COCKATOO NEWS SUMMARY

6th Infantry Division—The Philippines

Vol. 2, No 23

Published by the Cockatoo Staff

Set Paul P. Heredia, Editor

Monday, April 16, 1945

TAIANS DRIVE DEEP BEHIND LEIPZIG TO ONLY 15 MILES BEHIND GERMANS

Three tank columns of the First and Third Armies Sunday drove deep beyond Leipzig in the heart of Germany. On Sunday afternoon, the German mountain forces in Bavaria and Austria were threatened with being quickly cut off by a Third Army column which raced into the Saar and 120 miles north of Metz and 175 miles from Hitler's retreat at Berchtesgaden. The Third was also seven miles from Grenoble in a move which practically removes Germany in two.

North of Leipzig First Army troops drove forward 30 miles to within three miles of Danzig and only 55 miles southwest of Berlin. The Ninth Army which has rolled up to the Elbe river west of Berlin along a 20-mile front forced a second crossing of the river. These troops are only 13 miles from the East Prussian line and are under German artillery fire. The Ninth was held up temporarily by a heavy counterattack by Nazi tanks. The British Second Army on the lower Elbe flank of the Ninth fought to within 12 miles southeast of Hamburg.

Canadian troops had all but sealed off all of Holland. They reached Groningen near the North Sea and in the east were within ten miles of the North Sea in the Ems area. They also captured Arnum to the south where British parachute troops were cut off last September. The Seventh Army drove on Bourgogne while the French First in a 12-mile drive captured Leut on the Rhine's east bank just opposite Strasbourg.

A large force of RAF service bombed Berlin and suburban Potsdam Saturday night while during the day, 1,150 U.S. bombers pounded the French port of Le Havre where the Nazis are still holding out. French ground forces followed this with a limited assault on an undisclosed sector of the coast held by the Germans for many months.

THOUSANDS PAY FINAL TRIBUTE TO ROOSEVELT

Millions of Americans paid a final tribute Saturday to Franklin D. Roosevelt and nearly 100,000 persons lined the streets in Washington as his funeral train arrived from Warm Springs, Ga., and the flag-draped casket was borne to the White House. An Army caisson drawn by seven white horses carried the body of Mr. Roosevelt from Union station over the same road the war-time president had ridden in his inauguration. Eight non-commissioned officers, too, each from the Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard bore the body inside the White House where funeral services were held Saturday. The Rev. R. D. S. Brown, Bishop of Washington, officiated at simple Episcopal services.

Roosevelt's last words as president: "I am sure he could wish them to be his last and that we should go forward into the future as though we were to go forward without fear—without fear of the future, without fear of our allies and friends and without fear of our own insufficiencies."

Only one of Mr. Roosevelt's sons was present at the funeral. Brig. Gen. Elliott Roosevelt flew from England and receives him. Roosevelt and daughter Anna Roosevelt also present were the presence of the four Roosevelts and Mathew. Among Foreign dignitaries present was Britain's Secretary of State, his son was also flown from England. Gen. Thomas E. Dewey was also present.

Throughout the nation's day Saturday was a signal for a period of silent prayer or at the Army and Navy post cards five minutes of meditation in the U.S. and abroad where war persisted. One to three days of mourning was decreed in most foreign nations. The British court went into mourning and the King and Queen called off a scheduled weekend trip. Church services in England Sunday honored Roosevelt and many British newspapers decreed three of their four war-time pages to Roosevelt and Britain. The Soviet Union decreed two days of mourning in the first such official action in its history in honor of the head of a foreign government. Black-bordered Red cross flag flew at half-staff all over Russia and high Soviet officials attended special memorial services.

TODAY IS THE 56TH CONTINUOUS DAY OF COUPE FOR 6TH DIVISION TROOPS
FARMLAND CONTINUE TO GAIN IN SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA.

Marines land on Okinawa advanced northward Sunday to a point near Naha on the west coast and to Arakawa on the east coast against slight resistance. Marines on Okinawa peninsula are now in possession of most of the area and are mopping up small remaining concentrations of Jap troops. In the southern sector small gains were made after repulsing strong Japanese counter-attacks. The enemy positions are now under fire of land and naval guns supported by carrier and land-based planes. A few Jap planes appeared in the area and nine were shot down. Meanwhile American carrier-based planes bombed air installations south of Okinawa, destroying seven aircraft on the ground and damaging 25 others. In addition, American carrier-based planes of the British fleet bombed airfields and other military targets.

Soviets speed return to Prague; Nazis say Berlin frontline planes.

Soviet forces turned from their victory at Vienna and moved swiftly across Austria and Czechoslovakia. On the north bank of the Danube river, the Second Ukrainian Army is moving in a sweep that may ultimately reach Prague. They are 313 miles northeast of that city. The Third Ukrainian Army pushed west of Vienna 12 miles through the Danube valley to capture more than 60 towns or villages.

A German military spokesman said Saturday night that a massive tank battle was raging 30 miles west of Berlin, and that the Russians had broken through strong Nazi fortifications. The report was not confirmed by the Kremlin.

NIDUS FIRST ROSE THROUGH TOKIO AFTER B-29 ATTACK

United Press correspondent Lisle Shearer said huge explosions and fires ripped through Tokyo Sunday after hundreds of B-29's poured tons of incendiary bombs into the city early Saturday morning. Shearer wrote: "I saw flames and blasts of explosions spreading through a five-square-mile target area as our great fleet of bombers hit a concentrated munitions production area. The section studied out for the attack was about six miles northeast of the Imperial palace on the edge of a 17-mile area. Smoke from the inferno below was billowing high past our planes and must have risen 5,000 feet in the air. It looked like an enormous bed of coals simmering and occasionally bursting into separate bunches of flames."

AMERICANS LAND ON TWO TINY ISLANDS OFF IERMSAY.

In southern lason American forces landed on Rayma and Satam, tiny islands of Iermsay, quickly eliminating the Jap garrison. In northern Jaron 1 Corps troops are closing in on the enemy stronghold at Bejton. Cohn enemy-held positions are rapidly being outflanked and the bigger Japanese reserves of men and material are being vaporized. Philosophy-based planes carrier on their second day's heavy bombings of Japanese positions in the island. During the two-day period our planes dropped more than 1,500 tons of bombs.

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS WORLD

Hockey: Stanley Cup finals: Toronto 1, Detroit 0 - Kaplo Leeks! 26-year-old goalie Frank McNeil blanked the Red Wings for the 3rd straight time to give his team a 3-0 advantage in the series. Jaron swept the North Dakota prep championship by defeating Aberdeen 36-29 in the championship. Hawks in the B tourney went to Madison when they edged the host 30-28...UCLA has signed Edra in Connecticut, coach at Los Angeles high school for 15 years, to succeed Bob Carroll...Seek from 18 months of non story, Bob Feller will coach the Great Lakes team this summer but will not do any competitive hurling...When Olin Grover, Notre Dame head basketball coach and track assistant, left the South Portoschool to take a position as football coach at Iowa, it marked the fourth coach that the Irish had lost in two years. First Ed Zolgovar went to Connell, then Adam Walsh signed with the Cleveland Rams followed by Pete Hill who went to Cornell as Holcover's aide.

NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE GUILD

German troops have captured Franz von Papen, notorious Nazi diplomat, Von Papen was taken at his hunting lodge southeast of Han and captured with him were his son, a captain, and some-in-law. Von Papen was former chancellor of the German republic and vice-chancellor under Hitler. He also served as Nazi ambassador to Austria and Turkey. Then captured Von-Papen exclaimed, "I wish this war were over" and a servant replied, "So do 11,000,000 other guns"...Premier Stalin has advised President Truman that Foreign Secretary Molotov will represent Russia at the San Francisco conference.