

Felix & World War 2

Refers to events from February , 1944

WELCOME!

"To each American soldier who has left home to join the great forces now gathering in this island, I send a message of greeting and welcome. Wherever you may go in our country you will be among friends. Our fighting men look upon you as comrades and brothers in arms. Welcome to you while you are with us; and when the time comes we will all go forward together and carry the good cause to final victory."

Winston S. Churchill

AND NOW, HERE'S BIG NEWS SINCE YOU LEFT

Red Army Troops Near Pskov: Skirmishing At Anzio

RED ARMY troops are within ten miles of Pskov, last German stronghold before the Latvian frontier. "Pravda" says the Russians are fanning out on roads leading to the Baltic. Hitler has ordered his troops to hold out to the last man at Pskov. He also sent a special command to Von Mackensen that Pskov must be held. Russian forces approaching from the north and northwest are halfway down the shores of Lake Peipus. Vanguard, after passing through Zambrukovo, are within ten miles of the city.

BRITISH troops, after heavy skirmishing in the Anzio beachhead, captured two strongly-protected houses which the Germans were believed to be using for observation purposes among the ravines of the Upper Mietta river.

Heavy skirmishing is going on south of Cassino. American artillery helped enemy attempt to cut into our lines.

THOUGH weather is continuing operational, our air forces have, in 24 hours, flown 400 sorties, including the dive-bombing of two airfields on the outskirts of Rome. Trains and road transport were also attacked beyond the battle area.

RABAUL, Jap base in New Britain, already much battered, has been battered again by Allied warships and bombers.

FOR THE SIXTH CONSECUTIVE NIGHT, Japanese fighters were encountered outside the bay in which the previous attacks have knocked out the fighting strength of the port. Destroyers also shelled the harbor area of Kowloon, New Ireland, for 45 minutes. In those bombardments nine Japanese mining craft were sunk.

AIR offensive in Europe continues with daylight raids by U.S. bombers on Northern France.

HELSINKI, the Finnish Capital, already

heavily bombed, was the target of about 600 Russian bombers in a 10-hour raid while the Finns Green team were considering whether to send a peace delegation to Moscow.

Invasion Warning

A NEW invasion warning to the French has been broadcast by British radio. "You may have been surprised at the sudden policies of the Germans in releasing you from personal status policy. We do not feel deceived," it said. "The German Government is merely trying to make you realize under坐tative resistance to the Nazis."

U.S. AIRMEN BRING PLANES OVER

THOUSANDS of U.S. airmen who have arrived in Britain brought their own planes with them.

A large number of remnants units for the Army and R.A.F. Air Forces were in the country, but their machines were flown over by Transport Command pilots. Hundreds of Canadian airmen, and aperis, intended "to give a hand with the invasion of Europe," have arrived in Britain in a large Allied transport which left a Canadian port some time ago.

VITAL DAY FOR FINLAND The Finnish Parliament, it is reported, is expected to consider today motions relating to an armistice with Russia.

New Allied Commanders

A LREADY Headquarters have announced the names of three new commanders.

They are Lieutenant-General Sydney Chevalier Kirkman, formerly commander of the 5th Division and now commanding a British corps.

Major-General George Keyes is commanding an American corps; and

Major-General R. T. M. Stuart, commanding the Canadian Division.

General Kirkman was chief gunner on General Montgomery's Eighth Army staff in 1942.

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Come Right In—This Is Britain ★

Cold to have you with us! You won't have much time for going places, sight-seeing, or getting to know our ways, but, if you do find yourself with a little leisure for these things, the following booklet may help.

Southern of the British Isles may surprise you—just 127,000 square miles. The U.S. is 36 times as big. Maximum distance north (John O'Groats) to south (Land's End) is 375 miles. Railroad journeys are short, but you may find the roads long enough.

Inhabitants are as diverse as scenery. Northerners and southerners in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland are traditionally different in many ways.

All over you'll find English spoken with many differences. Best version is said to be in Inverness, Scotland.

Population:

England	36,000,000
Scotland	4,800,000
Wales	2,257,000
Northern Ireland	1,250,000
Isle of Man	5,000

Ten Largest Towns:

London	2,500,000
Glasgow	1,425,000
Birmingham	945,000
Liverpool	900,000
Manchester	742,000
Sheffield	490,000
Leeds	150,000
Belfast	420,000
Bristol	377,000
Birmingham	367,000



Ministers, bar girls & keep-fit girls at St. Paul's Cathedral looked after the spirit of the birds. Many Londoners never had such a good view of the famous building, and said so.

It Was A Civilians' Battle

THIS battle of Britain began

on August 10, 1940, when the Luftwaffe, two days after the fall of France, concentrated on these islands. London's share began on September 7, when the Germans set loose a series of knock-out blows. They failed.

Fifty thousand R.A.F. bombs fell on London between the beginning of September, 1940, and the end of July, 1941. Millions of incendiaries fell on the Capital in the same period.

In those months 25,455 Londoners were killed and about 50,000 seriously injured.

FOR 27 NIGHTS

The Capital endured continuous bombing for 27 nights.

Damaged areas include the House of Commons, the Guildhall, the Law Courts, the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, the War Office, and the Mint.

During the first 22 days and nights of the London blitz, the fire squads fought 10,000 fires. One night's total was 1,500 fires.

HOW MUCH IN OURS AND YOURS

To find the value of one shilling in American money, divide the rate of exchange by 20. Thus:

At £1.00 sterling is the dollar.

At £1.20 dollars to the £.

One shilling = 2¢ cents.

One pound = £1.00 or 100 shillings.

One shilling = 1/- or 1/-.

COIN

Pounds (lb.): halfpenny 1/-, penny 2/-, threepence 3/-, sixpence 6/- (pronounced "shillings"), florin, crown, sovereign, the other coins £1.00, £5.00, £10.00, £20.00, £50.00, £100.00. Shilling or two-shilling piece (2/- or 2s.) half crown (2/- or 2s.) £1.00.

British coins are usually called "coppers."

Shilling and sixpence called "bits."

It is necessary to count the coins.

"Quid" = one pound: "Half-a-crown" = 50/- or 50/-.

"Bob" = shilling: "Trumper" = dispense.

There's Still A Lot Of It Standing

LONDON, capital of the British Empire, largest city in the world, population 8,000,000, requires more than a brief sketch for characterization.

The Luftwaffe did what they could to destroy it early in the war, but you'll find that there's a lot of London left.

The four great sights of the city in natural beauty are West,minster Abbey, the houses of parliament, The Tower, and St. Paul's Cathedral.

Compared with New York or Paris, much of London may seem old-fashioned and dowdy, but it has quite a number of compensatory attractions all its own, and many of them are unparallelled.

Liverpool, third city in England and most important port after London, looks claim to be "the Liverpool" Cathedral was designed to be viewed from the river.

Glasgow, second largest city in Britain, great port and industrial centre and centre for shipbuilding—two out of three British ships are either built or repaired here normally. City claims transway system is best in country.

Inverness, the capital of the Highlands, noted as center for sports, for healthy atmosphere, and for the road through the mountains.

Belfast, largest town in Ireland, second largest city in Great Britain, now Protestant, bulwark of the Government of Northern Ireland, and its two great shipyards.

Cardiff, famous for its slate wells and gates, its coal and petroleum.

Caernarvon, largest city in Wales, and one of the greatest ports

First Bomb

FIRST bomb to hit London dropped in the Oratory, on October 17, 1940.

First bomb on the map, last fall near Canterbury on May 3, 2040.

First bomb on an London user, last placed at Addington on June 18.

One of England's show-places and seats of learning, Oxford, of its colleges, Peterhouse, was founded in 1281.

Oxford places itself on the great educational and many churches.

Edinburgh, capital of Scotland, center of British judicial and administrative system. The "Modern Athens" is one of Europe's finest cities. Other attractions include the Castle, War Memorial, Holyroodhouse, and Princes Street.



The centre of Coventry was destroyed in our sight. It was here that Britain first learned that it was possible for the people to withstand Hitler air bombardment. The scene above was a shopping centre.

Warships And Bombers Batter Jap Base At Rabaul: Navy Success At Truk

RABAUL Jap base in New Britain has been battered again from sea and air. Allied warships pored shell after shell into the base, and a few hours later bombers dropped 112 tons of bombs on Rabaul's strategic airfield.

Your Radio Here

THE American Forces network, operating as an auxiliary service of the British Broadcasting Corporation, presents radio entertainment for the American soldier in the United Kingdom. For further details consult the "Muss and Stripes."

Hitler Orders A Stand

HITLER has ordered his troops, telling them that Falaise, gateway to the Baltic States, must be held at all costs.

The Russians north of the city stand only 10 miles away, but with each yard the enemy retreat their resistance increases.

Red Army tanks and mobile guns are pinning German strong-points.

Ahead of these fast detachments the Red Air Force are reconnoitring their assaults on roads and railways linking Falaise with the commandos.

South, Russians in the sector west of Kholm and Novgorod links up, encircling, breaching, mauling and annihilating German reinforcements columns.

NATO BATTLE

Bitter fighting has been going on this front. The Germans are mostly surrounded to claim to their defences within the woods and swamps.

The Russians, during the operations in the Narva corridor between Lake Peipus and the Gulf of Finland, are meeting little.

Vichy radio reports that a violent battle is in progress near Narva, in Estonia.

In the Dakar region, the Russians have regained their drive on Kherson by driving another 15 miles of the right bank of the Lower Dnieper.

West of Leningrad the Russians gained still more in the old frontiers, now only 20 miles away.

Six Days That Shook Germany

THE Germans lost over 900 planes in air battles alone during last week's chaotic Allied onslaught. The Americans accounted for 611, chiefly during the two-way attacks from Britain and Italy.

American forces initially had heavy bombers and 87 fighters, and the R.A.F. had 82 planes.

Dakar caused to German fighter factories by Allied raids has crippled her last hope of maintaining a successful air defence, according to an official

Japanese return fire at the warships from the shore. An initial was quickly silenced. Near Vunakan supply runs and the major Gaolac installations were also shelled.

There was no air opposition to the bombers. They ranged over the targets almost as will and did great damage to Rabaul's airfield dispersal areas and to gun positions at Matupi, 112 tons of bombs being dropped.

The view that Japanese air power is more or less neutralised in this area is strengthened by the fact that there was also no challenge to the medium bombers which razed Loropaeu and Munda airfields, on the Admiralty Islands, and targets at Wewak in New Guinea.

65 JAP SHIPS DOWN

Fifty Jap ships were sunk, possibly sunk or damaged in the two-day American assault on the Jap naval base at Truk on February 16-17, instead of the 24 originally announced. Admiral Nimitz has received from Pacific Fleet HQ.

Of the new total, 23 were sunk, six probably sunk, and damaged.

BOMBS IN PALESTINE

Many arrests have been made throughout Palestine following more bomb outrages in Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem. There were no casualties. The police have cordoned the neighbouring areas.

Yugoslavs Regain Islands

MOST of the important islands along the Dalmatian coast and almost all the islands off the Great provinces further north are now back in Yugoslav hands.

This was revealed by the Free Yugoslav radio less than a week after General Tito's announcement that his troops were steadily regaining control over the Dalmatian coast.

These advances, which the Germans expected in an attempt last November and December, are undoubtedly important for keeping open the supply lines from the Allies in Italy to Tito's troops.

Thus far, the Yugoslavs gained still more in the old frontiers, now only 20 miles away.

VICTORY IN BURMA

BRITISH and Indian troops have given the Japs their most serious defeat at Arakan.

Official estimates of Jap losses in three weeks fighting is 1600 killed and 4000 wounded. The whole force was practically eliminated and the few hundreds left are isolated. Allied casualties were described as unmeasurably lighter.

The victory was won at the Ngapayank Pass, which lies near Phangdaw on the road south of Akyab.

AIRFIELD AT INDIA

The Japanese intended to seize Ngapayank Pass to isolate the British 1st Division.

Another Japanese force aimed at isolating the British 5th Division.

At the same time, the Japanese had planned a general assault east of the Maungtaw range to complete the destruction of both divisions, to be followed up by a swooping advance into Burma.

The Japanese succeeded in infiltrating into the jungle and outflanking isolated British airfields.

The British held firm, however, and the Eastern Air Command took to the job of bombing those cut off.

Of the situation in Arakan, Lord Louis Mountbatten's spokesman says "there has been a marked decrease of activity."

600 BOMBERS HIT HELSINKI

IN HELSINKI the Finnish capital has been attacked by 600 Russian bombers in a 10-hour raid worse in Finnish Government were still undecided whether or not a peace delegation should be sent to Moscow.

Russian planes have also attacked Oulu in the Gulf of Bothnia, says a Finnish communiqué.

Berlin has given a veiled warning to the Finns not to emulate that example of the "Russo-German capitulation."

A German Foreign Office spokesman, commenting on the reported Russian peace terms, which are said to include the internment of the seven German Divisions in Finland, said:

"No one can expect the German troops to allow themselves to be disarmed and interned."

GLIDER BOMBS

Glider bombs were used by the Germans in a raid attack on shipping at Arno.

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SKIRMISHING AT ANZIO

Navy Support For Artillery

THERE is heavy skirmishing in the Anzio beach-head, especially near the mouth of the Upper Molise river.

South of Garrison a German attempt to infiltrate was beaten off by Americans.

Both sides are waging up heavy shelling in spite of cloudy and showery weather.

"British troops of the Fifth Army on the Anzio front advanced and captured two enemy strongpoints," was the latest communiqué. "Enemy efforts to infiltrate into our lines were halted by American artillery."

"On the main Fifth Army front and on the Eighth Army front our patrols were active, probing enemy positions and inflicting casualties. Bad weather continues to limit operations."

WARSHIPS JOIN IN

An American cruiser provided fire support against enemy artillery in the Anzio area. The same day, in the Adriatic, British destroyers bombarded Vela Luka (Korcula).

Weather is continuing air operations. Fighter-bombers attack shipping, except in the Sisic area, and aircraft carriers continue to bomb shipping in Central Italy.

Luftwaffe Hints

German military sources quoted in German Berlin, on Hitler's large Luftwaffe reserves in Western Europe.

"Until a largely landing attempt is made in the West it may be reckoned that only some of the Luftwaffe forces are ready for immediate action. The mass of the anti-invasion battalions remains uncontacted."