

Himmler Offers German Surrender

U.S., Britain Spurn Peace Move That Excludes Russians

LONDON, April 28 (UP) — The government today took official cognizance, without affirmation or denial, of a report that Heinrich Himmler had offered to guarantee the unconditional surrender of Germany to America and Britain — excluding Russia — and had received a blunt rejection.

A source at allied supreme headquarters in France said that SHAEF "has no knowledge of any such offer. If any has been made, it has been made on a government level."

A statement from No. 10 Downing St., apparently written by Prime Minister Churchill, hinted that some offer of capitulation might be received from the nazis at any time.

The exceptional procedure of issuing such a statement, coupled with its assertion that the government had no information on the subject "at this moment," suggested that Churchill might be standing by for any proposal.

The report on which the official statement was based said that Himmler, German interior minister and gestapo chief, offered to guarantee the unconditional surrender of Germany to the United States and Britain.

Demand Russ Inclusion
In the words of the Downing street statement, the report added:

"The White House today disclaimed knowledge of an official German peace offer, but made clear that when unconditional surrender comes it must be offered to all of the allies."

The White House press secretary, Jonathan Daniels, said: "This government has nothing to say at this time."

It was reported that the western allies "replied, saying that they will not accept unconditional surrender except on behalf of all the allies, including Russia."

The version of the report as broadcast by the allied-controlled Luxembourg radio and recorded here by the BBC said: "The following message has been conveyed to the foreign ministers of the United States, Great Britain and Russia: 'Heinrich Himmler has sent a message in which he guarantees

that the western allies 'replied, saying that they will not accept unconditional surrender except on behalf of all the allies, including Russia.'"

And two American armies were racing in on Munich from positions less than 30 miles to the west and north in answer to a desperate appeal from the rebels for immediate help.

Late front dispatches said the Third Army gained upwards of 13 miles along an 85-mile front between the Ingolstadt and Deggendorf areas. Units of the 89th division pushed eight miles southeastward to the area of Hirschkind, 13 miles southeast of Ingolstadt, 27 northwest of Munich, and 22 north of the notorious Dachau concentration camp.

The U. S. Seventh army crossed the Austrian frontier at a second point when the 44th division pushed 18 miles south to Berg, two north of the border, and moved over the frontier near Berg southwest of the 10th armored division's earlier crossing.

Field dispatches from the Third Army front identified the Munich rebel leader as Gen. Hans Ritter von Epp, last reported as a member of the Hitler government and one of the first Nazis elected to the reichstag.

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La Grande Evening Observer

Weather
Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m.—
Temperature:
Maximum 63
Minimum 38
Precipitation Trace
Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Sunday.

ESTABLISHED 1896 LA GRANDE, OREGON SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 28, 1945 FIVE CENTS

Reds Breach Last Berlin Defenses

Capital Siege Near End As More Yank, Soviet Forces Meet

LONDON, April 28 (UP) — Russian troops driving through the heart of Berlin have captured the north-west part of Charlottenburg district, the western part of Moabit and the eastern part of Schoenberg, a Soviet communique announced tonight.

Capturing the Siemensstadt electric district, Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's first White Russian army joined forces with the first Ukrainian army which captured Friedenuu, Gruenewald and Ruhalehen, the communique said.

Southeast of Berlin the Russians surrounded a large German group and are "annihilating it."

LONDON, April 28 (UP) — Marshal Stalin announced to the Red army in a sweeping advance north of Berlin had captured Torgelow, Eggesin, Pasewalk, Templin and Strasburg.

Russian shock troops today broke into the Tiergarten, heart of Adolf Hitler's last-ditch defense citadel in encircled Berlin. Moscow said the siege of the nazi capital swiftly was approaching its end.

Reports reaching London also said fighting was raging "very near" Adolf Hitler's reichschancellery on the Wilhelmstrasse, the reichstag on the northeast corner of the Tiergarten, the state opera house and other buildings in the center of Berlin.

A Moscow dispatch said Soviet Cossack divisions swept nearly 50 miles west of Berlin and reached the Elbe river opposite the American ninth army. The Russians were awaiting an "imminent junction" with the ninth army, Moscow said.

South of Berlin, the Russian army organ Red Star said, two more Soviet divisions had linked up with the Americans following the original junction at Torgau, 60 miles below the capital.

At least nine-tenths of Berlin already was under Russian control following a new junction of the first White Russian and first Ukrainian armies in the Charlottenburg district just west of the Tiergarten.

The remainder of the encircled 332-square-mile city either had been cleared or was being mopped up against varying resistance.

Complete occupation of the burning rubble — hoard of capital may come this week-end.

Appointment of a Lions club committee to promote the sale of bonds during the seventh war loan campaign, was announced today by Horace Nelson, president of the club.

Members are: A. H. Labbe, chairman, Ernest Berglund, Bert Worley, W. R. Winters, Wilbur Seer and C. R. Eberhard.

The appointments were sent to W. C. Perkins, county war finance committee chairman, with the announcement they will work with the Rotary club committee previously appointed.

PARIS, April 28 (UP) — The French press agency reported "reliably" today that Edouard Herriot, Edouard Daladier, and Paul Reynaud, former premiers of France, and Gen. Maurice Gamelin had arrived safely in France.

ROME, April 28 (UP) — The American Fifth army drove into the Swiss border area of Italy today, capturing Bergamo, 30 miles east-southeast of the frontier at Corno, and the transport hub of Brescia, 48 miles east of Milan.

A Zurich dispatch reported that the Americans had reached the Italo-Swiss border.

The Fifth army's spectacular spurt to the border zone bisected northern Italy, trapped tens of thousands of Germans, and isolated Milan and Turin.

The Swiss dispatch said the Americans entered Como, on the Italian side of the frontier, last night after an advance from their last reported positions west of Lake Garda.

The patriot-controlled Milan radio reported that the Americans also had entered Milan, Italy's second city, but this was not confirmed. The radio said patriot forces already had liberated the city.

Turin, the other great industrial center of northern Italy, also was isolated by the advance which cut the last roads to Austria from northwest Italy.



NAZI TORTURE RE-ENACTED—General Eisenhower watches grimly while occupants of a German concentration camp at Gotha demonstrate the way in which they were tortured by nazi sadists operating the camp. General Eisenhower (with Generals Bradley and Patton, shown at left) visited the camp during a tour of the Third Army front.

Security Conferees Are Spurred by Nazi Peace Rumor

MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE, San Francisco, April 28 (UP) — Reports of a new German crack-up sent United conference enthusiasm soaring today as the delegates headed toward further showdowns between the powerful United States and Russian delegations.

Conference business today was all talk with the hard business of decisions postponed until next week. At a plenary session this morning the conference heard from seven delegations:

Czechoslovakia, India, Iran, Lebanon, Honduras, The Netherlands and Egypt.

The addresses were the formal opening statements of good will expected from each group.

Rumor Cheers Delegates
There was a backslapping and handshaking interruption, evidently caused by reports that Heinrich Himmler, Nazi gestapo chief, had advised the Americans that Hitler was dying.

A rumor that Hitler is dying was heard here through a British source which attributed it to a message sent to the British and American governments, presumably by Heinrich Himmler. It said:

"It is feared that Hitler is not very well and may not live another 24 hours."

There were no details on how or when the message was sent to the British and American governments other than that it came through Stockholm. Whether it was SECURITY . . . Page 7

U. S. Forces Reach Swiss Border In Italian Campaign

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U. S., Russian Meeting Links Vast Army to Crush Germany

PARIS, April 28 (UP) — The American-Russian junction south of Berlin linked 13,000,000 allied troops for the final act of the battle of Europe, military observers said today.

Though superficially the armies of the east and west became a mighty combined force, no change in the command set-up was believed contemplated.

Premier Marshal Stalin was expected to remain in command of his seven Russian armies and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, in command of the five American, one British, one French and one Canadian armies of the western allies.

Best estimates of allied strength placed 550 divisions—roughly 3,250,000 men—at the disposal of Stalin and 4,500,000 men under the command of Eisenhower.

Also moving in for the kill from the south were the American Fifth and British Eighth armies in northern Italy and Marshal Tito's Yugoslav liberation army.

Against this mighty array of allied power, the German high command can muster fewer than 2,500,000 troops. There were believed to be the remnants of 230 divisions in Germany and 24 in northern Italy.

Approximately 125,000 additional German troops were believed still in Yugoslavia and 125,000 in Norway.

Increased Butter Output Sought In Subsidy Boost

WASHINGTON, April 28 (UP) — The government sought today to stimulate butter production with a revised program of subsidy payments to dairy farmers.

War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, announcing the dairy subsidy rates which will be paid for April 1 to next March 31, offered farmers a substantial increase in the payments of butterfat.

The government price structure of ceilings and subsidies originally was set up to encourage the marketing of whole milk. The purpose was to get greater output of dried milk, evaporated milk and other by-products for the army and lend-lease. As a result butter production suffered.

The new subsidy program is designed to make it profitable for farmers in the butter area to increase milk production and market their milk in the form of butterfat.

RAFT RIDE IS FATAL
NEWBERG, Ore., April 28 (UP) — Six-year-old Boyd Stout was drowned today when he and his brother, Richard, 9, fell from a homemade raft on the log pond of the Hoxley Pulp and paper company near Newberg.

Other boys pulled out Richard but could not reach Boyd.

Ernie Pyle

Pyle Prepares To Leave Marines On Okinawa

(Editor's Note: In addition to the story which appears here today, we will print one more by the late Ernie Pyle.)

By ERNIE PYLE
OKINAWA—(By Navy Radio)

—There is one very small marine who is as nice as he can be, always smiling and making some crack. But the boys say that in battle he doesn't give a damn for anything.

The first afternoon I joined his company he didn't know who I was and as we passed, he said very respectfully, "Good evening, colonel." I had to chuckle to myself. Later he mentioned it and we laughed about it and then he started calling me Ernie.

He is Corp. Charles Bradshaw of Indianapolis. He is only 19 but on his third campaign in the Pacific. He's had three pieces of shrapnel in him at various times and months later they would work out through the skin. Another one is just about to come out of his finger now.

In the marines Corporal Bradshaw is called "Brady" for short. See PYLE . . . Page 8

Former Premiers Return to France

PARIS, April 28 (UP) — The French press agency reported "reliably" today that Edouard Herriot, Edouard Daladier, and Paul Reynaud, former premiers of France, and Gen. Maurice Gamelin had arrived safely in France.

Hitler's Death by Own Hand or Allied Bullet Foreseen by Aide

MAGDTBURG, Germany, April 28 (UP) — Adolf Hitler will kill himself or be killed in Berlin within a few hours or days and the war will end, Lt. Gen. Kurt Dittmar, German high command spokesman, said in his final war commentary—in American custody.

Dittmar, who surrendered to the American Ninth army on the Elbe river Wednesday, told his captors that Hitler and Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels were in Berlin and will die there.

"The war will end in a few days," Dittmar said. "Hitler will either be killed or he will commit suicide. One of three generals—von Brauchitsch, Guderian or von Rundstedt—will also commit suicide and will make peace immediately on almost any terms."

Asked about the Bavarian revolt, he said, "There's talk about it, and the map will show you that two pockets are being formed, one in the north including Norway and Denmark and the other in the south in the Alps and Italy. But that is probably less by intention than by force of circumstances."

At any rate, he thought, the war could not last after the fall of Berlin, which he said was a matter of hours or at the most days.

"I saw the war was lost on July 20th," said Dittmar, referring to the frustrated attempt on Hitler's life.

Dittmar talked to correspondents in his best lecture platform manner. But when he talked with the commander of the division to which he surrendered he appeared nervous. He stared at the floor and rubbed his hollow cheeks.

Japanese Say New Invasion Move Looms

WASHINGTON, April 28 (UP) — A large force of Superfortresses struck at six major air installations on the Japanese home island of Kyushu today with "good to excellent" results, the war department announced.

The attack was the third made in Kyushu in three days. It was aimed at Izumi, Miyazaki, Kanoya, Kushira, Kokubu, and Miyakonojo.

A 20th air force communique said enemy air action was "aggressive." The B-29's destroyed four Japanese fighters and probably destroyed five others. One Superfortress was lost to enemy action.

By United Press
American forces struck new air and ground blows today in the mounting Okinawa campaign and radio Tokyo said a 100-ship U. S. invasion fleet off the island's west coast appeared to be preparing for "new operations."

The fleet was reported to include four or five battleships, 10 or more destroyers and approximately 80 transports. The broadcast said 10 transports were in Nagasaki on the west coast and the other ships were cruising off the island.

Okinawa Conquest Seen
On southern Okinawa, 24th army corps troops advanced to the vicinity of Machinato, two miles north of Naha, the capital. It was believed the Americans had crunched through the strongest defense.

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Oregon Aviation To Be Fused Into National Program

Oregon airstrips and airways will be co-ordinated with the national aeronautical program as a result of a meeting of the civil aeronautics authority and the Oregon state board of aeronautics yesterday in Portland, called at the request of Paul Morris, regional administrator of the CAA.

The state and national boards have worked out a 10-year program, known as the sixth revised plan, for the purpose of integrating all existing state facilities and including them in the national setup. Facilities constructed in the future and existing facilities will be coordinated with the national system.

Plans were discussed to construct numerous class I airports (small) with 1800 foot airstrips at sea level.

On May 1, the CAA, accompanied by the state board, will make the first of a series of flights covering the state, to interview people of small communities not now having airports, so their needs may be incorporated in the national system. The first

See OREGON . . . Page 7

New Ration Stamps Valid Tuesday

WASHINGTON, April 28 (UP) — A total of 10 new blue and red stamps worth 100 ration points for buying processed foods, meats and fats will be good May 1, office of price administration announced today.

The five new red stamps for buying meats and fats are Q2, Q3, Q4, Q5 and Q6. Each one is worth 10 points.

The five new blue stamps for buying processed foods are Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6. Each one is worth 10 points.

Five red stamps—T5, U5, V5, W5 and X5—which became valid Dec. 31, 1944, and five blue stamps—Q2, D2, E2, F2 and G2—validated on Jan. 1, 1945, will not be good after today. OPA said.

The new stamp, No. 36, becomes good May 1. Sugar stamp No. 35 will be good until June 2 and sugar stamp No. 36 will be good until Aug. 31.

Baseball Results

American League	Score
Washington	6-1
New York	2-10
(3 innings)	
Pieretti and Guerra; Bonham, Turner and Barbark, Crompton.	
Boston	5-15
Philadelphia	4-4
Cecil and Garbark; Kneir, Berry, Schieba, Black and Hayes.	
Detroit	5-11
Cleveland	4-2
Benton and Swift; Bagby, Kloman, Henry and Ruzickowski.	
Chicago at St. Louis, postponed.	

National League	Score
Pittsburgh	1-1
Chicago	6-14
Butcher, Gercheusner, Ostermuller and Salkeld; Wyse and Livingston.	
Philadelphia	7-11
Boston	10-2
Sproull, Kennedy, Kae'l and Mancuso; Barrett, Eastley, Hutchings and Masl.	

Bavaria Is Reported In Revolt

PARIS, April 28 (UP) — Revoltionists seized control in Munich today and radioed an urgent appeal for American help in overthrowing the Nazis. At midday, however, a broadcast purported to come from the gauleiter in the city claimed the uprising had been suppressed.

From confused radio broadcasts and censored front dispatches one clear fact emerged—the fires of revolution had been lighted in Bavaria, once the strongest citadel of Nazidom.

And two American armies were racing in on Munich from positions less than 30 miles to the west and north in answer to a desperate appeal from the rebels for immediate help.

Late front dispatches said the Third Army gained upwards of 13 miles along an 85-mile front between the Ingolstadt and Deggendorf areas. Units of the 89th division pushed eight miles southeastward to the area of Hirschkind, 13 miles southeast of Ingolstadt, 27 northwest of Munich, and 22 north of the notorious Dachau concentration camp.

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Meat Production, Marketing To Be Conference Topics

Meat production and marketing problems will be the subject of a conference in the city hall in La Grande at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday between state officials of the office of price administration and producers, butchers and retail dealers of Union county.

McDannell Brown, district director of OPA, and Verne Livessy, agricultural relations advisor of the Portland district office, will be here to discuss the new meat program that has been adopted by the OPA in an effort to provide better distribution of the civilian supplies of meat and to combat the black market.

Various aspects of the meat situation will be discussed, among them the subsidies, price regulations, permits to kill and rationing.

While the meeting will not necessarily be open to the general public, it is the purpose of the federal agency to bring into the conference everyone interested in production, slaughtering and retail selling of meat.

This will be the only meeting held in Union county on this subject, the OPA announced.

European Veterans Home on Furloughs

Included among 75 Oregon and Washington veterans who have arrived here from the European front on leaves and furloughs are two from eastern Oregon.

They are Staff Sergeant Steven J. Hippe of Union, and Sgt. Melvin O. Walker of Joseph.

U-BOAT IS SUNK

LONDON, April 28 (UP) — A U-boat was sunk recently by fire from two mine sweepers escorting a convoy in the north Atlantic, the admiralty announced today. Survivors were taken prisoner.