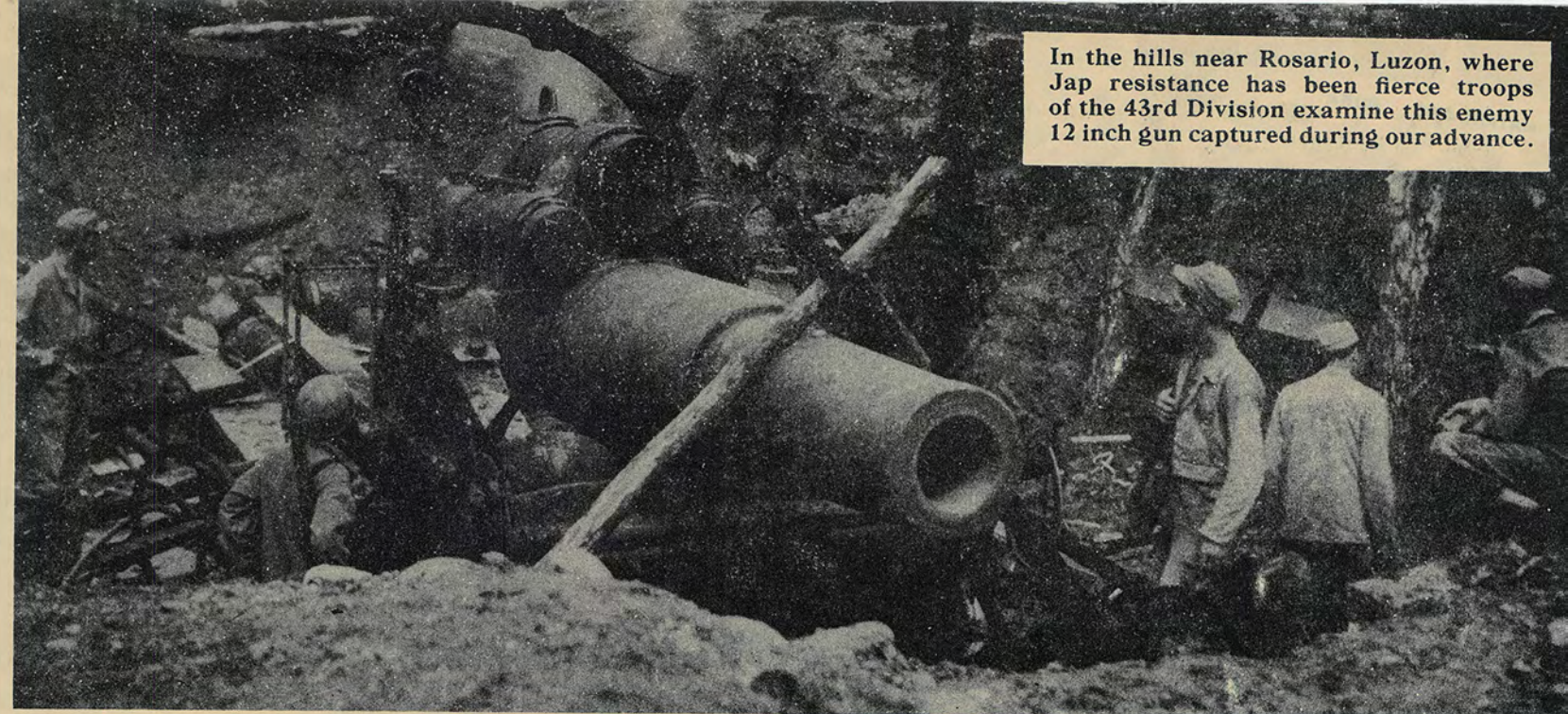


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Manila is shown aflame in this photo taken 7 February. North Manila in the foreground has been gutted in several areas by Japanese-set fires. On Pasig River's south banks smoke obscures the postoffice and Walled City while flames greedily eat their way through the dock area. Note Jap ships sunk in Manila Bay.



While Filipino civilians cluster in sad groups after being driven out of homes by Jap-set fires in Manila, our troops move up to the shifting front.



In the hills near Rosario, Luzon, where Jap resistance has been fierce troops of the 43rd Division examine this enemy 12 inch gun captured during our advance.



## Bataan, Corregidor Recaptured

**B**ATAAN and Corregidor—where Filipino and American troops fought a protracted battle against the Japanese invaders in 1942 and enabled the United Nations to gather strength to resist in the Pacific—were recaptured from the enemy last week to underscore the triumph of those gallant forces. Control of Bataan was won when the XI Corps mounted an amphibious operation from Olongapo and landed elements of the 38th Division east and west of Mariveles under Seventh Fleet and FEAF cover. Encirclement of enemy forces on Bataan was achieved when the 1st Infantry Regiment of the 6th Division drove south from Lamao toward a junction with the 38th. The Corregidor operation was a parachute and amphibious movement. The 503rd Parachute Regiment landed on Topside to take Corregidor's batteries and defenses from the rear.

Shortly thereafter 24th Division elements ferried from Bataan, landed on Corregidor's south shore and knifed inland to link up with the paratroopers. Recapture of Bataan and Corregidor opens up Manila Bay for use by our naval fleets.

In South Manila fighting was on a ferocious scale. The Japanese garrison was compressed in a rough triangle the epicenter of which was the Intramuros (Walled City). Fighting was to the death. The Japanese retreated only when they knew of a better defensive position. Every building was a potential death trap. The enemy used heavy artillery and mortars persistently, and the advance of the First Cavalry, 37th and 11th Airborne was through heavily mined and booby-trapped streets and houses. Japanese barbarity reached a height of pure horror as countless Filipino men, women and children were

bayoneted, hacked to death, mowed down by insane machinegun fire, and locked in buildings and burned to death. Other civilians were forced to act as shields for enemy snipers and strongpoints. But Manila was being won from the Japanese grasp street by street. The Philippines General hospital was secured, 7,000 patients evacuated to safety. During the week the naval base at Cavite was occupied. In the I Corps sector 6th Division troops pushed to Luzon's east coast at Dingalan Bay near Baler to split the island coast to coast. On the west in the Zambales mountains the 40th Division continued systematic mopping-up operations. In the Caraballo mountains, patrols from the 6th, 25th and 32nd Divisions probed deep, captured large stores of enemy equipment. In the Rosario-Camp One area counterattacks were crushed in an assault on our perimeter.

## U.S. BASE 750 MILES FROM TOKYO

In a line 750 miles south of Tokyo lies Iwo Jima. From its two airfields Japanese have intercepted our Superfortresses, and bombed Saipan and Guam. For 69 consecutive days Iwo Jima was bombed from the air, followed by three days of Fleet bombardment. Last Monday the Fifth Amphibious Corps, including the Fourth and Fifth Marine Divisions, invaded the five miles long and two miles wide island, and by nightfall had plunged ahead to the southern airfield against mounting resistance. While pre-invasion bombardment of Iwo Jima was in progress, Fifth Fleet forces stood 300 miles off the Japanese coast for two days, in a blunt challenge to the Japanese Fleet to come out and fight, while more than 1,200 carrier-based planes blasted Tokyo and Yokohama targets. The challenge was not accepted. In addition to damage to vital Jap war industries, our planes shot down 322 enemy fighters, destroyed 177 on the ground, counted at least 150 as probably destroyed, and at Yokohama left one escort-carrier severely damaged, nine coastal vessels, one destroyer, two destroyer escorts and one freighter sunk, and 22 coastal vessels damaged. Our loss was 49 planes.



Malinta Hill taken and enemy pockets being cleaned out.



24th Division troops land on south shore, meet paratroops inland.

Paratroops land on Topside to silence enemy guns from rear.

**CORREGIDOR I.**

## Red Armies Join in Berlin Drive

The peril to Berlin increased last week and martial law was proclaimed as the Red Armies of Marshals Koniev and Zhukov linked up at Grunberg on the Oder River's west bank for the drive on the capital. While the German command was focusing major attention on Zhukov's massive efforts to widen his bridgeheads over the Oder between Frankfurt and Stettin, Koniev had plunged through stubborn but fast-weakening opposition towards Dresden. In four days his forces advanced 68 miles. One spearhead began an assault on Gorkitz, outer bastion of Dresden's defenses. His right flank smashed ahead towards Kottbus, key rail center on the Spree River. Other Red Army units were clearing out the triangle formed by Grunberg, Krossen and Guben which will signal opening of the Berlin drive.

The Russian offensive was given heavy aerial support from British and American airforces. In the most concentrated air strikes of the war Dresden and other prime targets were smashed. In one 24 hour period more than 10,000 Allied planes blasted the German targets. On the Western Front the German strategy of flooding the battle area along the Roer slowed up but did not stop the advance. In the north the Canadian First and the British Second captured Kleve and were assaulting Goch in the drive to turn the Siegfried Line's north flank. The third enlarged its bridgehead near Echternach and hammered into the thickets of the Line's defenses. The Roer River floods in the First and Ninth sector subsided and the front became active. The 7th straightened its line on the Saareguemines front.