GERMANY CRUSHED

La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON
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Red Army Moves on Vienna

U. S. Airmen Batter Enemy Defenses In Front of Russians

LONDON, March 27 (UP) — Red army vanguards today swept to within a scant 20 miles of the Austrian border, some 65 miles southeast of Vienna, aided by precision bombing of the 15th American air force which attacked German concentration points in the path of the Russians.

German reports acknowledged that the Soviet pressure on the irregular 170-mile front had increased and that Red army spearheads had flanked the important communications centers of Komarom and Gyor in a drive to the Marcal canal and the lower Raab river.

The Marcal canal runs about seven miles west of Papa, captured by the Russians yesterday, and joins the Raab northwest of Papa.

The Raab in this area is only about 20 miles from the Austrian frontier and runs roughly parallel to it.

German reports said fighting was very heavy and that the Russians also were attacking south and southeast of Komarom.

Just west of the Russians the 15th air force carried out a series of attacks designed to soften up the nazis and enable the Russians to penetrate their inner mountain fortress.

Bratislava Bombed

These attacks hit railyards in Bratislava, the Czech - Austrian border city toward which the Red army is driving, 65 miles east of Vienna, the Szombathely yards in western Hungary, 70 miles south of Vienna; the Strasshof yards in Austria, 18 miles east of Vienna; the Bruck yards, 30 miles south of Vienna, and the Wiener Neustadt yards, 30 miles southeast of Vienna.

Fighting flared anew at Kuestrin where the Germans reported intense Soviet attacks with heavy artillery support had enabled the Russians to score some gains. A Soviet tank detachment at Genschmar, 36 miles east of Berlin and six miles northwest of Kuestrin, was said to have been smashed.

Midway between the Vienna
Mrs. L. A. Bohnenkamp, Mr. and
Mrs. R. E. Gerards, Van Petten
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Imbler Soldier Is Killed in Action In Philippines

Tech. Sgt. Frank Hopkins, jr.

The death of Tech. Sergeant Frank Hopkins, jr., of Imbler in action in the Philippines on March 4 was announced today by the war department. He is the first Imbler service man to be killed in this war.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben F. Hopkins of Imbler and the brother of Olin Hopkins, a pharmacist's mate in the navy; Major George Ovie Hopkins, U. S. air forces; and Platoon Sgt. Earl Hopkins, with the Fourth marine division on Iwo Jima.

Sgt. Hopkins had completed a year of selective service training when war was declared. He
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Merchants to Hear OPA Regulations

Merchants of Union county dealing in dry goods, apparel and home furnishings will meet in the city hall in La Grande at 8 o'clock this evening for a conference with officials of the office of price administration on new pricing regulations

The purpose of the meeting is to explain to the merchants the methods of pricing merchandise under the new OPA regulations.

13 Scholarships At College Are Given by Lions

A. K. Parker, chairman of the Lions club's special college scholarship fund committee, highlighted the Lions club meeting yesterday in the Odd Fellows hall, by presenting President Roben J. Maaske of Eastern Oregon college with $962, representing 13 scholarships from the club.

The scholarships are to be awarded to worthy students for the fall term.

In accepting, Dr. Maaske remarked that the La Grande Lions club stands "second to none when it comes to 'getting things done' for the welfare of La Grande and its college."

Those giving full scholarships through the club were: Snodgrass Funeral Home, Mr. and
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Yank Foothold In Okinawa Islands Conceded by Japs

U. S. Ships, Planes Bombard Enemy Home Areas

WASHINGTON, March 27 (UP)—A navy spokesman refused today to confirm or deny Japanese reports that American troops have landed in the Okinawa islands of the Ryukyu chain just south of Japan.

However, he did say that American forces which have participated in recent aerial attacks on Japan, and air and surface bombardments of Okinawa have not lost a ship.

GUAM, March 27 (UP)—A Japanese communique conceded today that American invasion troops have won a foothold in the Okinawa islands only 380 miles southwest of Japan.

The American troops landed in the Kerama islands, a tiny cluster of islets 10 to 20 miles off the southwest coast of Okinawa itself, Sunday under cover of a naval and air bombardment, the enemy's imperial headquarters said.

Japanese ground and air forces "furiously" counterattacked the
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JAPS SAY HOME ISLAND INVADED — After a number of contradictory reports, Tokyo today conceded that American troops have gained a foothold in the Okinawa islands in the Ryukyu group, 360 miles southwest of the Japanese mainland. Tokyo also reports the U. S. navy is shelling and air bombing the main island of the group, shown in the above map. The lower section of the map shows the location of Okinawa.

Community Easter Concert Will Be Presented Sunday

A community Easter concert will be presented at 4 p. m. Sunday in the First Methodist church with a program in which some of the city's outstanding vocal and instrumental talent will participate.

Nephi Combs, who originated the idea for the concert several weeks ago, today announced the following program for the occasion:

Presbyterian church choir, "God So Loved the World," (Stainer); and "The Lost Chord," directed by Henry Ehlers, Mrs. Harvey Carter, accompanist.

Eastern Oregon college chorus, "Oh, Divine Redeemer," (Gounod); Henry Ehlers directing, Lillian Scott, accompanist.

Christian church girls' quartet, "How They Crucified My Lord"; vocal solo, "Calvary," Walter Naff, Mrs. Naff, accompanist.

High school chorus, "The Green Cathedral," (Hahn), and "Fairest Lord Jesus;" Leroy Darling directing, Phyllis McLaughlin, accompanist. Violin solo, "Meditation" from Thais," and "The Holy City," Irwin Wright, Mary Jasper accompanist.

Solo, Art Motanic of Starkey, Mrs. Leona Combs, accompanying.

Second Ward, Latter Day Saints women's trio and choir.

First Methodist church choir, anthem, "The Lord Hath Triumped," Mrs. Elmer Hansen directing, Mrs. William Hamilton, accompanist. Solo, "The Legend" (Tschaikowsky), Barbara Detrick.

First ward choir, LDS, "I Can See Thee, Oh My Savior," and "Father and First of Friends;" Nephi Combs director, piano accompaniment, Lorna Wilkerson; organ obbligato, Mrs. Combs.

U. S. Submarine And Crew Are Lost

WASHINGTON, March 27 (UP) —The navy today announced loss of the submarine Albacore with its crew of more than 65 men.

This raised the total of American submarines lost from all causes in this war to 41.

The navy did not disclose where the Albacore was lost but it was presumed to be in the Pacific.

It said that the next of kin of the officers and crew have been notified.

Skipper of the Albacore was Lt. Cmdr. Hugh R. Rimmer. Rimmer's wife lives in Manhasset, L. I. N. Y. His parents live at 90 Alhambra Way, San Francisco.

New Philippines Landing of U. S. Forces Reported by Japs

MANILA, March 27 (UP) — Tank-led American invasion troops have landed on the east shore of Cebu, one of the last three major islands in the Philippines still controlled by the Japanese, enemy broadcasts said today.

Tokyo radio reported 1,500 U. S. troops went ashore at Talisay Monday under cover of a bombardment by six cruisers and several destroyers. Later, Tokyo said the American forces put ten tanks ashore at the beachhead.

There was no confirmation of the Japanese reports from Gen Douglas MacArthur's headquarters.

There are two Talisays on the east shore of Cebu. One is five miles south of Cebu City opposite Mactan island. The other is near the northeast tip, 18 miles across the Camotes sea from American-held Leyte.

Cebu, a long, narrow island covering 1,800 square miles, has been the target for increasingly heavy air attacks recently by Gen. Douglas MacArthur's bombers from the Philippines.

His communique today disclosed that 13th air force Liberators and Mitchells ripped Cebu City and nearby Nagatan with 250 tons of explosives Saturday in the heaviest assault in the past week.

The island in the Visayan group lies between Negros and Bohol, the remaining two major islands held by the Japanese. Negros is the last remaining barrier between Cebu and Panay.

U. S. Air Force Aids Chinese Allies

CHUNGKING, March 27 (UP) —Fighters and bombers of the U. S. 14th air force flew mission after mission again today in support of Chinese ground troops attempting to stem the Japanese drive toward the air base town of Laohokow in northwest Hupeh province.

Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault's airmen also bombed and strafed enemy columns moving southwestward along the Loyang-Loning highway in southwestern Honan province.

72 Combat Ships Are Cut From U. S. Navy Expansion

WASHINGTON, Mar. 27 (UP) —The navy today cut 72 combat ships out of its building program.

Plans for building 84 combat ships totaling 636,860 tons, as announced three weeks ago, have been altered so that only the 12 escort carriers included in that program now will be built.

The 12 carriers represent 150,000 tons.

This particular shipbuilding program originally was planned as "insurance" to meet the possibility of additional losses as the tempo of the Pacific war increased with the closer approach to Japan.

It was estimated at the time the program was begun that if at the end of six months it was clearly evident the additional ships would not be needed, the program could then be abandoned at a cost of not more than $30,000,000—less than the total cost of a light cruiser.

Soldier is Killed In Traffic Crash

FORT LEWIS, Wash., March 27 (UP)—One soldier was killed and five others were hospitalized after an army weapons carrier overturned on the Tacoma-Olympia highway, Fort Lewis officials reported today.

Pvt. L. C. Rosenbaum, stationed at the Olympia army air base, was killed outright when the heavy army vehicle sideswiped an automobile and plunged into a ditch last night.

Gov. Wallgren's Lavish Use of Red Ration Points Is Criticized

SEATTLE, March 27 (UP)—State Republican Chairman J. M. Dawley charged today that Gov. Mon C. Wallgren applied for and received 1,000 extra red food rationing points a month for entertaining at the executive mansion.

He said the governor had requested the points to care for an estimated 250 extra guests a month.

"In the face of the sacrifices we're all called upon to make—so that our own boys overseas and the hungry people in other lands may have extra food—I think it's ridiculous that Governor Wallgren should ask for and receive these extra points," Dawley said.

"During the meeting of the state legislature," he said, "everybody wondered how it was that the governor could entertain so lavishly, and turn out baked ham and fancy foods for his guests, so we made it our business to find out."

Meanwhile, a survey disclosed today that Seattle's meat shortage is so acute that increasing numbers of markets are closing part of the time because they have nothing to sell.

Principal sources estimated the situation will grow worse in ensuing months and that there will be less meat for civilians during the last half of 1945 than during the first six months.

It is estimated that the city is living on 30 per cent of its normal supply.

Complete Victory Is Proclaimed By Gen. Eisenhower As Enemy Flight Is Turned Into Rout

PARIS, March 27 (UP) — The American first and third armies today smashed deep into the reich, plunging nearly 60 miles beyond the Rhine at one point and possibly 90 at another and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed the Rhine victory as complete and crushing.

"The Germans as a military force on the west front are a whipped army," Eisenhower said. "I don't mean they cannot form another line somewhere when our maintenance is stretched to the limit and their defensive means can better be brought to bear.

"I would not have you think I've written this war off. No one knows yet what the German can do within his own country, but the elimination of his troops west of the Rhine is one of the greatest victories of this and any other war.

"This is my honest opinion: There will be an imposed unconditional surrender.

"The day will come on the west front when we can say that organized resistance is broken."

Then he reiterated the determination of the United Nations to carry the war to Berlin and beyond if necessary until the last German resistance has been stamped out.

He revealed also that the crossing of the Rhine barrier by his allied armies had been quicker and less costly in lives than had been expected.

Eisenhower warned that the nazis might turn and fight again but said that as a military force on the western front they "are a whipped army."

Emphasizing Eisenhower's words, the American first army crashed 58 miles beyond the Rhine in a 27-mile plunge to within two miles of Wetzlar, home of the famous Leica camera works, just west of the river Dill.

Patton Reported 90 Miles East of Rhine

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's third army, officially unreported for nearly 24 hours, was reported without confirmation to be closing in on the Hessian citadel of Fulda, 90 miles beyond the Rhine and halfway across the reich, and 198 miles from Berlin.

The British second army was pounding through the Ruhr screen toward the open plains before Berlin and was within three miles of Essen. Correspondents said its rate of advance was dictated only by the speed with which supplies could be brought up.

The U. S. ninth army drove across the Neue Emscher canal and broke into the Ruhr city of Duisburg.

The U. S. seventh army was across the Rhine on a 19-mile bridgehead north of Mannheim and moved at least four miles to the east against spotty opposition.

The U. S. first army was rolling freely deep into Germany.

Four armored spearheads were pushing ahead and the one two miles west of Wetzlar was only 20 miles from the Frankfurt-Berlin superhighway at a point 254 miles from Berlin.

The first and third armies had formed a juncture near Lauhnstein, just south of Coblenz.

The first had three spearheads at the Dill river at points just west and northwest of Wetzlar and a fourth five miles northeast of Weisbaden which is just north of the Rhine directly across the river from Mainz.

Patton's slashing third army tanks on the middle Rhine were far out in front of the allied drive, although the break-through on Montgomery's front in the north indicated that spectacular developments were expected there.

The British second army broke through into the open plains less than 40 miles from Muenster and 275 miles due west of Berlin. At last reports they were plunging east at top speed without opposition.

More than 10,000 prisoners were in the hands of the second army less than four days after they plunged across the Rhine. Half as many more were taken by the Canadian first, American ninth, and allied first air borne armies fighting under Montgomery's 21st army group banner, making a total of 15,000.

Operators Reject Ickes Proposal To Balk Coal Strike

WASHINGTON, Mar. 27 (UP) —Soft coal operators today accepted Fuel Administrator Harold Ickes' proposal that the present wage contract be extended for 30 days. But they rejected Ickes' suggestion that the final new agreement be made retroactive to April 1.

The operators proposed that during the one-month contract the miners be paid the increases contained in the operators' counter-proposal of March 16. This, they said, would amount to a pay boost of 5.82 per cent.

The United mine workers refused to participate in a joint reply to Ickes. They said they were "still considering" their own answer to Ickes.

Meanwhile, the conferees interrupted their contract negotiations at request of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins to meet with her this afternoon. The miners are scheduled to take a strike ballot tomorrow.

The first step in government intervention in the coal dispute probably would be for the secretary of labor to certify it to the war labor board.

Weather

Data for 24 hours ending 7 a. m. today.

Temperatures:

Maximum	41
Minimum	36
Precipitation	.07

Forecast: Partly cloudy, probable showers tonight and Wednesday.

Premature Peace Rumor Is Heard

WASHINGTON, March 27 (UP) — [illegible] casual remark by White House Press Secretary Jonathan Daniels today blossomed into a "peace rumor" that swept the nation.

The whole thing grew out of Daniels' disclosure that President Roosevelt recently advised Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, jr., and other cabinet officers that American officials — except those officially designated — would be expected to stay away from next months' San Francisco security conference. Such officials, Daniels said the president felt, should stay on their jobs "at this critical time."

Misinterpretations of this by some persons grew until some erroneous reports circulated that the cabinet had been ordered to stand by for big developments expected later today.

That was the interpretation of Daniels' statement in an international news service dispatch from here. It said President Roosevelt had "ordered his cabinet and all diplomatic representatives to stand by on alert for possible immediate victory in Europe."

Then began a torrent of telephone calls to the White House and to newspaper offices asking if the war in Europe had ended.

Daniels' remarks, however, dealt solely with the fact that the president had served notice on American diplomats abroad and officials in Washington that they were expected to remain at their work unless officially designated to go to the United Nations conference.

Note Sent March 16

It developed later that the president's note to Stettinius and the others was sent on March 16, and thus could have had nothing to do with immediate developments in the war situation.

The message to Stettinius, Daniels said, pointed out the importance of all chiefs of missions (am-
See REMARK . . . Page 5

Military Revolt In Germany Hinted As Crisis Grows

LONDON, March 27 (UP)—Increasing signs of the military breakdown of Germany were noted today in a series of nazi broadcasts calling on all German troops to report at once to their units or to local authorities.

The broadcast summons coincided with Stockholm rumors of a possible military revolt in Germany because of the war crisis.

The broadcasts ordered all troops to report to stations and to local authorities. They explained that many troops "have lost contact" due to "enemy action."

These troops, it was said, must be brought into action again. All leaves except those for illness or exceptional gallantry were cancelled and troops were ordered to designated "front assembling points."

Anyone trying to escape military service or forced labor, the broadcasts said, "will be considered a deserter and dealt with as such."

The brewing military revolt
See MILITARY . . . Page 5

Yanks too Busy to Stop for Prisoners

Germans Seek Someone to Accept Surrender

Editor's Note: This is the first dispatch from captured Limburg. It was flown by air courier back to the first army communications centers.

By JOHN McDERMOTT

LIMBURG, Germany, March 27 (UP) — What yesterday appeared to be another first army lightning offensive similar to that across France today had turned into a complete rout of German forces in this area.

Surrendering Germans are streaming unguarded along all the highways around this vital communications center trying to find somebody who has time to take them prisoner.

American tank columns, surveying the thousands of prisoners, merely jerked their thumbs to the rear, when the Germans tried to stop them to surrender.

The Germans want to give themselves up but the first army hasn't got time to bother with them.

Mingling with the hiking Germans are hundreds of liberated French, Russians, Belgians, and Poles who shouted gleefully at the Americans and raised their hands in the V-for-victory sign.

There were also some 200 American and British prisoners of war who threw their arms around the Americans when Lt. Gen. Courtney M. Hodges' troops forced their way into the prison camp and hospital where they were confined.

Here in battered Limburg
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