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== (Compiled by Overseas Branch, Office of War Information) ==

EASTERN FRONT -- In an Order of the Day Marshal Stalin announced Wednesday the opening of a new offensive on the third Baltic front in which the Red Army forced the Velikaya River, breached strong defenses south of the city of Ostrov and in two days advanced up to twenty-five miles along a forty-three mile break through. During the course of the drive more than 700 populated points were occupied.

In the four-day old offensive on Lvov which was announced Tuesday, first Ukrainian army units have advanced to within eight and one-half miles of that German fortress and communication center.

Other Soviet units cut the rail line linking Brest-Litovsk and Bialystok about midway between the two German fortresses guarding approaches to the Polish plains and Warsaw.

DOMESTIC -- Delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, winding up prosaic first-day sessions, swarmed to Chicago stadium tonight to hear the keynote address of Governor Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma.

Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, arrived in Chicago today and was quoted as saying that he was there "primarily as Chairman of the Iowa Delegation," but he was also quoted as saying "I am in this fight to the finish and I will put up the very best fight I know how," when asked if he would seek renomination.

James F. Byrnes, U.S. War Mobilization Director, considered a strong possibility for the Vice-Presidency, withdrew his name as a candidate earlier today.

Crown Princess Juliana of the Netherlands Wednesday began a six week visit in the United States. The Princess, her three daughters, and a party of five arrived at Chatham, Mass., Tuesday.

PACIFIC -- A U.S. Navy Department communique Wednesday reported the sinking of fourteen more Japanese vessels by submarine action in Pacific and Far East waters. The sinkings included two combatant ships, the others were merchant vessels. This brings the total of Japanese vessels sent to the bottom by U.S. submarines to 654. 37 other ships have been listed as probably sunk and 115 damaged, making an overall number of 806 Japanese vessels hit by U.S. submarines since Dec. 7, 1941.

The battle for Hengyang, key center on the strategic Hangkow-Canton railway, continues, with the Japanese still attacking the city.

GUAM -- A U.S. Pacific Fleet announcement issued Wednesday reported 320 tons of bombs were dropped on Guam by carrier aircraft of a U.S. Task Force Monday. More than 650 sorties were flown over the island in support of a heavy barrage by U.S. battleships, cruisers and destroyers. The action continued Tuesday.

ENGLAND -- A United Press dispatch from London Wednesday said that flying bomb attacks on the London and southern England areas continued throughout Tuesday night and in the daylight hours today.

AIR WAR -- Great fleets of American and British heavy bombers, flying from bases in England and Italy, struck Wednesday at a score of targets in Germany and France. More than 1250 U.S. Eighth Air Force Flying Forts and Liberators spearheaded the assault from Britain with attacks on objectives in southern and western Germany. Some of them hit the Munich area in a two-way blow which included an Italian-based attack by more than 500 heavy bombers on aircraft factories, airdromes and ammunition dumps. Royal Air Force Lancasters Wednesday struck at flying torpedo installations in Northern France. Other RAF units hit targets in the Cologne, Ruhr Valley and Paris areas.

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