## 75 Years Ago, The Gazette and Daily, York, PA

WWII Weekly Front Pages

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The Gazette and Daily, York, PA

Luzon is liberated.



## **PACIFIC**

American airborne troops landed in northern Luzon to spearhead a drive down Cagayan Valley with mechanized equipment, while guerillas in Tuguergarao were fighting off Japanese counterattacks for the third

day. In the former area, converging forces had advanced early on the week to within 20 miles apart, threatening to bottle up an estimated 20,000 Japanese. On 28 June the forces joined, and General MacArthur announced the liberation of Luzon Island, which the Japanese had invaded on 10 December 1941.

Mopping up was continuing on Okinawa. An additional 794 Japanese prisoners of war were captured for a total of 8,696. The Japanese had tried four small air attacks against American airfield installations with little damage. American patrols searched for still lurking foes and for the bodies of comrades, hoping to solve the mystery of what happened to US soldiers and marines captured by the Japanese during the 82 days of the battle.

Chinese troops encountered Japanese rearguards after the enemy withdrew 60 miles above Wenchow. Allied forces were within 175 miles of Shanghai, and heavy fighting was raging at Liuchow. The enemy had been cleared from a 365-mile stretch of coast.

Australian troops were driving down the north coast of Borneo against little opposition. They had captured Seria, potentially the richest petroleum area in the British Empire, and found that at least 21 of its 50 wells were still burning from Japanese sabotage. The US had thrown air power into a raid at Balikpapan, sending more than 150 Liberators, Mitchells and Lightnings against the port with more than 200 tons of bombs dropped.

## **EUROPE**

A mountainous 4,871-square-mile sector of far eastern Czechoslovakia, the Carpatho-Ukraine, had been returned to the Soviet Union by mutual desire and agreement of its peoples. The population of the area was predominately Ukrainian. Persons living in Slovakia outside this area were able to assume either Soviet or Czechoslovak citizenship and move into either territory, receiving compensation for property they were unable to take with them.

## HOME FRONT

Fifty-one of the nation's 96 senators were ready to vote for ratification of the United Nations charter, according to an Associated Press poll. That totaled just eight short of the two-thirds majority required. Not one of the 74 senators interviewed expressed outright opposition. Delegates at the UN conference gave final approval to the charter, capping off two solid months of work on the organization to promote world peace. President Truman expressed the desire to have the US be the first country to ratify the charter.

York's own General Jacob Devers was escorted in a triumphal parade from Hotel Yorktowne over the main streets of the city to the fairgrounds for a formal homecoming reception. The Sixth Army Group commander made a speech at the fairgrounds in which he said that it would take as much effort to beat Japan as it had taken to beat Germany, but that "it will be done.

The executive secretary of Pennsylvania's Council of Defense announced that tin can salvage collections would have to be doubled. During the first months of this year only 5,056 ton of cans were sent to detinning plants, while during the first five months of 1944 the total amounted to 7.084 tons.

(Photo courtesy newspapers.com, York Gazette and Daily)