

Roseburg News-Review

16 Armies Converge on Reich Capital in Feroocious Combat; Linkup With Allies Imminent

(By the Associated Press)

Tremendous masses of soviet men, tanks and artillery opened a direct assault on flaming Berlin today, the Germans said, hurling sixteen armies, including four tank armies, against the city on a wide 70-mile arc, while to the south unconfirmed reports said American and Russian patrols already were linked.

There was no word from official sources concerning the linkup. A Moscow report placed the American and Russian patrols 25 miles apart, and the Germans indicated the gap was about 32 miles.

The battle for Berlin "never has been surpassed in ferocity," a German broadcast said, claiming that 1,500,000 Russians were converging on the capital. The red army was reported at Bernau, three miles from the city limits.

The linkup south of the capital appeared imminent, while in the direct assault on Berlin the soviet by German account smashed into its suburbs at five points.

Highway Change Proposal Arouses Regional Protest

A Roseburg chamber of commerce delegation will go to Medford Wednesday to meet with representatives from similar bodies in southern Oregon and northern California. Representing communities from Cottage Grove to Weed, Calif., the delegations are expected to prepare joint protest against a proposal submitted to the state highway commission by Commissioner Arthur Schaupp of Klamath Falls that Oregon's north-south, inter-regional highway be routed by way of Eugene, Klamath Falls and Weed instead of following the route of the Pacific highway.

By German account Russian forces were enveloping Berlin from north in the suburbs on the east, north and southwest. Big soviet guns pounded the Potsdammer platz in the center of the doomed city where the nazis said 3,000,000 Germans remained to wait the final battle.

The siege arc was forming from Bernau, virtually at the northeast boundary and just outside the ring Autobahn, to Koenigs-Wuesterhausen, three miles from the southern boundary, the Germans said, describing the situation in the southeast sector as critical.

The German high command announced that Russian forces had reached Jueterberg, outflanking Berlin on the south and sneering to within 35 miles of Lt. Gen. Hodges' American First Army positions in the Dessau area. The advance would place the First Ukrainian Army 25 miles beyond Berlin's Spreew river.

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Yanks Hear Russian Guns A London dispatch from the U. S. Ninth army front said the rumble of American First Army guns was audible in the Elbe

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Myrtle Creek Lumber Co. Mill Burns

Loss Figured By Manager About \$250,000

Planer, Docked Lumber Not Seriously Damaged; Firm Intends to Rebuild

A spectacular fire last night completely destroyed the Myrtle Creek Lumber company mill at Myrtle Creek with a loss estimated by H. A. Dent, manager, at approximately \$250,000. Starting in the main portion of the mill at about 10:30 p. m., the blaze spread with great rapidity, creating such intense heat that fire fighters were handicapped. The blaze was beaten back from the planer mill, and only about 10,000 feet of finished lumber was destroyed.

Source of the blaze was not determined. Men working in the machine shop were aroused by an alarm from the night watchman and by the time they reached the mill, only a few hundred feet away, the entire interior was ablaze, they reported.

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The Myrtle Creek fire department

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THE Kremlin is still as mum as an oyster, but German reports indicate that the Russians are methodically cracking Berlin's eastern defenses. Transocean (German) dispatches place the red front line as this is written only 7 miles from the city's outer limits.

The Russians seem to be attacking westward on a fairly wide front. As their center is held up by stubborn German resistance their flanks are flowing around to the north and south.

THE Moscow radio says unofficially: "The curtain is falling on the European war, and the time is at hand for the allied armies from the west and the east to unite."

It may be.

To the south of Berlin, Transocean puts the reds only 24 miles east of Dresden and only ABOUT 40 MILES from a junction with Patton's 3rd army advanced spearheads. It says the Russian penetrations from the Niesse river bridgeheads are "deep but narrow." Deep, narrow offensive wedges are usually a sure sign of WEAK enemy opposition.

It isn't safe to drive deep, narrow wedges into a strong enemy line.

WE and the British are still drawn up west of the Elbe, with one bridgehead west of Berlin. Presumably we are bringing up supplies and gathering strength for another swift, hard blow.

General Bradley, commanding our 12th army group composed of the 1st, 3rd, 9th and 15th armies,

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Charred Bodies of Prisoners Burned, Shot by Nazis Found In Horror Camp Near Leipzig

(By HAL BOYLE)

THEKLA, Germany, April 20.—(Delayed)—(AP)—The charred bodies of 220 political prisoners who were sprayed with flaming acetone and burned and shot to death just before American troops captured this Leipzig suburb still were sprawled today in postures of agony.

Some lay in the ruins of the concentration camp barracks. Others were caught on the sharp spikes of barbed wire enclosing the camp.

Of 324 Polish, Russian, Czech, Yugoslav, French and Italian political prisoners in the camp, only 80 survived. A Czech barber who managed to short circuit the electrically charged barbed wire enclosure led them to safety.

This atrocity took place in a plant of the Erla works, which made Messerschmitt airplane parts. The camp, in the middle of the factory buildings, was a division of the notorious Buchenwald "murder factory" near Weimar.

From here the Germans were

Marching prisoners by the hundreds to points farther east until last Saturday. When guards learned the U. S. Ninth armored division had swung around east of Leipzig, they decided to destroy the last 324 left on their hands.

Lured to Death by Food "All were scheduled to be killed that night—Tuesday," said the Czech barber, Carl Tykal. "But

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Battle on Southern Okinawa Still in Deadlock; Central Philippines Cleared of Japs

Foe's Suicide Defense of Ie Also Continues; Naval Losses of U. S. Disclosed

GUAM, April 21.—(AP)—Fighting on southern Okinawa raged fiercely today as Japanese troops fought a stubborn defense action against three American divisions driving toward Naha, the island's capital.

On little Ie island the enemy defense had taken a suicide aspect as the 77th division coped with makeshift defenses, including wooden mines, depressed anti-aircraft guns which raked beaches, and 500-pound bombs rigged with detonating grenades.

Japan's homeland felt the thunder of B-29s again as a fleet of between 200 and 300 of the sky mammoths bombed nine airfields on Kiyushu island. Enemy planes attacking American forces in the Ryukyus have been taking off from these fields.

Japan's Domei news agency claimed a destroyer was sunk near the Kerama islands, west of Okinawa, today. Domei also said 200 carrier planes of the Amer-

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Plant Materials Moot Point for Returned Vet

WASHINGTON, April 21.—(AP)—The returning veteran can get government help to establish a small manufacturing plant for himself, but, for materials to operate it, probably will have to make his chances with going concerns.

The War Production board says it has doled out most scarce materials to manufacturers of civilian goods in quotas based on their past usage. To give supplies to a new concern, WPB has to shave down the amounts being given to established businesses.

Already faced with litigation from one veteran seeking supplies, WPB is drafting a set of policies to govern claims from homecoming soldiers. One contemplated concession to the veteran would give him the right of appeal after his claim is initially turned down.

Low Grades in School Drive Youth to Suicide

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 21.—(AP)—The death of a 15-year-old boy, discouraged by low school grades, was listed today by the county sheriff and coroner as suicide.

The body of Raymond Paul Long, Vancouver, shot through the head, was found behind a barn near Woodland after a two-day hunt.

The boy's father said the youth had been despondent over failure to pass in school.

Collision Damages Four Cars, Injures Two Women

PORTLAND, April 21.—(AP)—An automobile was knocked 88 feet in a bus-car collision here last night, damaging three parked cars and injuring two women.

Mrs. Emma L. Hollis, 32, driver of the car, was hospitalized and Margaret Say was injured slightly. The city bus had the right of way at the intersection, police reported.

Idea of GI at Security Conference Frowned on

PARIS, April 21.—(AP)—The army newspaper Stars and Stripes today retorted a suggestion by Senator Magnuson (D-Wash.) that it select a combat soldier to represent the GIs at the world security conference in San Francisco.

"The typical GI \*\*\* would be a two-headed calf at a world conference for dignified study of a confusing situation," the newspaper said, adding that the soldier would be wined, dined and flattered but would be completely bewildered by the complexity of the problems to be examined.

America's eight trained delegates are competent to represent soldier opinion as well as the rest of the nation, the paper said, "and that's good enough for us."

Bologna, Nazi Bastion in Northern Italy, Captured

ROME, April 21.—(AP)—Bologna, first major objective of the all-out allied offensive in northern Italy, fell today to troops of the Fifth and Eighth armies.

With Bologna captured the major German defense position south of the Po river was eliminated and the nazis once again moved northward.

Gen. Mark W. Clark, allied ground commander, said his 15th army group now stands "inside the gateway to the Po plain poised to destroy the Germans who continue to enslave and exploit northern Italy."

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Recreational Ideas Offered At Reedsport

Development of Douglas county's outdoor recreational facilities and utilization of timber resources were the principal topics at the annual meeting of the Reedsport chamber of commerce last night.

The meeting of joint city and county financing in providing facilities and recreational facilities. He urged formation of recreation districts and expert planning to set up programs to provide proper utilization of the idle time of both adults and children. He gave a thorough analysis of the state recreation law and urged action to preserve public access to fishing streams, and recreation areas.

Short Talks Also Heard. The meeting was conducted by Sid Samuelson, president of the Reedsport chamber of commerce. Among those introduced for short talks were Horace Berg, representing the Roseburg chamber of commerce; O. G. Horne, president of Coos Bay chamber of commerce; Charles Manschreck, chairman of Reedsport's hospital committee; M. H. Durbin,

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Truman's Broadcast to Open World Peace Meet

WASHINGTON, Apr. 21.—(AP)—President Truman will broadcast from the White House Wednesday on a half-hour program between 4:30 and 5 p. m. P.M.T. opening the world security conference at San Francisco.

The president's speech, to be heard on all networks, will be about 10 minutes long and will wind up the half-hour program.

Other speakers on the program will be Secretary of State Stettinius, Mayor Roger D. Lapham of San Francisco, and Gov. Earl Warren of California.

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Funds Distributed To Tax Levy Units Of Douglas County

Distribution of \$165,149.04 to cities, school districts, and other tax levying groups was reported today by Oliver L. Johnson, county treasurer.

Cities received \$18,864.45, of which Roseburg's share was \$5,554.88. Reedsport \$4,026.46, Sutherlin, \$2,237.93.

The sum of \$116,170.76 of which \$39,115.49 was from state school support funds and \$5,694.54 from land sales, went to school districts. Principal appropriations were Oakland Dist. No. 1, \$6,940.46; Roseburg Dist. No. 1, \$2,471; Glide Dist. No. 12, \$4,359.25; Myrtle Creek Dist. No. 19, \$7,299.85; Glendale Dist. No. 77, \$4,701.69; Gunter Dist. No. 96, \$5,035.46; Reedsport Dist. No. 105, \$11,902.91; Sutherlin Dist. No. 130, \$5,152.55.

Union high school districts received \$14,863.90, which included \$3,134.97 from state school support funds and \$2,066.80 from land sales. Glide Union High No. 12 received the largest appropriation \$6,051.23.

The sum of \$6,745.77 went to the Port of Umpqua and \$8,504.16 to the forest patrol.

Portland Parade Ushers In Drive for Clothing

PORTLAND, April 21.—(AP)—The united nations clothing drive was heralded today in Portland's first big wartime parade, which began at noon and serpentine past the downtown victory center.

School, fraternal and military bands, civic organizations, costumed representatives of the united nations, and floats comprised the 26-block-long procession.

Logging Road Project Near Reedsport Started

REEDSPORT, Ore., April 21.—Construction of a 22,000-foot logging road in Hudson slough north of here has started, a White-Bushwell Construction company official said today.

The road will permit logs to be dumped into the Smith river and rafted into the Umpqua for delivery at the Reedsport mill.

GI Finds His Letter in Pocket of Slain German

HEADQUARTERS 15TH ARMY GROUP IN ITALY, April 21.—(AP)—Staff Sgt. Cameron E. Butte of Astoria, Ore., reported today how he killed a German soldier yesterday and searching him found a letter in the dead Nazi's pocket addressed to Staff Sgt. Cameron E. Butte.

"The letter was from my grandmother," Butte related, "and I learned later from the mail clerk that he gave the letter to a buddy of mine and asked him to deliver it. My buddy is missing in action. The German either killed or captured him and stole the letter as a souvenir."

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NAZIS CLEARED FROM MAGDEBURG—Tanks, destroyers and men of the 30th infantry division of the U. S. Ninth army move past shattered buildings in rubble-filled street of Magdeburg after the last big German stronghold on the west bank of Elbe river was cleared by Yanks. A bank in the city yielded \$70 million in Nazi silver and paper money, plus art treasures.

Big 3 Conference On Poland Slated

WASHINGTON, Apr. 21.—(AP)—Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov was expected to arrive today for a Big Three foreign ministers conference preliminary to the united nations meeting opening in San Francisco Wednesday.

Toughest and gravest question on the long list of problems to be discussed by Molotov, Secretary of State Stettinius and British Foreign Secretary Eden is allied policy on Poland.

There was some hope that the Russians would back down on their twice-presented demand that the present provisional government in Warsaw be invited to San Francisco. American diplomats were prepared to stand firm in their refusal to admit the Warsaw group, until it reorganized along the lines laid down at Yalta.

Diplomats also were awaiting Molotov's arrival for release of a three-power warning to Germans on atrocities which allied troops have found mounting in horror as the nazis slide down to defeat.

Addressing war correspondents at supreme headquarters, Smith said General Eisenhower would try to get the war over as soon as possible but had no intention of throwing away the lives entrusted to him and would fight as economically as he could.

With the Germans still resisting and apparently determined to stand to the end in a national rout, routing them out may take considerable time, Smith added.

New Theater Building Planned at Oakland

E. H. Randall of Sutherlin has purchased the building formerly occupied by the Oakland Tribune, at Oakland, Ore., and will have it remodeled, both interior and exterior for a new theater building. The theater will be extended the full depth of the lot with the seating capacity of about 300. Construction will be finished within approximately 90 days from the time the workmen begin.

Mr. Randall reported. He stated that he is planning to have shows daily.

Mr. Randall is the owner of the Rand theater in Sutherlin.

Douglas County Exceeds Goal in Red Cross Drive

The present total of the Red Cross war fund in the drive for 1945, as reported today, is \$33,757.39, giving Douglas county more than \$1,000 over the set quota. Mrs. Violet C. Hanson, executive secretary of the Douglas county chapter, stated.

Red Cross citation certificates have been received for the chapter and Lewis "Tommy" Atkins, War Fund drive chairman, for outstanding participation in the drive.

Nazi General Killed in Rush From House in Ruhr

WITH THE U. S. FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY, April 21.—(AP)—American tankmen shot a high ranking German general to death yesterday in the Ruhr pocket when he and his men ran from a house and killed a U. S. soldier with a machine pistol.

The Americans were making a routine patrol south of Schmalenberg when eight Germans burst out of the house and fired on them. A tankman opened fire with a machinegun. Besides the American and the German general, two of the enemy's fleeing men were killed and two others wounded. Three escaped.

Enactment Survives 3 Years as War Captive

PORTLAND, April 21.—(AP)—An enactment which created the year's spent in a Philadelphia prison camp by the bridegroom-to-be will soon be enacted.

Pauline Elbert Dent, married woman, was sentenced to prison in 1942 with Marie Pauline Young Peitchett who joined the Waves after she learned her husband was captured. The betrothal was kept despite communication trouble—a few prisoners of war cards and rare letters or packages from America.

Highway Change Proposal Arouses Regional Protest

A Roseburg chamber of commerce delegation will go to Medford Wednesday to meet with representatives from similar bodies in southern Oregon and northern California. Representing communities from Cottage Grove to Weed, Calif., the delegations are expected to prepare joint protest against a proposal submitted to the state highway commission by Commissioner Arthur Schaupp of Klamath Falls that Oregon's north-south, inter-regional highway be routed by way of Eugene, Klamath Falls and Weed instead of following the route of the Pacific highway.

Aroused by the proposal, which was tabled by the highway commission at its recent meeting in order that it might be given further study, chamber of commerce heads have called a special joint meeting, which will be attended by highway committee members of the various groups. County courts and supervisors from the various affected counties also are being invited to attend.

Lily Bulbs Yield Golden Harvest in Curry County

PORTLAND, April 21.—(AP)—Oregon's "gold coast" in Curry county now yields hitherto unsuspected riches—lily bulbs which have brought some growers \$20,000 for one acre, a Port Orford banker said here.

John R. Ross said the war had resulted in huge profits on bulbs, which sell for an average of \$1 each. Port Orford residents are planting lily bulbs—instead of victory gardens—in their yards, he reported.

Some lily-buffers from Portland, forecasting an end to the shipyard boom, have purchased land in Curry county, Ross said.

He stated that Oregon-grown bulbs are now judged superior to the Japanese varieties imported before the war.

Pay Boost Averts Strike Of Telephone Operators

NEW YORK, April 21.—(AP)—A \$33 weekly wage increase and a revision of the wage progression schedule were announced today as the main points of an agreement which has ended the threat of a strike among 18,000 New York City telephone operators.

Operators had asked a \$5 a week increase but settled for the smaller amount when offered new progression schedule that will enable them to reach the maximum pay bracket in fewer years of service, union spokesmen said.

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Lovity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

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Truman Faces Party Rift Over TVA Appointment

WASHINGTON, April 21.—(AP)—The apparent "honeymoon" of right and left wing democratic elements in congress under the new administration of president Truman is in for test before long.

It may revolve about David E. Lilienthal, chairman of the Tennessee Valley authority, whose term expires soon. So-called left wingers would be pleased to see the president renominate Lilienthal, a favorite of the late president Roosevelt. But Lilienthal's renomination would disappoint the conservative element.

Pvt. Richard E. Burke Meets Death on Luzon

Pvt. Richard E. Burke, 19, son of Mrs. Gladys Bergh, Roseburg, was killed in action on Luzon, April 5, according to official notification received today by the mother. A native of Roseburg, Pvt. Burke attended the Roseburg schools prior to entering military service in June, 1944. He went overseas in December 1944 as a member of the 158th (Bushmaster) infantry.

Treasury Portfolio May Go to Senator George

WASHINGTON, April 21.—(AP)—The latest Truman cabinet boom is a quiet one for senator George (D-Ga.) to become secretary of the treasury. Henry Morgenthau may step out after the 7th war loan ends.

The 67-year-old George has had long experience in tax writing as chairman of the senate finance committee.

Scalds From Hot Coffee Send Woman to Hospital

REEDSPORT, Ore., April 21.—(AP)—Mrs. W. A. Wroe, scalded severely when she fell and spilled a large container of hot coffee, is in critical condition in the North Bend hospital.

She was carrying the coffee into the hay loft of a barn where neighbors were holding a barn dance for a neighborhood serviceman.

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