

THE WAR FRONTS

USSR: The Red Army recaptured Odessa, the important port and former industrial center on the Black Sea, and launched two drives into the Crimea Peninsula. The report left infantry and motorized units of Gen. Matrosov's Third Ukrainian Army which cut down on the city from the northeast. Reports from Moscow indicated that the Nazis caused considerable damage to the city before it fell.

The drive southwest into the Crimea was carried out by the Fourth Ukrainian Army and consisted of both an aerial operation across the Isthmus of Perekop and an amphibious crossing of the narrow Simons Sea. The force penetrated some 20 miles to take the rail junction at Dzhankoi.

At the same time a second wave broke through the enemy defenses on the Kerch Peninsula and advanced westward more than 18 miles, after taking Kerch and other towns. This force too made a small bridgehead on the Crimean side of the Kerch Straits after having crossed from the Taman Peninsula from which the Germans were driven last October.

To the northeast the penetration of Romania continued and while Soviet tanks were making incursions north of Jassy, units of the Second Ukrainian Army crossed the Siret River 40 miles to the west and took the railway junction at Putna.

Concentrating German forces broke through to the encircled German divisions west of Slatina where fierce fighting had been reported the past week. Previous to the breakthrough Moscow had been announcing that the remnants of fifteen German divisions were being eliminated but a later announcement stated that enemy tank and infantry, suffering heavy losses, were able to penetrate a wide ring of encirclement and join the trapped divisions.

AIR WAR: The air offensive paving the way for the land invasion of Europe again set new records for power and scope and in addition gave support to the Soviet offensive from the east.

The enemy targets included aircraft plants in Paris, Poland, 600 miles from England and only 500 miles from Russia. Particular attention was given by both U. S. and RAF planes to rail junctions in northern France and in southern France, and the landings of northwest Europe.

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Central Pacific: The three-day series of raids by carrier task forces of the Pacific Fleet against Palau, Yap, Ulithi and Wotom were the most damaging of all the above attacks against Japanese possessions this far.

All 18 enemy ships were sunk, 18 others were damaged or beached, 214 enemy planes were destroyed or probably destroyed, and many docks and shore installations were sunk. U. S. losses were 27 planes and 18 aircraft personnel. There was no damage to our surface craft. Enemy ships lost included two destroyers. A Japanese battleship was reported by an American submarine during the

Southwest Pacific: Following up the 400-ton loss of the last 200 Jap planes based at Hollandia on northern New Guinea, more than 200 Allied planes tore up the town and harbor area with another attack of 120 tons of bombs and 20,000 rounds of ammunition. There was no

South East Asia: Japanese troops were beaten back in their first direct attack on the Allied base at Kalamia, but other units have swung around the northern side of the town in an attempt to cut the supply route to Dimpur which is on the Assam-Imphal-Bangkok-Annam Railway. Should this road be cut the Japs will have isolated British and Indian defenders at Kalamia except for air transport in the same manner they have isolated other garrisons at the large supply base at Imphal, 60 miles to the west.

The Japs had seized 15 miles of the two-lane highway between Imphal and Kalamia and were some 30 miles from the rail line which links Assam with Bangkok Province supporting Allied operations in northern Burma.

Imphal, the capital of Manipur State, was reinforced last week by the arrival of the 7th Indian Division which fought its way up from the south through road blocks set up by the enemy. During the three weeks it took for the 7th to break through it was supplied by parachute.

General Sibberd's Twenty-second Chinese Division debarking from the Heping off in northern Burma was reported to have captured Wakong, six miles south of Shukong. American-built tanks were playing an important role in the advance to the main Jap base at Modyin.

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NEWSPAP (Small text at bottom left of map area)

FOR THE ARMED FORCES
34th Week of the War - 122nd Week of U. S. Participation

East Coast ports as preparations for the invasion go into high gear. Shows our prior success and amphibious tanks, enemy fighter opposition, and the intense anti-aircraft fire quickly downed.

Remnants of the Japanese army base and our air command cover most of New Guinea apparently made it possible for a force of American B-29s, escorted by fighter planes, to sail boldly along the northern New Guinea coast in daylight to bombard the Jap base at Hama Bay, Madang and Alakabala, within 500 miles of Hollandia. The bombers were hit at the same time by heavy numbers with 227 tons of explosives.

Most of New Britain Island is now in Allied control and the Japanese are in full retreat from the central area and heading for the Gazelle Peninsula at the northern tip. There, a Southwest Pacific command reported, they are preparing for a last stand before Rabaul. The enemy has abandoned the Cape Hulsan airfield and supply area on the northern coast of the Gazelle air strip on the southern coast. Since the beginning of the campaign which started with the landings on Arawe and Cape Gloucester, 600 enemy were killed, 222 prisoners and abandoned 607 dead. Losses from wounds, starvation and disease would probably have doubled this figure.

On Bougainville, air attacks continued against Koro and enemy positions at the southern end of the island. Our ground units extended their holdings 700 miles to the east from their Tomkine perimeter position.

Somewhere along the active Burma front Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Commander Southeast Asia, has named, under Gen. Joseph Stilwell, Commanding General U. S. Army Forces in China, Burma and India.

Chinese troops examine the assembly of a captured Jap Panzer anti-tank gun being loaded into a jeep. It is copied from an old American model, revised by the Japs for use as a push gun to be carried by hand or mule.

An excavation of wounded men to have hospitals is an important aid to quick recovery. Here U. S. Army soldiers load Chinese soldiers into a plane, using a ramp improvised from a machine, while Army nurses, at right, help.

"Flying Freight Cars" maintain an aerial supply line to Allied troops in Burma. This photo shows tanks on the crowded supplies over designated points. Paratroopers may or may not be depending upon the nature of battles.

Paratroopers are used to deliver gear. Corp. Fred E. Korman, Co. C, 8th Airborne Division, is one of 400 troops landed in each boat which drops by a 14-foot parachute.

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Description

An American map titled "Newsmap for the Armed Forces: Monday, April 17, 1944." The map of Burma shows railroads, roads, rivers, international boundaries, relief, the Burma Road, and other details. The map of New Guinea, New Britain, New Ireland, Bougainville, and adjacent islands shows rivers, relief, international boundaries, and other details. Printed text and photographs reveal news on multiple fronts. Printed text and drawings on the back describe the home front effort to finance and supply the war. The title of this section reads: "Are the folks at home backing us up?...Yes! 86,100 million dollars worth!"

Date(s)

April 17, 1944

Cartographer Army Information Branch, 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 3/4 inch = 10 miles. New Guinea: 2 1/4 inches = 200 miles

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