his buddies would have been killed the next day by undestroyed Jap batteries.

The moral of the story is as plain as the stupidity of the aforementioned Sad Sam: TURN ALL CAPTURED MATERIAL IN TO INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL. And do it fast - complete plans were captured before the Japs landed paratroops on Buri airstrip, but didn't reach headquarters in time. Americans died as a result.

Does that mean that you can't get any souvenirs? Certainly not! Here's the procedure: When you lay your hands on anything Japanese, even if it only has one character written on it, take it, or (if you are busy at the moment, as is quite likely) send it up through regular command channels to your regimental ~~headquarters~~ or ~~regimental headquarters~~. Most of the stuff will be of no tactical importance. The interpreters right at the regimental P will glance it over and if it is OK, will stamp it, give you a clearance slip, and hand it right back to you on the spot. When things quiet down, you can send it home.

If you turn up with something that looks like it might have value in giving information about the enemy's plans, the regimental intelligence people will send it on up to higher headquarters. But you

still have a chance to get it back. Tag it with your name, organization and home address. After it is no longer needed, will be mailed directly to your home. Every effort is made to return each item when it is no longer needed to save our lives and destroy the enemy's.

Here's the stuff that's needed most: Any papers with sketches or Jap writing on them. Can you speak Japanese? If not don't try to decide for yourself whether or not it means anything. Let the expert do it. Also needed are samples of new types of Jap equipment, such as mortars or gas masks.

Most ordnance materiel will not be returned to you. It is needed for detailed study. You will get back swords and knives, however. And of course flags and personal papers of dead Japs will be given right back to you, as soon as they are checked for possible intelligence information.

There's no point in risking your life or that of your fellow soldiers, by keeping something because you are afraid you won't get it back. The price you might have to pay is too big. Higher headquarters know you are souvenir-happy, and will send it back if they can - rumors to the contrary. And don't forget: before you go home, you will have a showdown inspection. Any fool who has withheld valuable papers will be court-martialed. Don't take the chance!

SUPERFORT RAID: Cont'd from page two.

returned safely.

Superforts based in the Marianas hit the industrial target of Nagoya for the second time this month. Nagoya is a Jap aircraft production center and the site of the big Mitsubishi plant. Major General Curtis E. LeMay's Twenty First Bomber Command flew the mission.

You still take your morning bath,

I suppose?

Never miss it. Sometimes I take it hot, sometimes cold, and when I'm in a hurry, I take it for granted.

POLISH FLAG RAISED OVER DANZIG

Mar 31--Marshal Stalin announced that the Baltic port city of Danzig has been captured and that the Polish flag now flies over that city. Over 10,000 German prisoners and 45 U-Boats were taken when German resistance collapsed inside Danzig. This great international naval base was the scene of the first shot of World War II. On Monday September 1, 1939, the Free City of Danzig was shaken by the explosion of shells fired from German batteries of the Schleswig-Holstein, pocket battleship.

While the new Soviet Slovakian offensive on the south battered toward Vienna, other Red Army forces moved toward Nonsenden in Austria. Soviet troops have crossed the Austrian frontier toward Koszeg, 50 miles south of Vienna. Moscow said that the German Army's confusion there bordered on panic and that Soviet tanks found it difficult to keep up with the retreating enemy.

LARGE BRITISH FLEET WITH US.

Mar 31--Pacific Fleet headquarters at Guam has revealed that the powerful British naval task force now pounding the Ryukus is composed of both carriers and heavy surface warships. The task force, attached to Admiral Spruance's Fifth Fleet, sped out from a secret American base on March 22nd to join American units in their attack on the Ryukus this week. Containing ships famed for Atlantic operations, such as the 35,000 battleship King George and the 23,000 ton carrier Illustrious, the force has been converted

into a fast, self-sustaining, long range unit. Battleships, carriers, cruisers and destroyers are included in its numbers.

Concentrating on the Sakishima Island group, so it west of Okinawa, the British force's planes bombed and strafed installations, destroyed 20 enemy aircraft on the ground and sunk a number of small coastal vessels.

Although it is a part of the American Fifth Fleet, this task force is self-serving. It uses British made shells and bombs and gets much of its food and equipment from Australia and New Zealand. Vice Admiral Bernard Rawlings commands the force.

YANKS DROP LAOHOKOW AIRFIELD

Mar 31--Facing a new drive by 80,000 Jap troops, the American Fourteenth Air Force has abandoned its base at Laohokow in Kupa Province. Jap forces pushing westward through Kupa and Lonan provinces from the Hankow base. Bombers were reported only three miles from Laohokow. The Yanks left the field on March 26 and have bombed it twice since that time.

Laohokow is approximately 350 miles northeast of Chungking and less than 200 miles northeast of Hankow.

They were at sea, the boat was rocking and rolling somewhat awful. One sailor got pretty sick and when he was leaning over the rail. The captain came along and said "You can't be sick here, sailor". The sailor regarded the captain for a moment and said "Watch".

BLONDIE

Courtesy King Features Syndicate, Inc., Distributed by CNS

by **CHIC YOUNG**

