

ROAD TO ROME IS TOUGH GOING

By WILLIAM H. STONEMAN
Chicago Daily News Foreign Service
AT A BEACHHEAD SOUTH OF ROME, Jan. 31.—(Delayed)—Now, after ten days of our adventure south of Rome, the feeling of elation and dash which gripped us after our fine landing already has given way to one of determination.

It is obvious to the whole world that our chance of wading in and taking Rome on the heels of a German withdrawal from the whole area as far south as Cassino and Minturno has just not come true.

Weeks Instead of Days
It is now going to be a question of hard fighting and probably of weeks instead of days before we reach the next goal.

This may be disappointing at home, but it is not any particular fault of anybody as far as we can see, and everybody will just have to be patient.

Everybody here will not only have to be patient but brave in order to make this campaign produce the necessary results.

Our men have proved during the past few days that they can take it as well as give, and we now have so much material here that the Germans cannot seriously think of driving us back into the sea.

At best, they must hope for another Tobruk, sufficiently long-lasting to embarrass our general strategy.

Big Guns Duel
The front today could only be described as "hot." We watched barrages of artillery being exchanged in several sectors, always a sign of slow going when they are evenly proportioned.

In one building where we were watching the battle, we bounced when heavy shells hit the floor above. This afternoon we have been ducking long-range shells which are landing far to the rear of the fighting lines.

Altogether, it is not difficult to take a realistic—which does not mean a grim—view of the situation.

(Copyright, 1944.)

RUSS PERIL SWEDES



SHIPPING IN DANGER—The open arrow shows the direction of the Russian drive north to take Estonia and the shoreline of the Gulf of Finland, control of which would threaten ship traffic between Finland and Germany and neutral Sweden, by enabling the Red fleet to leave its base at Kronstadt. The broken line is the Russo-German front.—A. P. wirephoto.

Communiqués

Pacific

UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—The Navy Department yesterday issued the following communiqué: "Aircraft of the Seventh Air Force and search planes of Fleet Air Wing Two made attacks on principal Marshall Island bases during the night of January 29-30 (West Longitude dates). These raids were coordinated with attacks on carrier-based squadrons of the past two days."

"In the evening of January 29, Army Mitchell bombers struck shipping installations and small craft at Maloelap and Wotje, while Army Maulets dive-bombers and Warhawk fighters struck Iruia Island in the Jaluit Atoll. No enemy fighters were encountered, and anti-aircraft was ineffectual.

"During the night Army Liberators dropped 45 tons of bombs on Kwajalein Atoll, and nearly ten tons on Wotje. Liberators and Navy Catalina and Ventura search planes struck Mill and Tarwa with a total of 21 tons of bombs, and a single Liberator hit Jaluit with an additional three tons."

UNITED NATIONS

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Feb. 1.

(AP)—The text of today's communiqué:

"Northwestern Sector: Reconnaissance activity only.

"Northeastern Sector: New Britain: Our air patrols destroyed or damaged five barges between Cape Holloman and Rein Bay. Two minor enemy air raids occurred at Arawa.

"Rabaul: Our Solomons-based heavy, torpedo- and dive-bombers, with escort, again attacked Lakunai and Tobera airbases. Twelve enemy planes were destroyed on the ground with others damaged. Six gun positions and several buildings were destroyed and fires started. In two air battles with more than 50 enemy fighters, we shot down 24 and six probably for minor losses and damage to ourselves.

"New Guinea: Hansa Bay—Our medium units with fighter escort attacked Bogia village and enemy shipping in Hansa Bay. Two 2,500-ton freighters were sunk and a cargo ship of 500 tons left in flames. Two barges were destroyed. On the return, the escorting fighters wrecked a lugger and four barges off Madang.

"Atafishafen: Our escorted medium units attacked enemy supply and bivouac areas with 21 tons of bombs.

"Rai Coast: Our ground forces moving west from Siu are nearing Reiss Point. Our air patrols strafed targets of opportunity at Gangau and Bibi.

"Finschhafen: Enemy planes raiding the area at dusk caused minor damage and casualties.

"Solomons (South Pacific Forces): "Our air patrols harassed enemy positions in the Bun-Faisi area, at inland villages and in Choiseul Bay. Our naval units shelled Moriga. Three enemy planes before dawn dropped bombs harmlessly in the sea off Torokina."

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ALLIES CONTINUE RABAU ASSAULT

By Associated Press.
AS American forces landed in the Marshall Islands to the north, reports from the Southwest Pacific today told of new Allied gains on the ground and in the air.

Allied planes again pounded Rabaul on New Britain, knocking 32 planes out of the skies and destroying 12 on the ground.

Japanese losses at Rabaul mounted to more than 550 for January as Solomons-based Allied raiders destroyed an additional 36 in damaging sweeps over the New Britain base Saturday. A naval spokesman said 1,450 Jap planes had been destroyed in the Rabaul-Bougainville area in the past six months.

Vice Adm. Aubrey W. Fitch, commander of the South Pacific air force assigned to pound at the shattered enemy stronghold, told interviewers at an advanced air base that the Japanese will attempt to withdraw key personnel and vital equipment when the cost of defending Rabaul becomes too high.

"I can't say when it will be knocked out," Fitch commented. "We're on schedule."

Allied bombers sank two 2,500-ton Japanese freighters and a 750-ton cargo ship at Hansa Bay on the northeast coast of New Guinea. To the south, Australian troops pushed to within 30 miles of American forces who landed at Saldor January 2 in a move menacing the big Japanese base at Madang.

2 Women Held In Death Of Mrs. Williams

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—(UP)—Police today held two sisters, one of them an employe of the Drake Hotel, for further questioning in the mysterious slaying of Mrs. Adele Born Williams, wife of a Washington attaché of the State Department, 13 days ago.

The two women were questioned by Joseph A. Pope, assistant state attorney, and Police Capt. Frank Reynolds from 1 a. m. until 7:50 at central police headquarters.

Reynolds said they would be questioned again. Asked if a lie-detector test was responsible for the decision to hold the two, Reynolds replied: "Very much so."

Asked if the registrations were erratic, indicating that the women were disturbed by the answers they gave, he said: "Very, very much so."

Pope added that the women were very emotional during the questioning. Police have been searching for a motive for the crime since Mrs. Williams was shot fatally 20 minutes after entering her room after visiting a hair dresser with her daughter, Mrs. Patricia Goodbody.

Marine Corps Promotes Hill, Mrs. Streeter

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Col. William P. T. Hill was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and appointed quartermaster of the Marine Corps at a ceremony today in the office of Lieut. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, commander of the marines. At the same time, Lieut. Col. Ruth C. Streeter, director of the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, was promoted to the rank of colonel.

Hill, a native of Vinita, Okla., and veteran of 26 years' service in the marines, succeeds Maj. Gen. Seth Williams, retired, as quartermaster.

Mrs. Streeter entered the marines with the rank of major to direct the Women's Reserve. She is the wife of Thomas W. Streeter of Morris-town, N. J., and has four children, three of them in the armed forces.

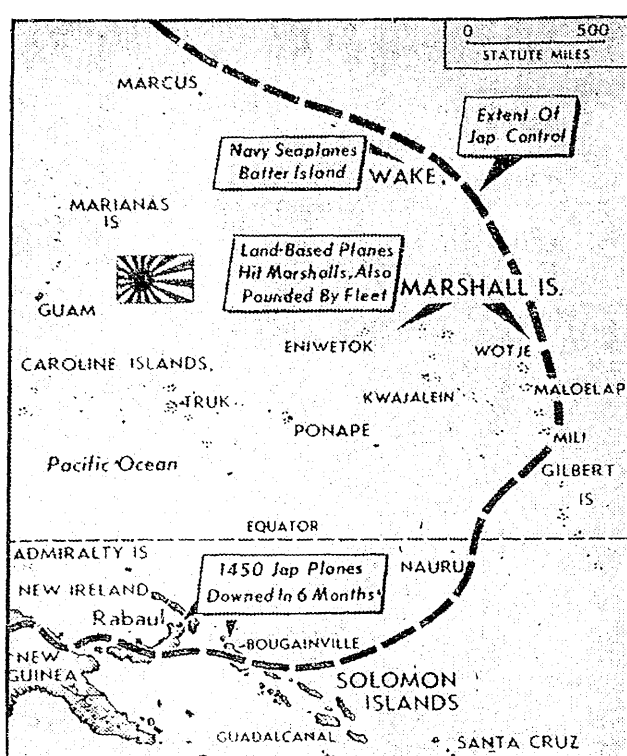
Comdr. Stratton Of Spars Now Captain
WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Comdr. Dorothy C. Stratton, director of the Spars, was promoted to the rank of captain today at ceremonies in the office of Vice Adm. Russell R. Waesche, commander of the Coast Guard.

Captain Stratton became director of the Spars with the rank of lieutenant commander in November, 1943, and was promoted to commander January 1, 1944. She is on leave as dean of women, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

'Busman's Holiday'
SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Pvt. James Russell Miller of Lewiston, Idaho, has a week's furlough from a Mississippi Army camp. He spent it at another Army camp, Fort Douglas, Utah, with his father, Corp. Lawrence W. Miller.

A chapel in Westminster Abbey is to be dedicated to the memory of the airmen who gave their lives in the Battle of Britain.

CLOSER TO TOKYO!



IN PACIFIC—American forces have landed on Roi and Kwajalein Islands in the Kwajalein Atoll of the Marshall Islands. Under heavy fire Yank forces won beachheads on the two most important islands of the atoll. Farther north American planes Sunday night pounded Jap installations on Wake Island.—A. P. wirephoto.

Jap - Americans Fascists Move In Hoop Team; To Confiscate Jews' Property

BRIDGE-ON, N. J., Feb. 1.—(AP)—A basketball game in which three American-born Japanese were scheduled to play was halted by police last night in order to avert disturbances which they had warned might develop in view of the recent announcement of Japanese atrocities.

Before a City League game between Seabrook Farms and Glass Bar started, Bridgeton Police Sgt. James McGowan notified the manager of the Seabrook Farms team that if the game starts with a Japanese on the floor the game will be stopped.

The three youths, from a Colorado relocation center, are working at Seabrook Farms. One of the boys has a brother fighting in Italy.

Yanks Give Own Lives to Blast German Tanks

By REYNOLDS PACKARD
Representing the Combined American Press Distributed by Associated Press
AT THE FIFTH ARMS BEACHHEAD IN ITALY, Jan. 31.—(Delayed)—During the past 48 hours we ran into some of the toughest fighting on the beachhead since the landings, knocking out enemy tanks and self-propelled guns with hand grenades and revolvers.

Some of the greatest stories of heroism have been written by American troops in this fighting. During one of several hand-to-hand skirmishes some Yanks ran out of a munition, snatched weapons from the enemy and using the enemy arms, kept on fighting.

In one place where enemy tanks started firing into a ditch which was being used as a natural trench several American soldiers jumped out and, running toward the tanks gave up their lives in jumping upon the tanks and blowing themselves up with the tanks.

Some wounded men who returned from the scene of this fighting described their comrades as "swarming over the tanks and killing the Germans inside with anything from hand grenades to pistols, regardless of their own lives."

Vandegrift Supports Island-Hopping Plan

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Lieut. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, commander of the United States Marine Corps, scored critics of the Pacific area's island-hopping strategy today, asserting that while "some people would like to believe there is some mysterious short-cut to Japan, as many of those islands as we absolutely need, we shall have to take."

The new marine chief, declaring that "the Allied forces will converge on Japan over roads as direct as possible," added that if there are, indeed, any short-cuts "by which we can pour troops and ships and planes into Japan overnight," the Allies "have a long way to go to get to them."

Speaking at the North Atlantic area conference of the American Red Cross, General Vandegrift said the need for Red Cross services will be "sharply accelerated" by the type of warfare necessary in the Pacific.

TITO GAINS NEAR ALBANIA BORDER

LONDON, Feb. 1.—(AP)—Yugoslav Partisan troops have defeated a mixed force of Germans and Chetniks near the towns of Andrijevica and Berane in Montenegro, not far from the Albanian frontier, Marshal Josip Broz (Tito) reported today.

Eighty enemy troops were killed and 110 wounded in the Montenegrin fighting, Tito reported in his communique, which was broadcast by the Free Yugoslav radio.

Partisans are on the offensive in Eastern, Central and Western Bosnia, Tito added, and a strong German attack has been thrown back near the town of Travnik, 45 miles northwest of Sarajevo.

Pierce but apparently indecisive battles were being fought in Slavonia and the Lika Province of Croatia, the war bulletin reported. In Macedonia, German and Albanian mercenary forces were locked in a six-week-old struggle with Tito's troops in the area between Jerevo and Kumanovo. Local fighting was reported from other widely separated localities.

Simple Rites Held For W. Allen White

EMPORIA, Kas., Feb. 1.—(AP)—William Allen White, famed editor and author, was buried yesterday as a great throng of his friends and neighbors stood with bowed heads at his grave.

A bright winter sun warmed the chill air as the Rev. Stephen J. Williams, pastor of the First Congregational Church, read the 23rd Psalm and a choir sang the Resurrection hymn in Welsh.

The crowd was estimated at more than 2,200 persons and included national and state officials. Both the graveside and public service at the chapel of the College of Emporia were marked by their simplicity. A private service at the White home preceded the chapel rites.

Mr. White died Saturday at the age of 75.

Democratic Club to Elect

Members of the Original 32nd District Democratic Club will meet at 8 o'clock tomorrow night at Independence Hall, 4053 University Way, to elect officers.

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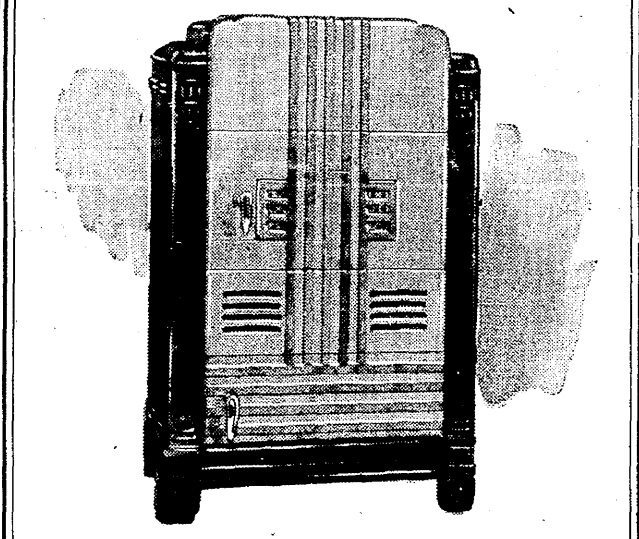
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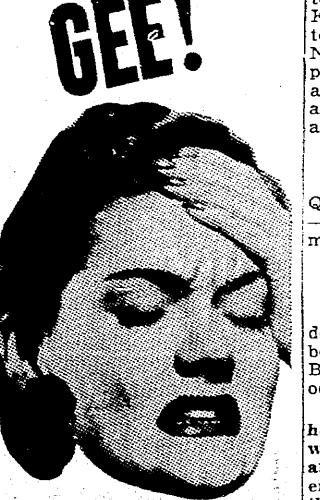
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