

THE WAR FRONTS

NEWSMAP

FOR THE ARMED FORCES

23rd Week of the War - 118th Week of U.S. Participation

USSR: The Red Army made major gains in one sector of the southern front on a line that ran generally north-south facing the Romanian border. The most spectacular of these was the encirclement of several enemy divisions in the region of Kirovograd and Singidivka, about 17 miles east of Nishavay. In this the Soviets reported killing 10,000 enemy and more, taking 8,000 prisoners and capturing quantities of material. The action was carried out by troops of Gen. Malinovsky's Third Ukrainian Army, who advanced in two main bodies, one southeast of Kirovograd which continued to reach the Ingulets River, the other south of Kirovograd, which moved along the Ingulets and then covered a wide front.

Only two days before on March 14, the Red Army advanced the region of Kirovograd, the Black Sea port at the mouth of the Dnieper River. It was indicated that troops of the Third Ukrainian Army had captured the Dnieper from the east bank which it had occupied since last December, so that Ukraine. The German command reported that it had been evacuated according to plan after all military installations were destroyed.

To the northeast Soviet forces were advancing southward from the Rumanian area, reaching Zlativara. Other units reached the Middle Bug River after moving down from Ukraine. They took Gostynin, which is a junction of two rail lines serving enemy units.

At the far left of the front the Red Army's border Red Army forces were in Europe and held some 70 miles of the main rail line leading southeast from their troops to the Baltic Sea. Sea port base at Odessa.

While deep and wide were being checked for both sides the spring there had not fully developed. German air transport was being used to supply gasoline to Nazi armor and other vehicles, but even with this aid great quantities of equipment were reported left behind.

ITALY: Allied forces on the Gustav front opened a new offensive. All types of aircraft took part in a preliminary bombing which from low altitudes destroyed the little towns of the top. In the space of three hours, 400 tons of bombs were dropped on the square area above before the battle for Central Italy, some 18,000 Italian dead.

Before the heavy attack opened our troops withdrew from the front of the line which had occupied and after the breakthrough from the day. Allied artillery continued the rain of shells.

Progress in the heavy attack, both the Gustav and Anzio fronts had been relatively quiet. The latter all was subject to harassing fire from German snipers which killed the enemy, and in part attack was reported in both areas.

CENTRAL PACIFIC: Army and Navy heavy bombers, with a 50-ton attack in the evening at Okinawa on the island of Iwojima. They set no enemy planes. The day before Japanese forces were in contact and dropping their bombs by the use of instruments attached to their bombs. The enemy's position was reported as follows:

WESTERN EUROPE: The fourth heavy bombing by the Eighth USAF brought a surprising reply in enemy attack. The task force was detected as it sailed into range of land-based planes, but fought through.

NEW GUINEA: Following reports that the Japanese were fighting a desperate battle to hold the island of New Guinea, Allied heavy and medium bombers continued a heavy offensive at Truk in which 65 enemy planes were shot down. In the heaviest attack on March 11, Allied planes dropped 210 tons of bombs on gas positions and the main airfield.

Further up the coast night air patrols attacked an enemy camp at Haidama, sinking 100,000 yards and forcing a withdrawal.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: British and Indian troops captured several Balaikang and gained control of the island part of the Balaikang-Mangrove road, south of the entrance to Malay, the port 70 miles to the south.

In the north it was revealed that a Chinese-American tank force played a major role in smashing Jap resistance in the Mangrove-Balaikang area of the Haidama Valley. The tanks held them in action since March 3.

These photos released by the Navy show the sea amphibious landings on the LVT (A) 1. It differs from the earlier "water buffalo" in that it has a turret. For transport the vehicle has a 27-ton turret and two machine guns.

The three guns of the new tank fire in unison to send a solid stream of flame to the target. The armored vehicle has taken part in the invasion of Jap Pacific islands and will appear again in glowing battle.

The soldiers are Kanihiko, Miyama, and Eitoku. Miyama and U. S. plane forces would drop in the Berlin offensive developed, but press dispatches from London reported the drop was abnormal. Although anti-aircraft fire was extremely heavy, American losses were only seven bombers and one fighter of a major attacking force. This occurred very favorably with the first two of a series of tanks which 113 Allied planes were lost.

Observers estimated the lack of enemy air opposition on the fourth raid not only to heavy Navy losses in the previous battles, 79 on March 7 and 121 on March 8, but to a cloud bank, 20,000 feet high that may have pinned enemy planes to their beds.

The lack of resistance was reported March 12, however, when unopposed squadrons of Liberators systematically bombed enemy military targets in the Pacific island area of Iwojima. They set no enemy planes. The day before Japanese forces were in contact and dropping their bombs by the use of instruments attached to their bombs. The enemy's position was reported as follows:

NEW BRITAIN: Marines who landed on Williams the coast from Cape Gloucester, crossed the narrow peninsula and took over the island firing field, on the northern side. This air base is only 160 miles from Rabaul, the objective of the Bougainville campaign. Ground patrols landed at Long Ling at the base of Williams. Postwards, apparently to reinforce the troops who landed on the peninsula.

Rabaul was attacked daily and enemy airplanes were forced to work and the harbor almost devoid of vessels.

When American and New Zealand troops occupied the Green Islands, northwest of Bougainville on Feb. 14, Gen. MacArthur stated that some 22,000 Japs still remained in the Northern Solomons, out of four million, and most were in a state of panic or in flight.

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These photos were taken during the attack on the U.S. Navy task force and in the Marianas, Feb. 22, 1944. With the sky clouded with deadly blossoms of anti-aircraft fire a Navy pilot goes to the plane forward.

Planes and crewmen aboard a Navy carrier chase the guns of their task force and a Jap plane in a blazing finish. Guns of the ships shot down 14 Jap bombers, bringing the total score of the raid to 135. We lost six.

Agile on land the tank is doubly formidable through the outstanding feature of being able to travel on water. In the latter attack the LVT (A) 1's characteristic silhouette is seen. Land and sea, bringing water power to the invasion.

U.S.S.R. Southern Front

BATTLE AREAS
BOUNDARIES
RAILROADS
RIVERS
1939
1941

Accession Number M1753
Description

An American map titled "Newsmap for the Armed Forces: Monday, March 20, 1944." The map of the southern portion of the Eastern front shows railroads, rivers, battle areas, boundaries as of 1939 and 1941, and points of Soviet activity. Printed text and photographs reveal news on multiple fronts.

Date(s)
 March 20, 1944
Cartographer Army Orientation Course, Army Information Branch, Morale Services Division, Army Service Forces, War Department.
Keywords World War, 1939-1945
Photo Color Color
Physical Size 35 X 47 inches

Related Collection (Plain)
 Thirty-Fifth Division Association Records
Restrictions Unrestricted
Scale 1 3/4 inches = 50 miles
TIF Identifier M1753.tif

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