

Reds Race Across Hungary After Breakthrough

(Story in Column 2)

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

I note that representatives of Alcoholics Anonymous are coming to Salem next Friday night when they offer to meet with local persons who may be interested in their plan of personal rehabilitation of victims of the drink habit. They will be at the YMCA at 8 o'clock to hold private conference with alcoholics or with their relatives and friends.

This organization, Alcoholics Anonymous, is a recent and very interesting development. It is a very loosely organized group of persons who, after losing their self-control through indulgence in intoxicating beverages, have developed a plan for their own restoration to physical and moral health and now are devoting part of their time to helping other victims to escape from degradation. Its work is quiet and confidential. It aims at permanent individual reformation. It charges no fees and collects no dues. In the space of a few years it has grown to include some 16,000 members. The Portland group was formed a little over a year ago and is now undertaking to extend the benefits of A. A. to communities over the state. Previously conferences have been held with individuals at the state penitentiary. The conference Friday night is the first in downtown Salem.

The purpose behind Alcoholics Anonymous is to reach those whose lives are being wrecked by use of alcoholic liquor. It is not to launch a general reform or to propagandize for universal abstinence. It

(Continued on Editorial Page)

Allied Bombers Blast Formosa, Cebu Islands

MANILA, Sunday, March 25 (AP)—Heavy bombers dropped 145 tons of bombs on Formosa and a naval air base on Cebu Friday, raided Cebu island in the central Philippines with 116 tons, and destroyed or damaged nine freighters and tankers in the China and Sulu seas.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said the Liberators, "Continuing the destruction of the enemy air force on Formosa," hit the Tainan air base and the Okayama naval air base.

Many places were put out of action, gun emplacements were silenced and explosions were observed in hangars, warehouses and rail yards.

On Cebu, the big bombers flew with attack planes and fighter-bombers to attack installations around Cebu city, midway along the east coast. MacArthur said fires and explosions indicated the destruction of stores and ammunition.

24 Graves of Japs, Germans Desecrated

FRESNO, Calif., March 24 (AP)—Twenty four graves of persons with Japanese or German names have been desecrated in the Mountain View cemetery here within the last two weeks and efforts have been made to force the lock of a mausoleum containing the ashes of nearly 300 Japanese. Sheriff George J. Overholt said today.

For Service And Accuracy

On page 11 of today's Statesman are listed the names of deceased war heroes from areas within a radius of 25 to 35 miles of Salem.

It is published as an aid to organizations preparing plaques of the honored dead, and particularly at this time for the Federation of Patriotic Societies now ready to erect such a memorial for Marion county.

If there is noted an omission, or any kind of an error in spelling, addresses, etc., it is requested that such be detailed in a letter to The Statesman immediately.

The margin of possible error is considerable, despite exhaustive checking, because no single official source has such a list and because of many factors of residence, removals and possible oversights.

Whole-hearted cooperation of all communities, therefore, is solicited to the end of accuracy and service.

Oregon Statesman

The World At Your Door Each Morning

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

NINETY-FOURTH YEAR

22 PAGES

Salem, Oregon, Sunday Morning, March 25, 1945

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Rain
San Francisco	54	40	40
Eugene	56	30	40
Salem	56	30	40
Portland	56	30	40
Seattle	56	31	40

Willamette river 10 ft. 9 in.

FORECAST: (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field) "Cloudy today with light rains most of the day, decreasing somewhat toward evening."

Price 5c.

No. 317

1,250,000 MEN CROSS RHINE

Offensive Aims For Vienna

76,000 Germans Killed-Captured In New Assault

By Richard Kasichke

LONDON, Sunday, March 25 (AP)—Russian tanks and infantry, smashing within 40 miles of Austria and 81 miles southeast of Vienna, have surged 43 miles across western Hungary along a 62-mile front in a great new offensive timed with the allied assault in the west, Premier Stalin disclosed last night.

Moscow said 76,000 Germans had been killed or captured recently in Hungary. The massive breakthrough in Hungary, thrusting toward southern Germany's "mountain redoubt," where the nazis are expected to make their last-ditch stand, came as Berlin reported a savage, swaying battle raging in the nazi capital's outer defenses 31 miles east of the city.

The Vienna-bound offensive exploded as the enemy said the red army had built up a 17-mile-long, six-mile-deep bridgehead across the Oder river before Berlin and had hurled new powerful forces into the assault.

At the same time, Moscow announced that soviet forces in upper Silesia had captured the industrial cities of Neisse and Loeb-schuetz and were probing the Sudeten mountain defenses leading from Silesia to Brno, Prague, and Hitler's Czechoslovak arsenal. Far to the north, the battle for the twin isolated Baltic ports of Danzig and Gdynia was drawing to a close as Russian forces ground to within three miles of Danzig and less than two miles from Gdynia.

Japs Trying To Break Out From Burma

CALCUTTA, March 24 (AP)—Pitched battles between hard-driving British armor and Japanese troops caught in the Myingyan-Meiktila-Mandalay triangle were reported today as the enemy fought to escape from central Burma.

The enemy force was originally estimated at 30,000.

Allied occupation of Meiktila has cut the Japanese escape routes to the south and unless the enemy can break through there, only narrow trails eastward to Thailand still remain open.

In the last 48 hours, field dispatches said, more than 1,000 Japanese troops have been killed in the Meiktila area, with 200 slain at a road block midway between Thazi and Meiktila. Thazi is 15 miles east of Meiktila.

Lyons Soldier Dies in Action

LYONS, March 24—PFC Laurence Kirsch, 21, was killed in action March 4 in Germany. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Kirsch of Mehama were notified Friday night by the war department.

He was born July 12, 1924, and enlisted after his 18th birthday and following his graduation from Stayton high school. He was home on furlough in July, 1944, and was sent overseas following his return. After four days in England he was sent to France, and had recently been in Germany.

Besides his parents, survivors are three sisters: Arleta, Shirley and Elizabeth and two brothers: Gordon and Dale, all younger and living at home. Agnes Kirsch of Salem is an aunt.

U. S. to Retain Control Of Mandated Islands

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—The Army and Navy Journal said today "no one doubts" that the United States will retain unilateral control of the mandated islands captured from Japan despite any proposals for international trusteeship.

11,000 Allied Planes Join Assault Across Rhine in Support of Ground Troops

By Henry B. Jameson

LONDON, Sunday, March 25 (AP)—Mosquitos lashed Berlin last night for the 33rd consecutive night, continuing unchecked the mightiest aerial offensive in history, which yesterday saw 11,000 planes join the assault across the Rhine in support of troops charging toward the heart of the reich.

The huge armada, which converged on the Rhine crossing area from England and continent-based airbases, laid a protective wall of fire in front of the Allied troops.

Incomplete returns from yesterday's castigation of the reich showed at least 53 German planes were shot down by American fighters—exclusive of the bag for last night's Berlin raid which was not yet tabulated.

The harried luftwaffe offered only spotty opposition. Almost half of the kills were scored as the Nazis were run down like rabbits by American fighters. Twenty enemy planes were blasted out of the sky over one field from which they were trying to escape.

With Nazi defenses thrown into turmoil by this tremendous attack from the west, American heavy bombers from Italy leaped the Alps and smashed a tank factory in Berlin in a 1600-mile round trip, the longest escorted mission ever flown over Europe.

From dawn to dusk one great procession of bombers and fighters swept across the channel to be joined over the continent by thousands of other warplanes streaming up from advanced bases in Belgium, Germany, Holland and France.

Each phase of the mammoth operation was run off with split-second timing, with as many as five layers of planes roaring toward their objectives at the same time or criss-crossing at different altitudes.

200 Big Forts Pound Nagoya Plane Factory

21st U.S. BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Sunday, March 25 (AP)—More than 200 Superfortresses swung in daringly low over the mammoth Mitsubishi aircraft engine factory near Nagoya in darkness early today and set at least 15 fires in the greatest demolition raid yet to hit Japan.

Giving Nippon no pause, the sky behemoths from the Marianas touched off flames and explosions in one of Japan's most important plants the day after a big American carrier task force shelled and bombed the Ryukyu islands, 300 miles southwest of the enemy homeland.

The B-29s, which in five recent incendiary raids have dropped more than 11,000 tons of fire bombs on Japanese cities, switched to demolition bombs in an effort to knock out a factory whose engines are used by virtually every type of enemy plane.

ARC Will Still Receive Gifts

That every person in this area may have an opportunity to contribute during the Red Cross war fund campaign, county headquarters for the drive at Valley Motor Co. offices in Salem and a booth on Liberty street between State and Court are prepared to receive money gifts, H. G. Leserer, county war fund chairman, said Saturday.

Checks or money orders may be mailed to the county war fund office, or cash may be taken either to the office of the booth this week.

All war fund workers have been asked to make reports early in the week so that division, community and total contributions may be tallied.

Bill Increasing Senate Signed by Governor

Senate Bill 313 of the recent senate membership from 30 to 31 and making Klamath county a senatorial district was signed into law Saturday by Gov. Earl Sells.

Among the five bills signed by the governor was also senate bill 7 providing a means for revocation of election to come under the new-repealed community property law of 1943.

Half of Iwo Casualties Reported to Next-of Kin

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—Lt. Gen. A. A. Vandegrift, commandant of the marine corps, said today more than half of the Iwo Jima casualties already have been reported to the next of kin.

U. S. Navy Hammers Ryukyus

Blow Is Closest Surface Action To Nip Mainland

By Morrie Landsberg

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Sunday, March 25 (AP)—The 16-inch guns of United States battleships bombarded the Ryukyu islands Friday and Saturday in the closest surface action of the war to the Japanese mainland, while carrier planes of Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's task force 58 struck coordinating blows.

The navy disclosed in a communique today the latest phase of the most extensive carrier task force action of the war.

Mitscher's two-way strike at the Ryukyus, destroying enemy shipping and smashing airdromes within 300 miles of Japan, was delivered with only a day's interval—likely for refueling.

Mitscher's force braved bad weather to hit four islands in the Ryukyu area, chief of which was the naval and air base of Okinawa. Sunday and Monday his planes had pounded southern Japan, then took on the enemy home-based air fleet in sky battles raging on through Tuesday and Wednesday.

Today's communique said a heavy toll, as yet not completely assessed, was taken during the sky fights of Mitscher's carrier arm Tuesday and Wednesday with enemy planes based on Kyushu, Shikoku and Honshu islands of Japan.

During the attacks a destroyer of the task force was seriously damaged and a heavier warship suffered some damage.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, who previously had disclosed that 17 enemy warships were crippled and more than 700 enemy planes destroyed or damaged in the raid on southern Japan, said the March 21 action was so intense that in one phase alone 50 enemy aircraft were downed at a cost of three American fighters.

House Passes Ag Fund Bill

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—House passage sent to the senate without change today an \$833,810,932 appropriation bill for the agricultural department for the twelve months starting July 1.

Passage came on a roll call vote of 256 to 16, after a republican-backed drive to save several hundred million dollars from the big measure bogged down.

Led by Representative Taber of New York, ranking minority appropriations committee member, republicans tried to eliminate a \$50,000,000 school lunch fund and a \$90,000,000 allotment for rural rehabilitation loans and grants.

Funds to Investigate Meat Shortage Okehed

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—Price Administrator Chester Bowles in a last-minute appearance before the senate appropriations committee today won approval of a special \$365,000 fund to investigate the meat shortage.

Nazi Civil Authorities in Allied Held Land Cease Functioning

By Dwight L. Pitkin

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—The German radio told the home press today that Heinrich Himmler had ordered all civil authorities in evacuated or allied-occupied territory to "cease functioning for the time being," another sign of the chaos inside Germany.

Front dispatches have told of thousands of Germans fleeing the invaded areas along the Rhine, and this latest German broadcast said Himmler had established "interim offices" to help the heads of rural districts, mayors and other local officials to "administer, or if necessary to liquidate existing institutions."

"Their files and other official property will be brought to safety," the broadcast said.

German radio commentators meanwhile conceded frankly that allied troops had a sizable foothold across the lower Rhine, said the "bulk" of the First U.S. Army was striking eastward from the Remagen bridgehead, and expressed anxiety over the "surprise establishment" by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, jr., of a U.S. Third Army bridgehead in the south.

6 Great Allied Armies Stand on Threshold Of Complete Victory

Confident



Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

Break German Crust and Win Says Churchill

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill, at Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's headquarters told troops of the 21st army group today that the "decisive victory" in Europe will be near "once the Rhine river line is pierced and the crust of German resistance broken.

A similar message of confidence in speedy victory was issued by Montgomery while Gen. Eisenhower warned German officers, soldiers and civilians that the Allies would hold them to strictest account and punish them according to their deserts if they became involved in the execution of Allied airborne troops.

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, speaking under the authority of the supreme Allied commander, warned Dutch patriot troops to take no action without orders but altered them to be prepared to coordinate their efforts with the new Allied offensive which has carried across the Rhine.

Von Richthofen Under Arrest

MADRID, March 24 (AP)—Field Marshal Baron Wolfram von Richthofen, luftwaffe production chief and cousin of the German first World war ace, has been arrested on Hitler's personal order—despite Goering's protection—because of the failure of a rocket-propelled fighter type, according to a German military source.

Seven members of von Richthofen's staff also were reported arrested. The arrests are reported to have caused a rift between Goering and Hitler.

The German source here said nearly 5000 of the new planes were assembled after a test of models proved satisfactory. Many were sent to air command areas before it was found that the planes not only lacked speed but came disintegrated in the air.

Yanks Barge In With Ice Cream

NEW YORK (AP)—Pacific fighters now can enjoy ice cream and fresh fruit and meat a few hours after invasion landings.

The Army's new all-concrete refrigerated barges, first of its kind, does the trick.

It is towed behind an invasion flotilla and moored off the beachhead. It can send ashore 1,000 tons of ice cream, fruits and choice beef cuts.

Wilsonville Ferry Closed

The Wilsonville ferry has been closed by high water, state highway department officials announced here Saturday.

Eisenhower's Forces Charge 5 Miles Into Ruhr; U.S., British Navies Aided in Crossing River

By Austin Bealmear

PARIS, Sunday, March 25 (AP)—Four allied armies crossed and broke Germany's vaunted Rhine line on a 30-mile front yesterday, plowing five miles into the flaming Ruhr and the north German plain and today General Eisenhower's forces stood at the threshold of final victory.

Backed by 1200 guns and 11,000 planes, with British and U.S. navies manning fleets of landing barges, the long-awaited end-of-the-war offensive swept across the Rhine in the most massive operation since D-day last June 6, ripping the historic Rhine barrier wide open.

The British second army and parts of the Canadian first army struck in concert with the allied first airborne army, spilling out on the north German plain within 290 miles of Berlin, and gouging out a bridgehead of more than 15 miles stretching east to Wesel, northwestern gateway to the Ruhr.

The U.S. ninth army, with General Eisenhower watching, charged five miles into the Ruhr just south of Wesel, welded four crossings into a solid 12-mile wide bridgehead, swept up 12 towns and thrust southward within four miles of Duisburg, Europe's greatest inland port.

Thus General Eisenhower had committed possibly 1,250,000 men to the offensive of the west, and at least six of his nine armies were across the Rhine, which never before had been stormed in battle.

Furthermore, one of these, the U.S. Third army, was only 262 miles from Berlin and had tank forces beyond the Rhine on the mid-German valley route to the capital.

The Swiss said yet another army, the French First, had crossed the Rhine north of Strasbourg, and the U.S. First was less than 12 miles from the Ruhr beyond the river on the south and might lunge northward at any hour.

The U.S. Seventh army was moving into position on the Rhine after splitting the last German forces left west of the river near Karlsruhe, and Allied strategists have warned the enemy to expect to meet the new U.S. 15th army at any time.

Ninth Severs Highway

In smashing into Dinslaken, a Ruhr city of 25,000 population, the Ninth severed the Wesel-Duisburg highway. It captured Spelle, three miles south of Wesel, nearby Friederichsfeld Torde, farther south, and Stockum.

All along the front, from the Wesel area down through the U.S. First army's burgeoning bridgehead and on southward to where the U.S. Third army was beginning to tear at the heart of Germany with tanks and troops, the feeling grew that the end of war in Europe was not far away.

Naval landing craft of the type used in the Normandy invasion brazenly plied the Rhine—long a symbol of Teutonic patriotism—feeding tanks, guns, troops and supplies into the four Allied bridgeheads scattered along some 200 miles of the river.

First reports from the front said Montgomery's northern forces had captured 1500 prisoners and the Ninth had taken 1700 more.

Enemy Gathering Forces

Field dispatches said the Germans were gathering tanks for an expected counterblow, but the feeling persisted that with the terrific losses suffered west of the Rhine, this time the enemy could not stop the Allied drive.

More than 10,000 Allied planes ruled inner Germany's skies, ferrying parachute troops, scattering the ground defenders with bombs bullets and rockets, or heaping fresh destruction on already battered enemy communication lines to the flaming front.

Eisenhower had committed possibly 1,250,000 men to the battle of the west with this latest offensive, and to the south Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, jr., crossed the Rhine personally to direct the Third army's offensive into middle Germany, now powered by tanks.

The Rhine had been bridged by pontoons both in the Ruhr and the Third army's middle Rhine crossings, and the big and final push was on to knock Germany quickly from the war.