

Britain Awaits Peace Proposals

New Himmler Plea Rumored; Churchill Cabinet In Session

LONDON, April 30 (UP)—The British cabinet late today re-examined the "peace" situation amid reports that an envoy was on the way to Stockholm with Heinrich Himmler's reaction to an allied reiteration of the unconditional surrender policy.

Prime Minister Churchill and his colleagues were closeted in a regular meeting of the cabinet, and the authoritative British press association said the "peace position was fully discussed." Military leaders attended the meeting as usual. Many responsible sources believe if a new Nazi capitulation offer were being forwarded, it would be Himmler's agreement to unconditional surrender since weekend developments evidently made it manifest that the allies were interested in nothing less.

A Stockholm dispatch quoted travelers from Copenhagen as saying a German plenipotentiary flew to Stockholm today for "important negotiations." The travelers said Count Bernadotte, the purported go-between, still was in Denmark, and the plenipotentiary expected to stay in Stockholm until the count returned there.

A Paris dispatch said that with the "capitulation of Germany apparently imminent," the French government is taking steps to establish a claim that France be one of a "big four" to which the Nazis must give up.

Seek Big Three Approval
French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault was understood to have been instructed to take up the matter at San Francisco with Edward R. Stettinius, Anthony Eden and V. M. Molotov, the Big Three foreign ministers. Information reached French government sources that Adolf Hitler recently asked the Japanese government for permission to fly to Japan there to continue the war against the allies. Japan was said to have refused on grounds that such action would embroil Tokyo with Russia—an eventuality. See NEW PEACE... Page 5



BANK PRESIDENT — F. E. Emery, president of the recently organized Elgin State bank, today announced that the new county financial institution will open tomorrow, May 1, as scheduled. Emery is manager of the Fondosa Pine lumber company at Elgin, Jesse Crum, Elgin attorney, is vice president of the bank and George H. Wahler of Minnesota has been named cashier-manager.

La Grande Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON
Union and Wallowa Counties

LA GRANDE, OREGON MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 30, 1945

FIVE CENTS

Weather
Data for 24 hours ending 7 a. m.
Temperatures:
Maximum 76
Minimum 43
Precipitation .17
Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday.

ESTABLISHED 1896

U. S. 7th Army Captures Munich

Yank, Red Union Is Expanded

PARIS, April 30 (UP)—American seventh army forces today captured Munich, birthplace of nazism, Germany's third city, and the most formidable outpost of the Nazis' "national redoubt" in the Alps.

The biggest victory of the Bavarian campaign was scored as the U. S. third army freed 110,000 allied war prisoners — at least 11,000 of them Americans — at Moosburg near Munich. Meanwhile, farther north the American ninth army joined forces with the Red army southwest of Berlin.

Meanwhile American first and ninth army troops linked up with the Red army at two new points on the Elbe river below Berlin today, widening to 50 miles the allied corridor separating Germany's northern and southern fronts.

Another and more important fusion of the allied western and eastern battle lines appeared in-

Clark Proclaims Victory in Italy

Fall of Berlin To Soviet Army Matter of Hours

City Totters Under Blows of Red Besiegers

LONDON, April 30 (UP)—Marshal Stalin announced tonight that the fourth Ukrainian army had captured Moravska Ostrava.

LONDON, April 30 (UP)—Russian tanks were reported pouring into the Tiergarten at the center of an eight-square-mile pocket of resistance in Berlin today and to the north other Soviet forces drove within 51 miles of Rostock.

German and Russian sources both agreed that the climax in the battle of Berlin is at hand. Moscow dispatches said one more concerted lunge by the Russian siege forces would stamp out the last Nazi resistance in the dying capital.

Marshal Stalin announced this evening that Marshal Konstantin



Argentine, Labor Issues Cause Rift In Peace Parley

SAN FRANCISCO, April 30 (UP)—The steering committee of the United Nations Security conference voted today to invite Argentina into its sessions by a vote of 24 to 5.

The steering committee also approved invitations to the Ukraine and White Russia. The steering committee action must be approved by the plenary session but this was regarded as mere formality.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 30 (UP)—Bids to Argentine, White Russia and the Ukraine to attend the United Nations security conference were approved today by the executive committee, it was understood, but dispute over the matter was so bitter that the entire question was referred back to the steering committee.

The steering committee was expected to take final action on the matter at a meeting which still was under way this afternoon.

However, the steering committee immediately was confronted by another dispute, brought on by a Russian proposal that the world labor congress now in session at Oakland be accredited as the official labor affiliate of the new security organization and be invited to send advisory delegates to the meeting.

The labor proposal was viewed gingerly by the American delegates since the American federation of labor is boycotting the meeting due to participation of Soviet trade unionists.

Action of the executive committee on Argentina, White Russia and the Ukraine was not unanimous, it was understood. However, issuance of invitations to each of the countries was approved by a two-thirds vote. Some of the delegates refrained from voting.

The Russians, it was said, continued to oppose bringing Argentina in, again raising the Polish question.

Veterans' Aides to Hear Rep. Bull

Vernon Bull, La Grande member of the Oregon group of representatives, and Rev. Stanley Hunt will be speakers at the meeting of the Union county veterans' employment committee at 8 o'clock this evening in the city hall. The meeting will be open to the public.

H. G. Von, new chairman of the committee, announced Bull will discuss veterans' affairs which came before the last session of the legislature. Rev. Hunt's subject was not announced.

Some veterans of the present war are expected to be present to share some of their experiences.



RUSSIANS AND AMERICANS MEET IN GERMANY—Above is the official historic meeting of American and Russian forces in Torgau, Germany, on the Elbe river after the Americans crossed in small boats. Maj. Gen. E. F. Reinhardt, third from left, commander of the 89th infantry division of the U. S. Fifty army, chats with a general commanding a Russian division. Below is the first actual meeting of American and Soviet soldiers. Lt. William B. Robertson of Los Angeles greets Lt. Alexander Syvashko of the Russian army. Robertson led the American patrol that made the initial juncture with the Russians.

Lions Get Humorous Plea for Fast Finish to Clothing Drive

Dressed only in barrels and with appropriate war paint and labels "Windy" Bill Wilkins and "Uncle" Al Thornburg gave the Lions club members a touch of hilarity and fun at the luncheon meeting today. Interrupting A. B. Olson, who was giving his report on the UNRRA old clothes collection campaign, Wilkins and Thornburg burst into the room with a boisterous plea for a whirlwind finish-line donation of old clothes to put the local drive over the top. The drive ending tonight here has been quite successful.

Olson, co-chairman of the drive, reported that one shipment of 5,300 pounds of clothing has been made, and that the balance will be shipped soon.

The Aristocrats, 11-piece high school dance band, entertained. The band was composed of Russ, Wagner, Quinn, Nelson, Bennett, Jordahl, Westenskow, Houle, Talpin, Rogers, and Patty Jacobson, vocalist.

President Horace J. Nelson announced the appointment of Chief of Police Clyde Lund to the club's safety committee, and M. Compton, to the education committee; and called a board of directors meeting for 4 p. m. Friday evening at Hall's typewriter service.

Letters from the Maverick club were read announcing that the numbers of the organization

Germany's Power Is Shattered

ROME, April 30 (UP)—Allied victory in Italy was announced today by Gen. Mark W. Clark in a triumphant proclamation that 25 German divisions had been "torn to pieces" and no longer could resist effectively the U. S. Fifth and British eighth armies.

"The military power of Germany in Italy has practically ceased," Clark said. His statement put the official seal on clearcut evidence that Nazi resistance in north Italy was collapsing.

The allied commander in Italy issued his victory announcement as his fifth and eighth armies were stampeding through north Italy. The British captured Venice. Yugoslavian forces were reported fighting in the streets of Trieste toward which the British eighth army was driving only 58 miles away. The Americans took Alessandria in northwest Italy and the British took Chioggia in the northeast on the Adriatic sea.

Yanks Enter Turin
At the western end of the fifth army line, the U. S. 442nd regiment, composed of Japanese-American troops, entered Turin, which previously had been captured. See GEN. CLARK... Page 5

Observance of Music Week Is Set in La Grande

Participating in observance of national music week, La Grande groups will appear in five events presented publicly under the sponsorship of the Neighborhood club.

With Mrs. A. L. Richardson as chairman, the club's music week committee includes Mrs. John M. Miller, Mrs. A. K. Wright and Mrs. L. C. Smith.

While the official dates for the observance are May 6 to 12, inclusive, the local programs will start May 4 with a concert at Central school under the direction of Larry Brunette.

Other principal events of the week include a united church program at 4 p. m., Sunday in the First Methodist church in charge of Neph-Combs and under the direction of Henry Ehlers. Final rehearsal for this program, in which members of See OBSERVANCE... Page 5

Legion, Auxiliary Will Have District Conference Here

Larry Brunette, music instructor at Central school, and a group of his students will present the musical program for the afternoon session of the district conference of the American Legion auxiliary commencing at 3 p. m. Wednesday in the Sacajawea hotel.

Brunette will present vocal solos, and the student will give group arrangements.

The afternoon session will be brief with reports and round table discussion on rehabilitation. A dinner has been planned for 7 p. m. in the Stein Coffee shop banquet room with the post and principal speakers will be Penn C. Crum, state commander of the legion, and Gladys Demons, state president of the auxiliary.

A dance will be held in the Sacajawea hotel following the dinner. Ethel Thomas is in charge of arrangements for the auxiliary, and members will be present from Enterprise, Wallowa, Elgin, Imbler and Union.

Sailor Killed, Two Soldiers Wounded

Zone Enos Fisher of Summerville, navy seaman second class, is reported dead in a casualty list issued today. He previously was reported missing in a message received by his mother, Mrs. Johanna Fisher of Summerville from the navy department in January.

Army casualty lists today include the names of Staff Sgt. Jesse B. Sate-H, son of Mrs. Ida J. Sate-H of Wallowa as wounded in the European sector.

Among the lists as wounded in the Pacific area is Pfc. Oliver L. Vanover, the son of Vanover of Elgin.

In each case the next of kin were notified prior to the release of the casualty lists for publication.

Mussolini Begg for Life As He Faces Firing Squad

MILAN, April 30 (UP)—The broken body of Benito Mussolini lay unclaimed beside his slain mistress in the Milan morgue today, dishonored in death by the people he led to empire and ruin.

The fallen duce died badly in the sight of the partisan executioners who killed him and his paramour, Clara Petacci, in their hideout on Lake Como Saturday. And the people he ruled for tribute by hanging his remains head down from the rafters of a gasoline station in Milan's Loreto square.

There, for a night and day they spat upon their fallen leader, who his body in the back and kicked his face into a toilet, a guilty mass.

Mob Batters Corpse
For hours after the body of the executed dictator was brought to Milan with that of his mistress and 16 other slain fascist leaders, Mussolini lay in the dirt in the center of the square. Then the mob tied wire about the ankles of Il Duce and Clara Petacci and suspended them upside down from the roof of the gasoline station. Hysterical men and women closed in screaming about the dangling corpses and beat and kicked the dictator's face.

His mistress' skirt was torn off and people spat upon both bodies. **Respite Comes Too Late**
Ironically, it was revealed by the partisan prefect of Milan province that an order staying Mussolini's execution pending a more formal trial and forbidding the execution of his mistress was en-

See MUSSOLINI... Page 5

La Grande Pilot Wounded in Pacific

Mrs. Guy Chapin of 1514 Monroe avenue has been notified by the navy department that her son, Capt. William A. Cantrel, of the marine corps, was wounded in action against the enemy on March 19, 1945, in the Pacific area.

Captain Cantrel is a marine fighter pilot attached to an aircraft carrier and is serving his second tour overseas. He is a former student of Eastern Oregon college.

Pyle Is Honored At London Service

LONDON, April 30 (UP)—Memorial services were held in Fleet street's St. Dunstan-in-the-west church at noon today for Ernie Pyle, war correspondent who was killed by Japanese machine gun fire in the Pacific. All American troops and newspapermen in London had been invited.

Lee Childers Is Named Foreman of New Grand Jury

A county grand jury was impaneled by Circuit Judge J. R. Green today and immediately went into session with District Attorney C. R. Eberhard, presumably to consider the case of Albert Forrest Bowman, 28, of North Powder, who is in custody on a charge of slaying his father, A. F. Bowman, veteran stockman of the North Powder district.

Officials declined to state the nature of the business before the inquisitors but Eberhard indicated last week that he would take the Bowman case before them. He previously filed an information in the justice's court accusing Bowman of the murder.

Lee Childers of Cove was appointed by Judge Green as foreman of the grand jury, the other members of which are: Margaret Swart, Lois Thompson and Lena Dahlstrom, all of La Grande, Lillian Wells of Alice, Pearl Conrad of Imbler and Hazel Shoenemaker.

U.S., Britain Balk At Austria Set-Up

WASHINGTON, April 30 (UP)—The United States today refused to recognize the so-called new Austrian provisional government set up in Soviet-occupied Vienna.

LONDON, April 30 (UP)—A foreign office commentator said today that Great Britain does not recognize the new Soviet-announced Austrian government as a "provisional government or anything else."

The British statement came at a time when the allies already are at odds over the question of the Moscow-sponsored Lublin Polish government. The foreign office commentator said Russia had not informed Britain of the new government "in sufficient time to permit discussions with our allies."

Former La Grande Officer Slain in Battle With Bandits

Sgt. Ted Chambers, Ontario member of the Oregon state police, formerly of La Grande, and William Ronald Duffey, 22, are dead and three other men are under treatment for wounds as the result of a gun battle yesterday near the Snake river crossing on highway 30.

Wounded are Richard O'Brien, Ontario state police officer, Chief of Police Clarence Saunders of Weiser, Idaho, and Kenneth Bailey, 22.

The gun fight was precipitated when the officers attempted to arrest Duffey and Bailey, both of Portland, who are alleged to have been caught stealing gasoline Saturday in Nampa, Ida.

Deputy Sheriff Al Wenter of Washington county said he,

O'Brien, Saunders and Chambers traced the men to a school and were fired upon as they entered the basement, where the two fugitives hid in a coal bin. The school, an abandoned structure near Weiser junction.

Sergeant Chambers was killed instantly. Officer O'Brien was shot in the shoulder, and Chief Saunders in the arm. Saunders was then captured by the bandits and used as protection when the fugitives broke from the cellar.

Fierce gunplay continued as the two ran through a nearby field, using Saunders as a shield. Rifle fire from officers finally dropped Duffey, later pronounced dead, and wounded Bailey, who was taken to a hospital.

Ernie Pyle

Tribute to Friend Paid in Pyle's Final Column

Editor's note: This is Ernie Pyle's last column. It is a beautiful tribute to Fred Pointon, war correspondent who died of natural causes on Guam a few weeks ago. Ernie was on Okinawa when he was informed of Mr. Pointon's death. Ernie took time out from covering the war to write this touching story about his friend. Only a few days later Ernie was killed. We know he would have wanted us to publish this article.

By ERNIE PYLE

OKINAWA (By Navy Radio)—This is a column about Fred Pointon, the war correspondent who dropped dead on Guam a short time ago.

Fred wrote war articles for Reader's Digest and many other magazines. He even gambled his fortune once writing a piece for the Saturday Evening Post about me.

Fred was one of the little group of real oldtimers in the European war. He was past 49 and an overseas veteran of the last war. His son is grown and in the army. Fred has seen a great deal of war for a man his age.

He was just about to start back to America when he died. See TRIBUTE... Page 3

Elgin Motorist Seriously Hurt

Eldon Rush of Elgin suffered a skull fracture Saturday afternoon when his automobile collided with a grain truck on the Looking Glass road about eight miles north of Elgin. His physician said he was expected to recover. He is a patient at Grande Ronde hospital.

Though few details of the accident are available, state police reported Rush's car apparently side-swiped a truck loaded with grain.

Lewis Bunnell of La Grande suffered minor head injuries Saturday evening while working at the round house.

5-Year Blackout Lifted in Moscow

MOSCOW, April 30 (UP)—Moscow's four-year blackout will be lifted tonight.

The capital is being decked with red bunting, multi-colored streamers and victory posters in preparation for the May day celebration, which may coincide with the fall of Berlin.

The Kremlin's five-point stars dominating Moscow's skyline have been repainted. Bronze church bells which have been silent for years again have been repaired and will toll again in victory day.

COAL PACT APPROVED
WASHINGTON, April 30 (UP)—Stabilization Director William B. Davis today approved the soft coal wage contract. He also authorized soft coal price increases expected to average about 16 cents a ton for the industry as a whole.