

RIP LAST COLOGNE DEF

nk Spearheads Cut Danzig From

Sea Front

spearheads sweeping off from Germany Germans said the east of Stettin. Danzig off from Ger- Associated Press

ommunique said Mar- kov's 1st White Rus- l the crossing of the wing in an east-west gard, a stronghold 19 ettin, then turning Baltic.

the Germans said, antin Rokossovsky's dan army forced the nother retreat south illes from the coastal capture the Russians night. Chest of Rummels- east of Lubitz, also the Germans.

Cities Cut Off

Koiberg, Koeslin and g of cities spaced 25 a southwest to north- in-Danzig railway ap- been cut off from one ery fire brought with- rshal Rokossovsky's torized swoop.

ble infantry were re- support in the north- ard the Baltic. Large ed air force Storm- tered German army units into confusion. ks pounded the rail- of German transport, the flat country.

capture of Neustettin, ons hub, Red Star ed Germans surren- d after another" and the stronghold.

front, Moscow dis- ere were indications d finally begun large- across the Neisse in se zone between that free.

East Wall" which the prepared as Berlin's fences.

continued to be violent sian industrial capital ans had won about a y and virtually all the be.

Islands by 600 Planes

ISCO, March 1 (AP)—roximately 600 Ameri- ne planes attacked other Ryukyu Islands day. This Archipelago he Japanese home is- ons.

planes came from a ch penetrated waters ukyu Islands early this a Domei broadcast he Associated Press. sk force is believed to one which withdrew owing the raid with lanes on the eastern nease mainland Feb. 25. se of an interception the enemy raiders to- air defence forces of



GEORGE SKRYPNYK



ANTHONY SKRYPNYK



WILLIAM SCHMIDT

Trio Hanged for Ghastly Murder

FORT FRANCES, Ont., March 1. (CP)—Finis was written on a basement jail gallows early today to Ontario's "hot stove" murder case as three men hanged for the torture slaying last July of Mrs. Viola Jamieson in her home at Flanders, Ont. The brothers Skrypnyk, 38-year-old George and 23-year-old Anthony of Atikokan, Ont., and 28-year-old William Schmidt of Fort Frances, paid with their lives for what was once described by a police official as one of Ontario's most ghastly crimes.

A news blackout was clamped on proceedings at the jail as the hour for the executions approached. It was learned that the last man was pronounced dead at 12:50 a.m., E.S.T., by jail surgeon Dr. W. G. Boyle and coroner Dr. D. B. Young. A five-man Fort Frances coroner's jury viewed the bodies.

None but authorized persons were allowed near the jail as midnight approached. Inside it was reported the three men spent their last hours reading their Bibles and talking. In a nearby, modest home, Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt, prayed for their son in his last night.

Walk Long Corridor

The men walked a long corridor from the death cells to the gallows constructed in the basement of the jail.

During the last few days before the hanging, hymns were heard echoing from the jail house of the Kenora district jail where the men were held until three days before the hanging. Guards said the Skrypnyk brothers were doing the singing.

It was decided to erect an indoor scaffold for the executions following a protest by Fort Frances citizens against the hangings being carried out on a specially erected cubicle on a lawn outside the jail.

A fourth man in the case, 18-year-old Eino Tillonen, had also been sentenced to death, but had his sentence commuted to life imprisonment.

Mrs. Jamieson died in hospital July 2, 1944, from burns covering 38 per cent. of her body. Before she died she told of being tortured by four men (Continued on page 2, column 3)

Tokyo Reports Yanks Invade Palawan Island

MANILA, March 1. (AP)—American invasion of Palawan island, the occupation of which would go far toward sealing off Japanese holdings in the southern Philippines from access to the South China Sea, was reported today by Tokyo radio.

Gen. MacArthur made no reference to such an operation in his Thursday communique which announced virtual destruction of the trapped enemy garrison of 6,000 on Corregidor island in Manila Bay.

The enemy radio said that a regiment of Americans—possibly 3,000 men—landed at 11 a.m. Wednesday on Palawan, 350 miles southwest of Manila. The unconfirmed report told of a "violent battle" in progress.

On Corregidor, 3,000 American troops have all but wiped out an enemy garrison twice that size to pry open Manila's big bay. Already a cargo ship has entered the bay, bringing badly needed supplies to liberated but hard hit Manila, once more the capital of the Philippines.

All but the northern third of rocky little Iwo Jima was in American hands as the marines, their special supplies parachuted from transport planes, fought to clear the vital central plateau.

Front dispatches said the 3rd Division already had crossed the plateau in places and were moving downhill for the first time since the invasion began 11 days ago.

Taxi, Tram In Collision

A taxi and a street car were damaged yesterday afternoon at about one o'clock when the taxi, driven by Ronald Farrow, 130 south Marks street, ran into the side of a Port Arthur street car, operated by P. H. Wilford, 226 Munro street, Port Arthur. No one was injured.

The street car was proceeding out of the loop at the Canadian Car plant.

Grenade Kills 2 Soldiers

WINNIPEG, March 1. (CP)—Two soldiers, hunting for souvenirs, were killed when a grenade exploded at A15 Canadian Infantry Training Center, Shilo Camp, Man., military authorities announced here today.

The dead: Pte. E. L. Emburley, of Haywood, Man., and Pte. D. A. Hood of Hudson Bay Junction, Sask.

A search party found the bodies early today in the grenade training area. The men had been missing since late Tuesday.

Massive Aerial Blows Hit Foe 18 Days in Row

LONDON, March 1 (CP) — The massive allied air assault carried through its 18th straight day today. More than 1,800 British and American heavy bombers smashed almost simultaneously against at least 10 targets in Germany.

More than 600 R.A.F. Lancasters and Halifaxes struck two rail and oil cities in western Germany, while more than 1,500 American heavies attacked a chain of eight railway centers in southern Germany which served three battlefronts.

Before noon, the United States 9th air force lashed out with almost 1,000 sorties ahead of the blazing western front. A force of 560 fighter-bombers battered Neuss, cross-Rhine suburb of the Ruhr's Dusseldorf, in the path of the allied ground drive in the west.

Before worsening weather crippled air operations shortly after noon, the 9th air force alone had plastered German retreat lines and troop movements along the Rhine all the way from Neuss to the Moselle valley ahead of the United States 3rd army drive.

Eight Centers Blasted Medium bombers, 375 strong, blasted eight communications centers and three road bridges from northwest of Cologne to west of Coblenz.

Allied air fleets during February flew more than 100,000 sorties against Germany with record low losses.

Berlin was bombed again last night by R.A.F. Mosquitos with two-ton blockbusters. It was the ninth successive night attack on the German capital.

Two thousand allied planes made six attacks in daylight yesterday on rail and oil targets in western Germany.

Typical of attacks was a swoop by R.C.A.F. Spitfires against railyards at Wesel, across the Rhine from the 1st Canadian army battle sector, which caught 20 freight trains with steam up. Fliers reported the Germans were increasing anti-aircraft defences along their harassed rail lines.

Canadian fighter-bombers also were busy yesterday, cutting rail lines with the loss of one aircraft.

Trier Bast In Drive o

WITH THE U. S. 9TH A dozen German towns fell to the Rhine from several dis- disclosed as yet.

PARIS, March 1. (AP)— the last defences of besiege Trier, guardian fortress city Coblenz.

Reports many hours out within five miles of Cologne Rhineland. At least five b river.

The American Ninth Army north was declared at Field M Montgomery's headquarters to king "spectacular new gains" edge of the industrial Ruhr driving the German 16th army the Rhine banks. German placed the Ninth within 11½ m Dusseldorf, a city as large as Orleans, and one broadcast said seldorf was being shelled.

Canadian and British troops strongly with armor to break emy's last ditch stand in three of the Rochwald Gap between and Kerwenheim, within 22 m the great Rhine port of Duisbu less than 10 of the Ruhr city of across the Rhine.

Huns Right Fanatically

The Germans were fighting fa ly around Kerwenheim, three south of Uedem, and still Canadian efforts to break thro final Hochwald line. Gen. troops were within 1,000 yards strongpoint of Weeze. Germa lery and tanks forced slight C withdrawals in the Rochw thickets. Appeldorn, three mill of Calcar, was taken.

The Canadian and American Armies were within 25 miles a junction which might tra sands of Germans west of the

Allied warplanes were kee vigilant "watch on the Rhl signs of a mass retreat eastw shot up clusters of river bary tugs at one point.

A wholesale withdrawal of Marshall Von Rundstedt's mau bleeding armies has not yet across the river, Roger D. Associated Press war corres reported from Field Marshal gomery's headquarters.

U. S. First Army tanks, s pelled guns and infantry with ets and flame-throwers rumbled the Erft river before Cologne l eral bridgeheads in increasin bers. Armor fanned out. Infa dened the crossings under he tillery fire.

A prisoner reported that (Continued on page 13, colu

Mounties Fa Knife Wield

MONTREAL, March 1 (CP) checking up on possible draft were met by a knife-wielding when they visited a house in town Montreal today, but they man they were searching for father as well after resorting lomacy.

Rather than remove the fa force, the three Royal C Mounted Police constables a members of the Provost Corps the help of another son who pe the father to drop the knife the father and the son poli seeking went quietly to polic uarters. Police said the fath