

# "SCRAP" BOOK



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## GREAT 30<sup>TH</sup> IMPRESSIVE AT RHINE

### SURRENDER DEMANDED BY HOBBS

By SEYMOUR FREIDIN  
N. Y. Herald Tribune

WITH THE 30TH DIVISION IN BRUNSWICK, April 12.—In a rickety farmhouse that stands out like a sore thumb on the main highway from Hamlin leading to the western end of Brunswick, the first battalion of the 117th Regiment was sweating out the last hour before the advance into the city.

Captain John Kent of Dayton, Ohio, company commander, went over his maps a hundred times while the infantry men and tank crews paced outside the house restlessly. Everyone was awaiting the return of the squad that went 800 yards ahead to reconnoiter the enemy perimeter.

The squad, led by a sergeant wounded in two previous engagements, was to scout three buildings protected by woods to ascertain the enemy strength. Men had to cross open fields to reach the objective and it was four in the afternoon when they left—with the attack scheduled for six-thirty that evening.

**Hobbs Meets Germans**

The main topic of conversation outside the farmhouse, beside the relative merits of the Russian and Belgian women, was the negotiations last night at the Fuse Canal, near Brunswick, between the Major General of the 30th Division and the commander of the German garrison.

### ROER TOUGHEST TASK FACED BY ENGINEERS

By WES GALLAGHER

At the Roer River, Germany, Feb. 23.—(AP)—The United States First and Ninth armies surged across the Roer River in the darkness before dawn today in a "Russian-style" attack preceded by the most concentrated American artillery barrage yet laid down on the Western Front.

Yankee ingenuity solved the problem of the flooded Roer and before daylight broke over this smoke-strewn valley the doughboys were bursting through weakly-held Nazi defenses east of the river.

The German strongpoints were pulverized by a mighty artillery barrage involving approximately 2000 guns using close to a quarter of a million shells.

The attack more closely resembled the Russian-type warfare than any previously undertaken on the Western Front. The jabbing, ripping artillery barrage was followed by infantry swarming across the river in assault boats and on footbridges.

One of the keys to crossing the swiftly running river, flooded by the enemy's opening the great Schwammenauel Dam, was provided by American engineers. The night before last engineer patrols sneaked across and planted steel cables from bank to bank, then submerged them in the muddy water where they escaped detection yesterday.

When the artillery barrage opened this morning at 2:45 a. m. for the initial 45-minute preparation, engineers hauled the cables taut and used them to support foot bridges which were erected in a matter of a few minutes.

By the time for the jump-off most of the assault waves already were on the east bank of the river.

The Germans, apparently expecting that an attack was in the offing 12 hours before the assault began, threw in the greatest number of jet planes yet used against the Ninth Army. Two-engine fighters dived

### Congress Medal Given 30th Man

WITH 30TH INF. DIV.—The Congressional Medal of Honor has been awarded posthumously to Sgt. Jack J. Pendleton, of Yakima, Wash., who sacrificed his life to permit his comrades to move undetected around the flank and destroy the strongpoint holding up the advance of his company.

Although seriously wounded, Pendleton, a member of Co. I, 120th Regt., crawled to within ten yards of the MG thereby diverting fire from his comrades.

### JUGGERNAUT—JUST A LINE OF TIRED MEN

By ERNEST LEISER  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 30TH INF. DIV. EAST OF RHINE, Mar. 27 — The headlines—big black ones—said: "Ninth Army Killes East". Correspondents back at SHAEF wrote about the "Ninth Army juggernaut plowing irresistibly through the Wehrmacht."

Riding ten miles east of the Rhine along rutty, dusty roads, past columns of tired, dusty infantrymen, past tanks hiding in the woods, you finally reached the front. — the

### GENERAL HOBBS LAUDS TROOPS

Major General Hobbs, commanding the 30th Infantry Division, commended all soldiers of his division and of all attached units in a message delivered May 10.

The victory message: "Our campaigning in Europe is finished.

"In every phase of your fighting you have beaten any and all German units that opposed you, and you have been vitally instrumental in bringing about the unconditional surrender of the German Army and the German nation.

"No finer thing can be retained in your hearts than the knowledge that you, as American soldiers, have 'fought the good fight'. You can look back on your exploits with both individual and unit pride.

"Continue to guard, protect, and cherish all that you have so faithfully won.

"We salute, in this hour of triumph, our departed comrades.

"We must now pledge ourselves to the unfinished work still ahead.

"With pride, with admiration, and with a deep sense of gratitude, I congratulate you and rejoice with you in the victory."

### LEADS ALL ADVANCES IN 21ST ARMY GROUP

By WES GALLAGHER and ROBERT EUNSON  
Associated Press Staff Writers

With the United States Ninth Army, March 25.—The famous "Old Hickory" Thirtieth Division broke clear through Hitler's Rhine defense into open country north of the Ruhr today in one of the most brilliant infantry successes of the war.

The Thirtieth troops found German resistance apparently completely disintegrated at a point eight miles from the Rhine, and jumped on tanks shortly after noon and "took off."

Every element of a break-through—such as characterized the armored-division gallop after the Roer river crossing and in dashes through France—was indicated. Field officers of the Thirtieth said the division had gone clear through organized German defense lines and "broken into the open."

The Thirtieth's surge carried it to the head of all other advances in the Twenty-first Army Group.

The United States Seventy-ninth Division on the Thirtieth's flank made almost as good progress, but encountered some spotty German armored pockets which held it up slightly behind the Thirtieth.

These two veteran outfits spearheaded the Ninth Army's burst across the Rhine, and the Thirtieth had a bridge over the historic river just 14 hours and 15 minutes after it launched its attack.

**Distinguished Record**

The Thirtieth, which kicked off an hour ahead of the Seventy-ninth, had a bridge completed at 4:15 p. m. Saturday. Its One Hundred and Twentieth quickly smashed six miles across the Rhine, the One Hundred and Seventeenth Regiment went three miles beyond the river and the One Hundred and Nineteenth two and one-half miles in.

Resistance in front of the 30th dwindled to almost nothing as the

### "WORK HORSE" TAG GIVEN OLD HICKORY

By WES GALLAGHER  
Associated Press Staff Writer

On the Rhine With the 30th Infantry Division, March 24—(AP)—The American Army's work horse division, which the Germans nicknamed "Roosevelt's SS" more than made up for missing the Normandy landing by spearheading the Ninth Army's drive across the Rhine.

One of the finest divisions in the American army, the 30th has taken more than its share of tough fighting on the Western Front but always sort of left put out that the First Division and the 29th Division could point out that they came in on the beaches on D-Day.

But neither the First nor the 29th was around for fighting in the Rhine crossing so now it's all even.

During the last few months of the war, the 30th has been called "the work horse" of the American Army. It has been the division that has done the most of the hard fighting. It has been the division that has been the most of the "work horse" of the American Army.

## 823rd TDs Rescue 2,500 Jews In German Train

With the U.S. Ninth Army on the Elbe River, Germany, April 18.—(AP)—Approximately 2500 Jews held by Hitler for ransom have been liberated by the 30th Division, it was announced tonight.

They were Jews held in a special concentration camp by the Nazis and exchanged for German prisoners through neutral countries. Some were freed by bribes from friends or relatives in North or South America.

The 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion found the 2500 prisoners packed like cattle in 45 cars, mostly freight, in

the village of Farsleben. The Germans had been trying to rush the train to the Sudetenland from the concentration camp of Bergen-Belsen in the province of Hannover.

There were no sanitary facilities on the train and no food. Many of the captives had not eaten for three days and when released swarmed into a local bakery to lick up raw flour from the floor.

The commanding officer of the Tank Destroyer Battalion, Lt. Col. Stanley Dettmer, ordered the borgemeister of Farsleben to kill some local cattle to feed the refugees.

## 823rd TDs 1st Over Roer River

Stars and Stripes

WITH XIX CORPS—Men of the 823rd TD Bn., claiming to be the first tank destroyers across the Roer, reported comparatively light resistance the first day. But on the second, discovering the 30th Inf. Div. had moved too fast to clean out everything, the 823rd found bypassed strongpoints, machine gun nests and roaring tanks.

The TDs knocked out a pillbox, two machine gun nests and two 20mm guns. Next day the battalion got a Tiger, two certain Mark IVs and one probable and an anti-tank gun.

Meanwhile, the 29th Inf. Div. attacking on the left flank, had pushed back a large number of enemy. They were reorganizing across the plain to the north when the 823rd thrust out from among the trees. Driving them into buildings, the TD men hurled 125 rounds into the structures, demolishing them. Thus gaining entrance to the plain, the 823rd drove north.