

appeared imminent as converging Russian armies
the gates of the city
sides and all but
the enemy's narrow-
line northwest to

aid the fleeing Nazis are
their wounded and huge
equipment in a desperate
escape through the close-
the Red Army trap.

rack Luftwaffe squad-
battle with the Red Air
he choked rail and road
enna in a last-minute
ave their marching col-
slaughter, but Moscow
oviet fliers are taking
of German troops and

German rear guards re-
barricaded streets of the
along the flanks of the
corridor, but Moscow
ey can do little more
the Red Army entry into

ports indicated the bulk
an and Hungarian garr-
ing in for a death stand-
city, but Moscow dis-
tested this activity was
ver the evacuation.

UNTER-ATTACK
man armored screen
nd the city began to
st night after a series
unter-attacks that cost
cores of tanks and hun-
r combat vehicles.
ng Cossacks and ar-
of Marshal Rodion Y.
Second Ukrainian

Yanks Imperil Roer Citadel

**First Army Troops
Advance 17 Miles
Inside Germany**

By EDWARD KENNEDY

PARIS, Dec. 11.—(AP)—First Army veterans drove within two and a half miles of the Roer River citadel of Duren today and advanced 1½ miles along the Aachen-Cologne super-highway to Merken, 17 miles inside Germany and the deepest point of conquest.

Even as Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges shock troops in fire-b snow-

Supply Center Falls

WITH U.S. SEVENTH ARMY IN ALSACE, Dec. 11.—(AP)—Haguenau, important communications and supply city 18 miles north of Strasbourg, fell to American troops today.

fall fought toward the flooded Roer on a 10-mile front, the skies were filled with 1500 U.S. heavy bombers and 800 escorting fighters striking vital points on German railroads leading to the front.

Dorn, three miles west, and Ecentz, 2½ miles northwest of Duren, toppled. Nearby Gerch, Obergerch and Strass were taken yesterday.

DUREN SIGHTED

areas west and north of the capital, it was reported.

BRITISH REINFORCED

British troops, who have been battling the ELAS, also were reported being reinforced, apparently for a show-down fight.

A Government decree issued by the Minister of War called up Greeks of the classes of 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938.

Acute food shortages and the imminent danger of epidemics threatened this strife-torn capital today as British heavy bombers for the first time in the week-long civil struggle attacked ELAS concentrations around the city.

Wellingtons and cannon-firing Spitfires joined the sanguinary fighting—already reported to have cost the leftists 1500 killed and 2500 wounded—after an ELAS attack supported by mortars and artillery had been repelled yesterday by British troops using tank and field guns.

Several shells fired from ELAS positions fell near British headquarters on the eastern outskirts of the city. Sniper bullets struck the Grande Bretagne Hotel, temporary seat of the Greek Government on Constitution Square. One 75-millimeter shell struck British headquarters. The British replied with artillery and mortars.

HEAVY RAINS

Heavy rain curtailed action during the night but fires started by shell-fire still were smoking today on the northern slopes of the Acropolis.

All unloading of relief ships at Piraeus, port of Athens, was at a standstill and UNRRA attempts to organize soup kitchens to relieve the stricken civilian population so far had failed. Large numbers of dead were still awaiting burial.

be told that the Germans believe the great world alliance against them is splintering.

Nothing in the past year has delighted the Germans more than dispatches from Washington, London and Athens which they interpret as an indication that the Anglo-American powers are determined to block further Soviet expansion in Europe and the silence from Moscow which they say means the Russians are not pleased.

Germans here say "we will never have three masters in Germany, but only one." They mean that when German resistance ends the Nation must be surrendered to one of its enemies, not not to a Russia, Britain and United States for a divided occupation. Germany, they say, must remain united even in defeat.

The Germans' only hope for a separate surrender is a break among the United Nations. With or without a formal peace they argue they could cease fighting on one front while holding the other. This would be done only if the Germans saw a chance to gain thereby.

That's why they are delighted here to see dispatches in the Spanish press grouped under such headlines as "American press fears disunion in Allied camp," "Churchill opposed to Communist dictatorship."

The Germans are delighted with anything drawing Allied attention away from the war with Germany. They enjoy reading any news from Washington indicating the Americans are eager to leave Europe and concentrate on Japan. They are pleased with any signs of British distrust of Russia or vice versa, and last week they thought they saw both.

Fortis Leave Capital Aflame

**Unescorted Planes
Make Bold Attacks,
Escape Unharmd**

By MAC R. JOHNSON

HEADQUARTERS 21ST BOMBER COMMAND, Saipan, Dec. 11.—(AP)—(Via Navy radio).—Two Superfortresses, raiding Tokyo seven hours apart, kindled fires in the enemy capital that could be seen for 85 miles and set off explosions in the harbor area, returning crewmen reported today.

The big planes, flying unescorted, were assigned to a double purpose "weather strike" from their Saipan base.

The first B-29 over Tokyo on this shift, piloted by Lieut. Col. Robert E. (Pappy) Haynes, Hermosa Beach, Calif., dropped bombs at 8:23 p.m. December 10 (Tokyo time), setting three large fires and several smaller ones in the waterfront district.

(Late press dispatches revealed that Second Lieut. Joseph Lamoglia, 5441 Ruth Avenue, Oakland, and Jack C. Bussell, 1525½ Milvin Street, Berkeley, took part in the raids. Lamoglia, a radio specialist, is a crew member of Haynes' plane, "Thumper," which has been over Tokyo five times. Bussell was aboard a plane commanded by Lieut. Willis Sutton of Atlanta, Ga., that started five fires in the Tokyo industrial area.)

Members of Haynes' crew counted 50 searchlights in action and the

bulk of the enemy garrison fighting a last-ditch struggle against an American frontal assault below Limon. Another headed south, and already may have effected a junction with the Seventh division around the second enemy pocket.

SUPPLY GATEWAY FALLS

Ormoc, main Japanese supply and reinforcement gateway on Leyte, fell yesterday to veterans of the 77th only 72 hours after they had driven ashore three miles to the south in a surprise amphibious landing.

The capture of Ormoc split off the southern end of the enemy's Yamashita line beyond hope of relief and complete encirclement of that pocket appeared imminent.

The Seventh Division, driving up the west coast from Albuera, eight and a half miles south of Ormoc, yesterday was less than a mile from a junction with the 77th and already had established contact with other forces moving across the inland mountains from Mahonag, nine and a half miles east of Ormoc.

"Trapped and compressed into a narrow pocket by these three Allied columns, the enemy's forces in the southern segment of the Yamashita line, although thousands strong, are unable to extricate themselves," Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported in his communique.

LITTLE RETALIATION

"They are being destroyed with little opportunity for effective retaliation. With their destruction, our troops from the south will be in a position to take the northern segment of the Yamashita line in reverse."

The bloodiest fighting raged on near Talibau, 18 miles north of