AF 13 WORLD 19 February, 1944 Raymond C Kennard Jr 2913 Fleetwood Ave Baltimore, MD 21214-1208 Undated, StrongUnited States invasion forces may have made a landing on Japan's major naval stronghold, of Truk, core of the Caroline Islands. Radio Tokio declared today that American " Mechanized forces " as well as aircraft launched the attack on Truk and reported fierce fighting was taking place. American authorities have not commented on the Japanese report, but Pacific fleet commander Admiral Nimitz indicated "Operations" are continuing. Earlier, the Japane high command acknowledged American carrierbased aircraft and blasted Truk, the fall of which, say some observers, may lead to the collapse of the entire Japanese war effort. A discreet radio silence shrouds the operations of our fleet units, described by admiral Nimitz as a task force. However, hinting the assault against Truk may be far more significant than indicated in admiral Nimitz' first terse communique, rear admiral John McCain declared the attack may mark a milestone in American history. Elsewhere in the Southwest Pacific, too, the Japanese are suffering new crushing blows. American army and navy planes, maintaining their fierce attacks against a large Jap convoy off New Ireland are believed to have sunk most of the enemy vessels. In the other side of the world, heavy German attacks are continuing against the Anzio beachhead, but they have failed to make any dent in Anglo American lines. The Nazis are believed to have taken severe punishment. They face not only Allied artillery superior ity, but also the full force of Allied air power, which has been switched to the operational front and its approaches. Navy guns, too, are playing a powerful effective part in the bitter battle. Southward, the most violent artillery barrage known to Italy has been opened by United States field guns which are blasting mercilessly at Cassino. - -Cassino and the embattled monastery hill. In Russia, the Red Army - advancing on Pskov in Northern Russia, has posed ch a threat to Staray Russa, one hundred miles to the East, that the Nazis already have evacuated that great hedgehog position. The evacuation of Staraya Russa leaves the enemy without any rail communications South of Leningrad for some one hundred eighty miles. To the South, Soviet forces, having completed the kill of tens of thousands of Germans trapped on the middle Dnieper now are poised for vast new thrusts aimed at the Odessa Lvov railway and the iron ore center of Krivoi Rog. Washington, Senate republicans nominated Vermont's senator Austin to the senate foreign relations committee today to fill a republican vacancy. The committee is made up of eight republicans, fourteen democrats and Wisconsin's progressive senator La Follette. Austin has been a supporter of nearly all president Roosevelt's foreign policies. He is a member of the pro Willkie group of senate republicans and at times has been in conflict with former isolationist members of his own party because of his international stand.

Cairo, Fierce fighting is raging between marshal Tito's YugoSlav partisans and Germans directly South of the famous world war one battle field of Caporetto Reporting on operations in Northern Italy, the YugoSlav liberation army communique today disclosed that patriot units have crossed the Isonzo river between Gorizia and Tolomina and have occupied its right bank. Washington, House and Senate soldier vote conferees adjourned today with three proposals to consider during the week end. Over the protest of Mississippi's congressman Rankin, who wanted to act im intely, the group agreed to meet again Monday afternoon. The three proposals included one by Oregon's congressman Ellsworth to split the bill into two separate measures, one dealing with the perfecting of a state ballot and the other with the federal ballot. Texas senator Connally in turn suggested adding state candidates to federal candidates for a combined state and federal ballot. Army and Navy heads had said earlier that they could not possibly handle such a large ballot. The third suggestion by Rhode Island's senator Green would combine the Eastland Rankin state ballot measure and the Green Lucas federal ballot bill. It would retain all of the recommendations for state action made in the Eastland Rankin measure and would provide a federal ballot as a supplement to state absentee balloting where members of the armed forces did not receive a state ballot. Columbus, O., Political jockeying by regular Ohio democrats assured president Roosevelt today of the Buckeye state's fifty two national nominating convention votes if the executive wants the block. Members of the state democratic central and executive committees gave wholehearted indorsement to state auditor Joseph Ferguen as their favorite son candidate for president. committeemen decided on sixteen delegates - at - large, each with one half vote, to the democratic nominating conclave at Chicago. The usual forty four delegates, two from each Ohio congressional district, also were voted on. This makes a total of fifty two Ohio votes for the man to be nominated by the democrats at their Chicago powwow July 19th. Since Ferguson is pledged to Mr Roosevelt, the votes will be the president's for the asking. Washington, The House today sustained President Roosevelt's veto of the bill which would have stopped government food subsidy payments. The vote was 226 to 151 in favor of sustaining the veto. Mr Roosevelt had messaged Congress a few minutes before that if the bill became law and subsidy payments were stopped inflation would come with rising prices and wages and eventual economic disaster. The president won out by the smalles of margins, however. The 226 votes were in favor of overriding the veto, but fell short of the needed two thirds majority. It is presumed Congress now will turn to some form of compromise to extend the life of the commodity credit corporation and possibly to allow limited subsidy payments.

Bulletin \*\*\* Washington \*\*\* Navy secretary Knox told reporters late today that details of our operations at Truk could not be divulged since a break in radio silence would give some valuable information to Jap submarines lurking in the area. He added -" The air strike on Truk is but another in the overall campaign to destroy for all time Japans ability to wage war, whether it be on the sea, land or in the air." The Japanese radio during the day had sought to indicate that the United States had made landings in the Carolines but Knox made it clear that there were no amphibious operations. Knox said the Truk operation was a third phase of actions by which we are showing the ability of our joint sea and air power to project its strength Westward. The first two phases of American offensive push included blows by carrier based planes against Rabaul and the task force bombardment at Paramushiru in the North Pacific. Said Knox - " . . It is significant that our air and sea power is not limited to certain areas. It is of such magnitude in the Pacific as to make itself felt from the Bering Sea to Australia." Cleveland, Reports persisted today that catcher Buddy Rosar has quit the Cleveland Indians to stay on his war job in Buffalo, NY. Rosar was the second string backstop for the New York Yankees until two years ago when he was traded to the Indians. He is in 2B and has spent the winter working in an arms manufacturing plant at Buffalo. NewYork, Although Al Davis may encounter some difficulty in coping with ex lightweight champion Bob Montgomery in tonight's ten round battle at Madison Square Garden, he had no trouble this afternoon in making the stipulated weight limit of 144 pounds. As a matter of fact Davis weighed in at 142 1/4 pounds, giving him a five pound weight advantage over Montgomery. Montgomerys superior boxing skill has made him the favorite with the odds rising steadily - the last odds quoted favored the Philadelphian at 1 to 4. Off his record Davis only chance to win must come by way of a knockout and few giv lim much of a chance at that. The fight will be broadcast ( MBS ) at ten PM EWT. Pittsburgh, Come what may the Pittsburgh Pirates are all set for coaches this baseball season. The coaching corps was completed with receipt of signed contracts today from Virgil Davis and Jake Flowers. Hans Wagner previously accepted salary terms offered the flying dutchman for his coaching talents. Bulletin \*\*\*\* Pearl Harbor \*\*\*\* Headquarters of the Pacific fleet announced today that American army and marine assault forces have established beachheads on Eniwetok atoll in the Marshalls after heavy sea and air bombardments of Japanese positions. Eniwetok is one of the larger atolls of the Marshalls and lies less than 400 miles from American positions on Kwajalein atoll. The communique issued at Pearl Harbor said the army and marine forces went ashore under the cover of battleship gunfire and with close support of low flying aircraft. All of the forces are under the immediate command of Rear Admiral R K Turner

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Amphibious units are under Rear Admiral
H W Hill, while marine general T E Watson commands
22nd marines and elements of the 106th army infantry.
Capture of the 21 mile atoll would outflank
four strategic atolls in the Northwestern Marshall and
move American positions to within 800 miles of Truk.

St Paul,

First baseman Micker Roccoof the Cleveland Indians got a new lease on bar all life today from induction center doctors.

Rocco took his preinduction physical test at Fort Snelling, Minn. but was rejected for military duty because of a stomach ailment. The Indian first sacker said he would have tried for the navy had he passed his medical examination.

Washington,

The House passed and sent to the Senate today a measure which would authorize 231 million dollars for the functioning of the state commerce and justice departments for the next fiscal year. The measure passed without amendments, although efforts were made to cut the amount for living expenses of state department officials in foreign service.

Washington,

of military personnel has forced drastic decisions during the past week. A shortage of 200 thousand men who should have been in uniform before the end of 1943 together with the increased tempo of offensive action and mounting casualties, has necessitated a reduction of soldiers taking the army specialized training courses. The number of specialized trainees will be made so far as possible at the completion of a particular training course or a term in that course.

