
**The World's Greatest
PoW Newspaper**



"This is an Historic day," began Col. T.D. Drake to open anniversary festivities of Oflag 64. "for it marks the year's end for this camp, the 100th year of the YMCA, and is the Swedish national day." The day was more important than that, but we didn't know it then. Col. Drake was giving a short talk at the 9 a.m. appeal at which Mr. Soderberg, the YMCA representative, presented sports badges to twenty officers. The band played at the formation.

Clouds that threatened rain put a damper on the program of outdoor events scheduled for the day. An exhibit of handicrafts under Capt. Herring open in the schoolroom at 10 a.m. Many fine pictures, much needlework, woodwork, and many stage props were exhibited. Rain began and bridge took over as the main event of the day.

Just at noon several wagon loads of Red Cross parcels came in. I helped unload them after lunch - there were 660 or so parcels. From this work I went to the theater to practice on the ball field. Soon Frank Maxwell came running in and said, "IT'S HAPPENED!" I knew what he meant, but couldn't believe it. He was right, for the Germans had announced it.

The German radio announcement at two p.m. was the signal for the unleashing of emotion that had been held in check for months. The suspense of waiting for the landing fell away, for it had come, but no details given could help us to guess the success of

landing troops, and the landing area was almost as general as 'the north west coast of France.'

The relaxed feeling did not last too long for soon a new fever was gripping us - the burning question is now - "How well will they do? How long will it be?" Time alone has the answer to that, and we can only wait.

Rain held us indoors all afternoon, but nothing could hold our tongues. Big "G-2" sessions were held in every room.

The big dinner planned for our anniversary was a fitting highlight to the day. French, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots and peas, a salad, and an apple pudding made up the menu.

Best acts from the years shows made a revue which played to two packed houses. Old acts gave out with new life, the band was red hot, the chorus was on the beam, and the audience was receptive. "Let's go, Ike" with 'Over There' as a background ended the show, and every American here looked to the future with wishes of good luck to the boys coming in.



HEADLINES by the A. Larry Allen, once foreign correspondent, ran a daily bulletin board of news interpreted from the German papers. His sources were the radio loudspeakers (when they were operating) and the papers. German speaking officers translated the language, and Allen interpreted the news from the Deutsch angle to the Allied view. This board was one of the best of morale builders. It was located in the main hall where one was certain to pass it each day. He began the board shortly after October 19, 1943, when he arrived from Chieti, Italy. P-6.21.

- Jan 17, 44. Dr Goebbels predicts slow allied advance after invasion Russian 50 miles West of Sora - Allies Pass Huge Armada. - Oram Lays Majority in House.
18. Russians Drive Into Buzsaps - Labor Hit FDR's Anti-Bribe Bill Time Suggests Spain as Invasion Point -
19. Rosenberg Beraldes America as "Gangsters and Blood test Sneer on Freedom and Culture" Russians Press Drive South of Leningrad.
20. Vienna Paper Says Germans Unable to Stop Russ Drive Nazi Papers Hit Swedish Press for Pro Allied Reports Rome Radio Attacks Swiss as Non-Neutral
21. Americans Capture Range from Germans - British Non-Comm. Post-War Germany - British Missions on Bang Front - American Losses in Italy, 18,000 - Allies Hit Wino - Gano Treason Judge Dies in Auto Crash - Stimson Warns of Underestimating German Invasion Defense.
22. Allies Bomb Gdansk and Wester Germany - Germans Attack London in Waves - Report Russian Attacks "Contained" - Nazis Battle 5th Army North West of Manzuono - US Bombers Hit Rabaul, Japs Claim 102 Planes - Churchill Warns Strike - Ben Hur "Japs Would accept Armistice Conditionally" - Japs, Soviet Invasion, etc. - "Sovietized" Under Defenses.
23. Allies Bomb Rome As Push Starts - Germans Shell Invasion Ports - Allies Land on Both Sides of Nettuno - Lanz City - House Refuses Vote for Seflon.
24. Americans Strengthen Nettuno Forces - Heavy Fighting Rages Along Entire Eastern Front - German Professor Claims U.S. Unives Bought Science from Europe and Breed Air Gangsters - Allies Hit Jap Bases.
25. Allies Attack Outposts Near Nettuno - Russians Succeed Through German Lines at Leningrad. - US Bombers Hit Reich - France Shakes Up Police - Americans Say Invasion Necessary To Crissis Germany.
26. Germans Plan Big Drive Near Bug River - Gen Smith Names Invasion Chief of Staff - Japs Attack American Material Superiority - Patrols Repulsed in Italy.
27. America Puts 33 1/2 Women in War Work - Walls Urges More U.S. Bases - Bulgaria Forms Gen-armed. - Invasion Chiefs Forwarded by King.
28. Japs Say "Hold Rabaul at all Costs" As Americans Pare Way New Landing With Bombings - Bomb Hit Pope's Summer Castle - Badoglio Pledges Aid
29. Berlin Bombed Thursday And Friday - Allies Clash with Germans Near Nettuno - Russian Paper Hits Invasion Delay - British Renew Attacks In Italy - Lt. Col. Biddle Named to Invasion Staff
30. Russians Drive on All Fronts - Japanese Plan for Evacuation of Key Industrial Cities - Buddhist Priests Are Mobilized - Allies Blast Heart of Hamburg - Allied Attack Alter Heavy Artillery Fire Near Nettuno - Brits Press Calls Franco "Liar and Spy for Hitler" - Am. casualties hit 142,000.
31. US Fosters Millions of Troops Overseas - US Air Force Sees to 2,800,000. - Vienna Warned of "Death Penalty" for Aiding Escaped P.O.Ws.
- FEB. 1. Allies Demand Active Support of Argentina - Rome Area Bombed - Bulgaria Increases Steps to Keep Order - British Fleet Blocks Spain's Sea Traffic - US Bans Oil Exports to Spain.
2. Allies Push Attacks in Italy - Russians Drive Again in South - M'Arthur Refuses to Leave His Command to Seek Presidency.
3. Soviet's Franco Drive into Old Front - Heavy Fighting in Italy - Berlin Says Russians Trying for Knockout Blow.
4. Canada Cuts Off Wire to Spanish - Argentine Orders Cabinet Shakeup After Break With Axis
5. Allies Gun in Casino Sector - Nazis Claim 900 Prisoners - Allied Forces Again Hit Frankfurt - Soviets Break thru at Minsk, Germans Counter-Attack - Heavy Battle in Myrapi Islands - Sam-Burg Falls - Japs Say's Republic in 1944.
6. United States Plans West and Mexican power for Japan - Spain Rats Oil Pinch - Nazi Writer says US Invasion Plan is "Futile and Disastrous" - Nazis are accused of Systematic Mutilating of Prisoners - Allies Bomb Hull and Berlin - French Govt Orders Mass Work - Spain Says Sacrifices Made to Endure Fresh Allied Attacks in Cassino Sector
7. FDR Says Victory Assured in 4 Months - Japs Forecast 1944, expecting Allied Air raids - 3,000,000 Chinese in Fight Against Japs - USSR May Demand 5,000,000 Germans for Work After Reich Defeat. Admission to send 2 Divisions to Italy.

8. Allies Step up Pressure in Casino Sector - Heavy Fighting on East Front - Congress Kills Vote for Soldiers - U.S. Takes Another Isle in Marshall's Germans Claim Allies Beaten Back At Nettuno - Allied Planes Drop Food Baskets in Berlin - Allies Bomb Colais Heavily - Nazis Promise To Smash Invasion - Aiel Is Raided - Severe Fighting on Russian Front
9. No New Heads
10. Sixty Five Allied Ships Pass Gibraltar
11. Russians Push Towards Lemberg - Take Long Run Around Dubno - American Mass Troops in the Alouettes, Tokyo expects Attack on Koreans - Germans Report Intense Fighting in Western Balkans - Nazis Claim Soviets Repulsed - Deutsch Report 4000 Allied Prisoners Since Nettuno Landing.
12. American Bombers Heavily Attack Frankfurt and Ludwigshafen at Noon - British Bomb West Reich - Germans Report Allied Tanks At Aachen - Nazis Push 3 Counter Attacks in East - Allies Reported Planning to Strip Japs of All Colonies.
13. Allies Step up "War of Nerves" as Invasion Impends - Allied Push At Rome Seen As Invasion Sign - Germans Fall Back Frustrated Press New Mikapal - Allies Mass For Burma Offensive - Heavy Fighting At Casino - Allies Bomb Rome Area - Nimitz Wants Direct Attack on Japanese - Eisenhower Commends Generalship of Nettuno - Legion Chief Assails Lack of Soldier Aid.
14. Germans Withdraw in Lake Selma Sector - Russians Take Luga - British Missions Say Franco Attitude May Bring War - London Is Hard Hit By Nazi Planes - Spanish Says Invasion Test is Nettuno
15. Finland Declares She Will Not Quit War - Nazis Say Thousands of Guns Await Invader - Swedes Rush Army-Navy Expansion - Long Range Guns Found Allies At Nettuno - "Callers" Say Soldiers Trying for Quick Victory
16. Russians Press At Dubno - American Wipe Out Customs by Air - Allies Bomb Rome - Nazis Bomb Nettuno - Berlin Heavily Hit By Allied Bombs - War Prisoners May Get U.S. Papers.
17. Colais Described As Likely Invasion Point King Suspects Invasion Troops - Soviets Bomb Finland - Japs Tighten Air Defense of Cities - Russians Again Bomb Helsinki As River Awaits Push - Peace Pressure - Soviets Attack Heavily At Vitebsk - Mighty Battle Fleet Hits Marshall Islands - Americans Get Only Wounded Japs at P. Ws.
18. Poland Plastered By Bombers - Staraya - Russia Falls To Red Army - Germans Fight New Attacks Heavily Logged in Waist-Dezala Mud - Soviets Hurl 30 Divisions Into Fierce Struggle 80 Miles From Minsk - Abyssinian Units Arrive in Italy - German Fire Sets Record At Nettuno - Russian Force Gap in Defences at Lemberg - Nazis Troops Contact Encircled Battle Unit At Tschierhassy.
19. Stalin Announces Annihilation of Ten German Divs - Germans Deny Claims - U.S. Guns Blast Kurileans - Japanese Name 12 Cities As Probable Targets - Finn Peace Move Rumored
20. German Bombs Hit Parliament - Germans Deny Using Mount Casino For Artillery Observation - British Troops Join U.S. Forces at Casino in Assaults on Nazis' Positions.
21. Soviets Hammer in North - American Bombs Pound Leipzig in Noon Attack - Heavy Fight Continues At Nettuno - U.S. Warships Blast Jap Fleet Haven.
22. Germany Says Liberated Divisions Back in Line
23. U.S. Soldiers To Get Mustering Out Pay.
24. Germans Break Off in Lake Limn Sector - Joyce Warns of Soviet Influx if Nazis Lose War - Pres. Roosevelt To Get Fast News of Invasion - Germans Claim 500 Allied Planes Shot Down in Heavy Air Attacks in Last 72 Hours - French Court Condemns 10 Terrorists - Rommel Continues Defense Check-ups - Allied Losses in Italy Put at 100,000 - Japs Lose 18 Ships of Truck - Japs Take Chief Army Post - Gen. Doolittle Sees Big Attack on Jap Capital - Gen. Stillwell Escapes Death on Burma Front.
25. British Mag. Say German Army is Still Intact - Canada Gets Harry Ship Call From England - Japan Is At Crossroads of War Says Tojo - Snows Red With Blood At Norway - Bombers Hit Germany from West and South - Stalin Sends Special Message to Roosevelt - Germans Claim Allies Lose 106 Planes in Terror Attacks - Anzacs Replace Americans At Casino - Germans Advance in Russia and Improve Positions At Nettuno.
27. At this point I rather dropped out of the habit - partly because I decided that it would be some time before big events would happen, and habitual laxness. Allen went home in May and the board was taken over by J. Frank Diggs Jr, who ran the board from that time. Conservative Wright Bryan come in from the west and began a Sunday commentary. He is from the Atlanta Journal and NBC - was in the column that re-entered Paris.