

ROUT OF GERMANS UNDERWAY

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

In the diary of Samuel R. Thurston, first territorial delegate from Oregon to the congress, appears this entry:

"June 22, 1850—Wrote a letter to A. Bush about going to Oregon."

The meat of his letter was to propose to Bush to go out to the new territory and start a newspaper which would support the democratic party. Thurston, back in Washington, had been working on the project for some months. On Jan. 13, 1850, he made this entry: "Today I had a long talk with Mr. Fitch of Michigan about going to Oregon to start a democratic paper. Later he wrote a Mr. Crane of the New York Evening Post on the same subject; he spent two weeks in March in Springfield, Mass., looking up possible editors, and by May was busy seeing about buying a press."

What spurred him on was the report that the Whigs were going to start an organ in Portland. His information was correct. A Whig organ, the Oregonian was launched in December, 1850. Thurston was anxious to protect himself and his party by getting a paper of his own started. He finally found the man he was looking for in Asahel Bush, who while studying law was editing the Westfield, Mass. Standard. Bush came west to the territorial capital at Oregon City, established The Oregon Statesman as Thurston had desired, on March 28, 1851.

So today is The Statesman's birthday. It is 94 years old. No celebration is planned; not even a birthday cake. Merely this salute to its founder

(Continued on editorial page)

Manpower Bill Passes House By Seven Votes

WASHINGTON, March 27—(AP)—Manpower legislation arming War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes with an enforcement club of jail sentences and fines squeaked through the house today by a seven-vote margin.

A vote of 167 to 180 sent to the senate the compromise bill giving Byrnes power to fix ceilings on employment, to freeze workers in their jobs and to regulate hiring and rehiring. Violations of his orders by either employer or employee would be punishable by one year in jail and a fine of \$10,000.

An even harder fight on the bill is expected in the senate, which probably will take it up tomorrow. During the two compromise measure, the senate balked on a less sweeping measure adopted by the house.

German Hope Of Separate Peace Gone

LONDON, March 27—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill, appearing in the house of commons at an hour when German armies of the west reeled back before the greatest Allied victory of the war, squelched today any possible eleventh hour peace proposals by the enemy.

With a curt, "no sir," he answered a question as to whether parliament would have a chance to discuss any German proposals for laying down arms.

Any such proposal, Churchill said, would be communicated forthwith to Russia and the United States, bound unequivocally to declaration that Hitler's Germany must accept unconditional surrender or be flattened.

Women, Children Free To Evacuate Berlin

STOCKHOLM, March 27—(AP)—Dispatches from Berlin said a decree had been issued permitting women, children and others not regarded as essential for defense of the capital to leave the city without special formalities.

Hubbub of Excitement Caused By Nazi Surrender Rumors

(By the Associated Press)

A hubbub of excitement over rumors that Germany had surrendered kept telephone lines humming and newspaper offices in a quandary today throughout Oregon before the mistake was corrected.

Radio broadcasts and teletypes of some kind carried the erroneous V-E day report, not distributed by The Associated Press. Listeners at once hurried to telephone friends and to query newspaper offices and press bureaus. Pedestrians on Oregon streets stopped others, shouted, "Hey, you

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Soviets 61 Miles From Vienna; Yanks Driving Inland On Cebu; Blasting of Ryukyus Continues

Russian Forces In Danzig Two Red Armies Unite in Assault Toward Austria

By Romney Wheeler
LONDON, Wednesday, Mar. 28—(AP)—Armor-paced Russian forces plunged within 61 miles of Vienna's city limits, herding the Germans back upon the Austrian border now 23 miles away from Soviet units charging across the tableland of northwestern Hungary, Moscow announced last night.

Far to the north, other powerful Russian forces crashed into the center of fire-blackened Danzig and fought through the streets of the neighboring Polish port of Gdynia, the Soviet communique said.

The fall of these two vital Nazi naval bases on the Baltic appeared imminent. Their capture would give the Russians a psychological as well as a military triumph, for it was over Danzig and the adjacent Polish corridor that Adolf Hitler found a pretext for launching the second World war, Sept. 1, 1939.

In German upper Silesia and adjacent Polish Silesia, Marshal Ivan I. Petrov's Fourth Ukrainian army linked up with the First Ukrainian army commanded by Marshal Ivan S. Konev, and the massive forces lashed out together on an 80-mile-wide front against the Germans' Sudeten mountain positions.

Soviet units on the left flank of this front, which faces generally southward, now positions 14 miles northeast of Moravska-Ostrava, Czechoslovakia's third city guarding the northern route to Prague and already threatening Vienna.

After capturing the Polish city of Rybnik, 13 miles east of Ratibor, Soviet forces drove nine miles beyond that eight-way highway junction and took Loslau (Wodzislaw) for their closest approach to the Moravian gap.

Nazis Admit Rhine Front Badly Shaken

LONDON, March 27—(AP)—The official German news agency acknowledged tonight that the German army's Rhine front was "thoroughly shaken" and described Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's deep smash across the reich's waist as "a surprising turn of developments."

DNB Commentator Dr. Max Krull quoted "competent German circles," however, as saying "The Germans are not lacking reserves in the hinterland to build up a new defensive wall."

Krull declared that Patton's drive eastward which could lead to a juncture with a Russian push westward from Silesia, "points to other strategic objectives, one being the historic plan to separate northern and southern Germany through a line of the river Main."

51,673 U.S. Planes Sent at Nazis in Week

LONDON, March 27—(AP)—United States air forces sent 51,673 planes against German targets in the week of March 16-22, just before the Allied Rhine offensive, and lost 227 while destroying 375 enemy aircraft, U. S. strategic air force headquarters in Europe announced today.

At the state capitol in Salem, state officials and employees ganged eagerly into the pressroom to find out more details. They learned the report was incorrect, then wandered sadly back to desks.

Many callers anxious to contact newspaper offices dialed again and again, only to get busy signals.

Yank Plane Burns on Iwo



Smoke and flames tower from a Mustang fighter plane which was struck by another plane landing on the treacherous Iwo Jima airstrip. (AP Wirephoto from Army Air Forces).

Navy Cuts Warship Building Program But Admiral King Cautions Against Optimism

WASHINGTON, March 27—(AP)—The navy today cut back drastically its latest warship building program even as Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King said "No quick and easy victory (over Japan) can be taken for granted."

A \$1,000,000,000 "insurance" construction program announced March 6 was slashed 75 per cent.

Lt. Hannaman Dies in Crash Over Germany

First Lt. James D. Hannaman of Salem was killed when the eighth air force bomber on which he was co-pilot went down over Dusseldorf early in January, the war department notified his widow Tuesday.

Mrs. Hannaman, the former Lila Murry, had previously been informed he was missing in action. Hannaman, a former student at University of Oregon, was associated with his father, the late George L. Hannaman, in the contracting firm of Viecko and Hannaman before entering air corps active service.

Survivors in addition to his widow are two children, Jimmy, jr., and Vicki; his mother, Mrs. George L. Hannaman of Bakersfield, Calif.; sisters, Betty June Dahlen and Mary Jane Hannaman, both of Bakersfield; brothers, Sgt. Jack Hannaman, serving with the army in England, and Paul Hannaman, Bakersfield.

Tokyo Reports New B-29 Raid

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27—(AP)—Tokyo radio said southern Japan was attacked for the second time in 12 hours Tuesday by Superfortresses. The enemy said the second raid was made by 50 to 60 B-29s which dropped incendiary and explosives for two hours and a half around midnight Tuesday (Tokyo time).

The report, unconfirmed immediately by Allied sources, was put out by Japanese Domei news agency and intercepted by the federal communications commission.

Headquarters of the 21st bomber command at Guam previously had reported a raid by more than 200 Superfortresses around noon Tuesday (Japanese time) on Kyushu.

High German Officers Captured by Yanks

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY EAST OF THE RHINE, March 27—(AP)—Two Nazi major generals, several colonels and 15 lieutenant colonels were captured today by doughboys in a roundup of more than 1,000 prisoners in the vicinity of Ehrenbreitstein on the Rhine from Cologne.

Soldiers Smash Through Stiff Jap Defenses

By James Hutcheson
MANILA, Wednesday, March 28—(AP)—Veteran Yanks of the Eighth army's American division landed on Cebu Island against well-prepared beach defenses Monday morning after effective naval and air bombardment and quickly spearheaded two and a half miles northward almost to the outskirts of Cebu City, which was burning from Japanese torches.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced the invasion today in a communique which said the Japanese defenders were caught "off guard."

Front dispatches reported, however that the Americans encountered stiff mortar fire on the beaches, which were elaborately rigged for defense.

Associated Press Correspondent Richard Bergholz wrote that "the Japanese must have known the Yanks were coming to Cebu. They had everything ready for a long, tough fight."

He said that although the amphibious Buffaloes used by the assault waves were pinned down on the beach by mortar fire, the Yanks piled out and started inland afoot against disorganized resistance.

A spokesman said the first close-range contact with Japanese did not come until the Americans were 3,000 yards inland.

As Maj. Gen. William H. Arnold's Americans knifed inland the enemy fell back. The Japanese finally blew the big three-span highway bridge across the Managa river, just north of the beachhead.

The landing was made near Talisa, which is about five miles south of Cebu City, midway along Cebu's east coast.

Alien Nippons' Use of Land Bill Is Signed

A bill to prevent alien Japanese from living on or using land purchased in the name of a relative became law Tuesday when it was signed by Governor Earl Snell.

The bill, introduced by the senate revision of laws committee and known as senate bill 274, carries an emergency clause, which makes it effective immediately, rather than 90 days after legislative adjournment.

Japanese aliens are prevented from owning land, and the new law will prevent them from continuing their practice of using land purchased in the name of a relative who is a citizen.

Seventeen other bills were signed Tuesday by the governor.

Japs Launch Raid on Iwo

GUAM, Wednesday, March 28—(AP)—Two hundred or more Japanese, well supplied with grenades and carrying rifles or revolvers, broke into a bivouac area of army fighter pilots and aviation service troops on Iwo Jima in a well-organized, surprise attack Monday.

Marines of the Fifth division finally smashed the attack, killing 186 Japanese.

Organized resistance ended on Iwo on March 16, Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced several days ago.

Huge New Yank, British Tanks in Europe Action

PARIS, March 27—(AP)—General Eisenhower said today that some new American and British tanks equivalent to the German Tiger and Panther models now had appeared on the battlefield.

Their numbers are not large but will increase if the war lasts, the supreme commander of the western Allies said at a press conference.

Nimitz Silent On Nip Report Of Landings

By Elmont Waite

GUAM, Wednesday, March 28—(AP)—Still denying the enemy any hint of his intentions, Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz today reported both carrier planes and fast naval ships of the US Pacific fleet continued their intense bombardment of the Ryukyus. He totally ignored repeated Japanese broadcasts that American troops had made amphibious landings on the strategic Okinawa in the center of the island chain.

Nimitz did not even locate the targets for Tuesday's bombardment but they presumably were in Okinawa and possibly adjacent small islands, as were three others in the last four days.

Tuesday was the tenth consecutive day that Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's carrier pilots have bombed, rocketed and strafed targets from southern Honshu to the southern Tyukyus, and the fourth day in five that Adm. Raymond A. Spruance's fast, new 16-inch gun battleships have poured their explosive charges into shore defenses in Okinawa or vicinity.

Argentina at War With Axis, Ends Isolation

BUENOS AIRES, Mar. 27—(AP)—Argentina's military government declared the existence of a state of war with the Axis nations today in a move frankly to end its diplomatic isolation.

The decree issued by the government stated that war was declared against Japan because of the attack on the United States at Pearl Harbor and against Germany because Germany was Japan's ally.

The decree as broadcast by the government radio also expressed the government's adherence to the Chapultepec acts in accordance with the invitation issued by the Mexico City conference of American republics.

It concluded with a statement that appropriate measures would be taken to supervise the activities of companies, individuals and organizations which might affect Argentina's relations with other American countries or threaten their peace.

Vets' Affairs To Be Probed

WASHINGTON, March 27—(AP)—The house voted an investigation of the veterans administration today but efforts to obtain a full-scale probe into all veterans affairs failed.

By a vote of 256 to 4 the house approved a resolution by Chairman Rankin (D-Miss.) of the veterans committee authorizing that committee to investigate the facilities of the veterans administration.

Rankin promised an investigation "which will leave no stone unturned" but Rep. Philbin (D-Mass.) declared the action "too limited" to uncover the true state of veterans' treatment.

British Food Officials Arrive in Washington

WASHINGTON, March 27—(AP)—Pressing world food problems brought two high British officials here today at the invitation of President Roosevelt.

The visitors, the right honorable Oliver Lyttelton, minister of production, and Col. J. J. Llewellyn, minister of food, will talk with "highest American authorities."

Weather

San Francisco	Max.	Min.	Wind
Eugene	53	34	0
Portland	50	30	0
Seattle	48	28	0
Willamette river 7 ft. 1 in.			

FORECAST: (from McNary field, Salem) Occasional rain showers today with mostly cloudy skies except for brief periods of sunshine.

Allied Torrent Pours East In Great Triumph

U. S. First Knifes 27 More Miles; News Blackouts Close Over Fast Moving Armies Half Across Reich

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

PARIS, Wednesday, March 28—(AP)—Allied armies poured east in a torrent through smashed German lines yesterday, led by U.S. First army tank forces knifing 27 more miles eastward and breaking across the Dill river where the enemy was desperately trying to rally for a stand 235 miles from Berlin.

The entire front blazed with the fires of victory as seven allied armies pressed home what General Eisenhower declared was one of the greatest triumphs of any war. A front dispatch said "the rout is under way."

The Rhineland battle, forever a black day in Prussian military history, had stripped the Germans of the power to make another successful stand although Eisenhower said they yet would form a temporary line.

But now one of those lines had been broken by the First army's dash, which swept into Herborn and across the Dill river, even as the enemy tried to form a line there to repair the disasters of the Rhine.

Twelve miles to the southeast, another First army tank force was closing on Wetzlar, 57 miles beyond the Rhine.

News blackouts closed over these spearheads, just as they did over racing U.S. Third army tank columns, which had shredded defenses of the river Main at many points southeast of Frankfurt and by enemy account were loose 225 miles southwest of Berlin.

On the north flank, the British Second army broke completely through the enemy lines on the north German plain and dashed eastward almost unopposed under another security blackout.

The U.S. Seventh army lashed out from its new bridgehead north of Mannheim, cut the Frankfurt-Mannheim superhighway at a second point and was nine miles east of the Rhine. It probably had linked up with the Third army in its Mainz-Worms crossings.

General Eisenhower declared that the wehrmacht "as a military force on the western front is a whipped army," and called the Allied triumph along the Rhine one of the greatest of any war. He predicted the Nazis would be beaten into abject surrender—that there would be no negotiations.

Censorship Shrouds Moves
Partial censorship shrouded the extent of the sensational Allied advances, but the enemy radio said U.S. Third army columns were approaching Wuerzburg in Bavaria, 223 miles from Berlin, and had reached Lohr, 225 miles from the rubbled German capital.

Third army doughboys were fighting in the heart of Frankfurt on the east side of the Main river after charging across a damaged railroad bridge in the face of blistering machinegun and mortar fire. They had a strong holding in the southwestern part of Germany's ninth city, but the enemy still was resisting stubbornly.

The Allied-controlled Luxembourg radio said Wiesbaden, four miles west of Frankfurt near the confluence of the Main and Rhine rivers had been seized.

(A Blue network broadcast from Paris said Allied fighter pilots reported Third army tanks were menacing Nuernberg, nearly 100 miles beyond the point where Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's forces were officially placed. Nuernberg was the site of the annual Nazi party congress.)

First Army Sweeps Ahead
A powerful armored column of the First army swept another 22 miles northeast from the ancient city of Limburg, which was entered in Monday's sensational spurge, and was reported within two miles of Wetzlar, some 30 miles almost due north of Frankfurt.

Another tank force spilled down a super military highway southeast from Limburg to within a dozen miles of a junction with Third army forces fighting in Frankfurt. Wetzlar is approximately 235 air-line miles from Berlin.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' roaring First army tank forces registered gains as high as 27 miles during the day, maintaining constant pressure on the frantic and disorganized enemy. During Monday night Hodges' infantry first crossed a hastily-built bridge over the Lahr river at Limburg, and with the dawn his tanks began tearing along the superhighway toward Frankfurt.

Surrender to Result When Allies Meet

(By the Associated Press)
Gen. Eisenhower said today that unconditional surrender would be imposed upon the Germans when the Russians and western allies were linked in Germany.

Here were the approximate distances between the western allies and the Russians today:

British Second army—About 325 miles (from east of Wesel to the First White Russian front on the Oder).

U.S. Ninth army—About 330 miles (from the Essen area to the First White Russian front on the Oder).

U.S. First army—About 280 miles (from the area just west of Wetzlar to the First Ukrainian army front on the Neisse).

U.S. Third army—About 245 miles (by German account, from the Lohr area to the First Ukrainian army front on the Neisse).

U.S. Seventh army—About 330 miles (from the Mannheim area to the Neisse front).

WASHINGTON, March 27—(AP) United Nations diplomats will meet in Washington April 9 to plan an international court.

The state department announced today that invitations had gone out on behalf of the same nations that are sponsoring the world security meeting in San Francisco on April 25.

The Washington draft is to be presented at San Francisco, probably to be signed alongside a charter for a world peace organization.

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY, March 27—(AP)—A German soldier captured in the Frankfurt suburbs today told his captors he was 52 years old.

"What is a man your age doing in the army," asked Lt. Col. Ernest Mitchell of Arlington, Mass.

With a weary grimace the prisoner replied, "I'm a member of the Hitler youth."

Salem School District Budget Committee to Meet Tuesday

Salem school district's budget committee, named by school directors Tuesday night, has been called to meet next Tuesday to consider the coming year's plans for expenditure.

Appointed to that committee are Frank Spears, Harry Scott, Mrs. Elmer Berg, W. L. Phillips and William Entriss, while Harley White and George Grabenhorst have been named as alternates.

Directors authorized the school clerk to call for bids on the old grandstand on the high school field, its sale to be contingent upon arrangements for continued use of Sweetland field until a new stadium can be constructed. The lumber in the old structure would be particularly valuable now, it was pointed out.

Newsworthy