

FANATICS AZI GENERAL SURRENDERS TO 30TH

KURT DITTMAR PREDICTED END IN FEW DAYS

By KENNETH L. DIXON
U. S. NINTH ARMY Front—(AP)—One of Germany's best known generals, KURT DITTMAR, surrendered to American 30th Division infantrymen on the Elbe Wednesday and said he expected the war to end in a few days.

Internationally known as one of the best informed members of the German general staff, GENERAL DITTMAR, said he believed Hitler would die in Berlin and Reichsmarshal Herman Goering possibly already had been executed.

Further, the captive said: "The war's turning point came last June in Normandy, when the Germans failed to beat back the channel invasion.

Politically, economically and physically the Reich has been doomed since July 1944, the day the bomb plot to assassinate Hitler failed. Had the Wehrmacht seized control, he said, surrender would have been general and the war would have ended.

After crossing the Elbe in a rowboat under a white flag the general asserted German casualties had been too great to make continued resistance worth the effort. General Dittmar had crossed the river to arrange for evacuation of wounded civilians, but after being advised by Major General L. S. Hobbs, 30th Infantry Division, to surrender, he demanded the German later chose imprisonment, sending for his 10-year old son to surrender with him.

He said the only thing holding remnants of the German army together was the presence of the Gestapo, storm troopers and SS troops who, he predicted, would scatter at the end of the fall of Berlin or the death of Hitler.

Although disclaiming knowledge of the whereabouts of Hitler, he said he believed Hitler still remained in Berlin, from where he had just come.

He said the Fuehrer would stay there until he was either killed or committed suicide.

He said he had just come from another place he dared go.

150 German PWs Volunteer To Build Bridge

WITH 30th INF. DIV.—Lt. John G. Gerl, of Milwaukee, was not troubled by the weather as he had to build a bridge quickly over a canal running parallel to the Roer River to establish a bridgehead February 23.

The supply point being fed by the mud-crawling allogators crossing the Roer, Gerl had on hand 150 German prisoners, and 35 German wounded to get back across the canal and the river. The allogators couldn't negotiate the bridge, so the German speaking lieutenant who is assistant rear-Jerries some of the prisoners.

"These Jerries are badly in need of attention, and it will take our engineers three hours to build a bridge that we can get them across. So how about pitching in here and helping build the bridge?" the Germans agreed and soon 150 Germans were busy as beavers carrying logs and planks to the canal and constructing a span. All the while the mud-crawling allogators from the allogators and across the canal and the wounded loaded and ready to go back.

"These Jerries really worked," Gerl said, "I am sure you couldn't call it a victory in the American sense of the word, but it was entirely voluntary. When they saw anything that needed to be done they did it without being directed."

"Supermen" Urge Yank Super-Speed

WITH U. S. NINTH ARMY (AP)—The gall of German prisoners captured by the Ninth Army Sunday drew caustic comment from an American officer.

New Order For 30th Occupies

By ERNIE LEISER
Stars and Stripes Staff Correspondent
WITH 30th INF. DIV., Posenek, Prussia, you'd never believe this was the same outfit, except for its shoulder patch.

In the old days the 30th hollered when it was ordered to move a five-mile front to hold. Some of its hardest fighting was for a strip maybe two miles wide.

Today, the Division front is something over 50 miles wide and between 10 and 30 miles deep. That makes more than 1,000 square miles of five-starred veterans are holding, but no one's holding.

In the old days luxury living consisted of a cellar instead of a water-cooled foxhole. Today, every Joe in the outfit lives in a house, most of them sleep in good German beds and living rooms become made-to-order canteens.

There's no reason why you'd like it, they were being forced to blur their stories in a manner which seemed to them to have nothing to do with military security. The censors on the spot didn't defend the policy, but they had their orders.

Conspicuously committed the commanding generals to protest and understood that the high command was asked to make the Patton rule general.

In a few "released" individual units on Dec. 17, at the beginning of the German push, a new blanket of censorship was imposed. No division was to be identified. Accordingly, the public has no awareness of the decisive role played by certain units of magnificent American fighting men in driving the Germans from their objectives.

The curtain was first lifted with the relief of Bastogne by men from General Patton's Army, and the whole world now knows the story of the paratroopers.

And G's, the original forgotten man, is now a big dealer, and has the real responsibility and about the least men—in the Division. His military government teams are training the soldiers with the division troops to lend moral conviction to their orders.

They look altogether different around here these days, not really any younger, but they've forgotten a lot of unpleasant things.

Town Succumbs As 30th Bn. Fights

WITH THE 30TH INF. DIV.—The 1st Battalion of the First Battalion, 119th Rgt., was so strongly defended that even those who do not usually fight as infantry grabbed rifles and got on the line to help crush the resistance.

Using Panzerfausts as artillery, and making the best of the terrain, the Germans put up a good fight for the town whose crooked and narrow streets frustrated the use of tanks if possible.

According to S/Sgt. Arthur Floyd, Norlina, N. C., cracking this town made the going easy on the way out from the houses attacked by the TDs.

While tank destroyers cleaned out the houses on the flanks, S/Sgt. Floyd picked off Germans from the battalion observation post as they ran from the houses attacked by the TDs.

When the battalion S-2 was ambushed and wounded while recovering a few tanks to come over a Pfc. Nathan Kupferstein, Mauldin, Miss., stayed to give first aid, while Pfc. William Lord, Lebanon, Penna., killed two Germans in a race to break out of the ambush for help.

Captain Allen S. Hubbard, Jr., Colebrook, Conn., rescued the wounded officer and his companion with a small tank force which he had organized. More than 600 prisoners were taken in the town after the Germans realized it was useless to fight on.

30TH'S VITAL PART IN HALTING GERMAN DURING BATTLE OF BULGE HIDDEN BY EARLY CENSORSHIP

By LEWIS GANNETT New York Herald Tribune
When the Germans broke through in the Ardennes, the press camps in the 1st and 9th Armies were signaling for a "released" policy to be adopted in General Patton's 3rd Army. In the 3rd Army, for more than a month before the German counter-offensive, correspondents were asked to name any unit the 1st Army was in combat. The soon as it had a "rolling release" of five days which seemed to be adopted five days after they entered action. The 9th Army had a ten-day rolling release, cable correspondents accordingly could identify the soldiers in any current action.

The soldiers didn't like it, they were always asking correspondents, "Why doesn't our division ever get a headline? We're doing the fighting, aren't we?" The correspondents didn't like it, they were being forced to blur their stories in a manner which seemed to them to have nothing to do with military security. The censors on the spot didn't defend the policy, but they had their orders.

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Civilians and Youthful Fanatics Defend City

By WES GALLAGHER
MAGDEBURG, GERMANY (AP)—The ancient city of Magdeburg was in American hands Wednesday night after the fanatical Hitler youth and civilian resistor had been captured or burned to death by flame-throwing tanks.

Troops of the American 30th (Old Hickory) Division seized the city bank, and discovered considerable art treasures and \$2,000,000 worth of German currency and silver.

Part of the city still was burning from the latest Allied air attacks as the U. S. 9th Army's 2d Armored and 30th Infantry divisions fought about the city's defender's of town.

They killed considerable numbers of Hitler's juvenile warriors. Hitler's youth were turned rifle and Bazooka fire against the Americans.

Guerrilla Warfare This was the first time that civilians have been caught using the bazooka weapons—panzerfausts—in large numbers. Apparently the Germans were trying to turn the panzerfaust into a guerrilla weapon.

Flame-throwing tanks were brought into the town Wednesday morning, and what resistance was left quickly was crushed. The German youth and adults were light, despite the extensive use of the panzerfausts.

The civilians are as sullen as any yet encountered in Germany.

"We found plenty of civilians sniping and fighting with soldiers," said Maj. Harry Zeien of Fessenden, N. D., of the 2d Armored Division.

Bomb Damage Only a fraction of the normal population of 306,446 was left in the city after it was badly destroyed by air attacks on the Krupp tank factory, aircraft works, synthetic oil plant and docks.

The business and cathedral of the city along the Elbe river were almost completely smashed.

troopers of the 101st, who said "No!" when the Germans asked them to surrender, and radioed to their own command units to supply drops. They rounded, but they were paratroopers, and they had never been taught to fight any way except surrendered.

Marshal Montgomery next asked the well when he referred to the defense of the hinge at Elsenborn, and cited the heroic qualities of the Americans of the 3d, 1st, 20th, 82d and 7th Armored Divisions, who held the northern flank. Censorship had blanked their stirring record. However, he believed, they should have their due. But for their stand the world would never have heard of Bastogne.

For the German aim was to drive northwest to the strategic American supply depot at the Liege region and toward the incomparable port of Antwerp; it was their hope to capture Aachen on the way, as a "Christmas present for Hitler." Bastogne was south of, of advanced main German force, the German movement toward the northern prong of their advance seemed more menacing than the southern. But the northern prong was first stopped and then lopped, and the German push was diverted into the "strategic wilderness" about Bastogne.

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Max Claimed By 30th Infantrymen

BALTIMORE, April 23—(ANS)—Lt. Col. Howard C. Greer, of nearby Middle River, Md., yesterday said that Max Schmeling, former 30th Div. doughboy.

"I saw a German who was wearing dog tags with Max Schmeling's name on them, yesterday. He looked like a heavy-weight champion, with a huge well-knit physique. I saw him in the camp, recognition by wounds but his dog tags are definite proof."

Colonel Greer said the body was clad in a paratrooper's uniform with sergeant's stripes.