

Surrender Of Nazis Denied

Ultimatum Set Next Tuesday

Hope of Peace Rises and Falls

Duce Reported Killed

'Hopes and Fears of All the Years'



Symbolic of a hurt and weary world is this dramatic photo of two wounded veterans watching and waiting outside the great auditorium in San Francisco where allied nations seek a lasting peace. They are Marine Pvt. James Enoch and Seaman Thomas Kyle—late of Iwo Jima. But their names aren't news. They're your son, husband, brother, sweetheart. Are their prayers being answered? (International photo)

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

The allied world held a death-watch all day Saturday. Wires and radio waves crackled with rumors of German offers of surrender, culminating just after 5 p.m. with an AP bulletin from San Francisco crediting a "high American official" with the statement that Germany had surrendered, followed an hour and a half later with the statement from President Truman denying the report. But no one has denied that overtures for surrender have been made.

The falling apart of Germany is so obvious that were any government of character in charge surrender would long since have been tendered. Now authority has shrunk to near a vanishing point. Who is left to surrender? What does he have to surrender? There is no civil government save in localities. The capital is surrounded. The most of the reich is in allied hands. What is left is but a miserable remnant, a mixture of fanatic Nazi storm troopers, of frantic civilians, of a shattered Wehrmacht; a remnant though ever which Hitler and Himmler still assert authority.

Hitler has said that Germany would die rather than surrender. The octopus that was Germany, bleeding from all its extremities and from its very heart, is dying, writhing in death-throes, lashing fiercely where strength and will are left, but dying. Surrender now races with death for the reich.

The report that Himmler proposed surrender to the western allies may be authentic. The Germans may hope for more considerate treatment from the western allies than from the soldiers of the red army. But it may have been pride as well as fear which prompted the gesture to the west. The Germans must hate to admit their defeat at the hands of the "bochevick barbarians," led by military idiots. Yet the superb German military machine was defeated and decisively and continuously by the armies of Soviet Russia. By every test the Russians have earned a large share in any surrender.

So inevitable is German doom that surrender now lacks the dramatic climax of the armistice of 1918. But the end of the war, by surrender or by proclamation of victory will release emotions long pent-up, will occasion celebration and thanksgiving throughout the allied world. That day, praise God, seems near at hand.

Bay Meet Delegates In Dither

By Douglas E. Cornell

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28—(AP)—Hopes of the united nations conference for a speedy German surrender rose and fell like a tide tonight and through the confusion delegates saw their peace-shaping task growing more difficult.

They cheered at word that an American delegate, Senator Tom Connally of Texas, had declared that the Nazis had surrendered and the announcement would come "momentarily." They heard with dismay that President Truman, in Washington, had pronounced the surrender report unfounded.

But most of them felt that a Nazi collapse, if it does not come now, can't be long delayed. Connally repeated, after the Washington denial, that he expects the announcement of surrender "momentarily."

And the delegates' hopeful attitude was based on one clear fact—that Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler had offered surrender to Britain and the United States and had been turned down because he made no overtures to Russia.

Two different possibilities lay ahead of the delegates: 1. A shift to high speed to accomplish as much as possible toward molding the pattern of a peaceful world before top statesmen have to leave San Francisco. 2. A longer and more complicated job if such men as Eden of Britain, Molotov of Russia and Stettinius of America have to rush to their capitals in the hour of victory.

The Oregon Statesman

NINETY-FIFTH YEAR 22 PAGES Salem, Oregon, Sunday Morning, April 29, 1945 Price 5c No. 23

V-E DAY HELD IMMINENT

BERLIN WRITHING

Strangle Hold Held By Reds

Nazi Resistance Grows Weaker, Many Surrender

By Richard Kasisehke
LONDON, Sunday, April 28—(AP)—Soviet armies, taking a final strangle hold on dying Berlin, hurled its defenders back into a shell-raked 25-square-mile pocket in the city's center yesterday while thousands of German troops gave up the suicidal struggle and surrendered to the red army.

German resistance was fanatical but it was tottering. Almost all the city but the central pocket, which was forged by a red army inner ring of encirclement, was in Russian hands.

The Paris radio said early today that the Russians had occupied the reichstag in the center of Berlin, adding "it is believed that the end of German resistance in the capital is imminent." By Moscow's account, however, the Russians were two miles from the reichstag.

While the city lashed in its death agonies, soviet forces north of the capital smashed out across the Mecklenburg plains on an expanding 81-mile front and gained up to 22 miles toward Rostock and Hamburg in a clean-up of the isolated northern half of Adolf Hitler's now-bisected third reich.

These forces captured five major towns, including Faweswall, where Hitler, blinded by gas, in November, 1918, resolved in a military hospital to become a politician, rebuild Germany's military power and avenge the Versailles treaty.

Three major Berlin city districts and parts of three others were captured by the First White Russian and First Ukrainian armies as they battled up to three miles through blazing streets and linked up in western Berlin, Moscow revealed.

Allied Fences Are Airtight Against Separate Peace

WASHINGTON, April 28—(AP)—Allied fences appeared airtight today against the possibility of any separate peace for Germany or one short of unconditional surrender to all three principal Allies.

Amid persistent rumors of an attempt by Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler to surrender the reich to America and Britain—but not to Russia—it was pointed out here that repeated statements and agreements commit the Allies firmly to uncompromising joint action.

Meanwhile Jonathan Daniels, the White House press secretary, told reporters he knew nothing about any surrender proposals, and added that it was "perfectly clear" that there can be no unconditional surrender unless made to all the Allies.

Last 2 German Escape Routes In Italy Closed

By Lynn Hehsertling
ROME, April 28—(AP)—U. S. tank troops racing across northwestern Italy captured Brescia and Bergamo at the foot of the Alps today, blocking the last two German escape routes to the Brenner pass into Austria, and an unofficial Milan radio report said they already had reached the Swiss frontier at Como, 30 miles beyond Bergamo.

The Swiss radio said that the Germans had agreed to surrender in the provinces of Lombardy and Piedmont, which border on southern Switzerland, and embrace northwest and north central Italy. This report was without confirmation in Rome or elsewhere.

(Another unconfirmed Swiss radio report said the fallen duce, Benito Mussolini, had been taken to Milan by Italian patriots and would be tried by a patriot court martial.)

The last German troops were cleared from Genoa, last big west coast port held by the enemy, and 6000 prisoners were taken, a special allied communique said.

Munich 22 Miles For U. S.

Reich Split Into Two Traps, One Starts Crumbling

By James M. Long
PARIS, Sunday, April 28—(AP)—American armies crushed down today on Germany's last major stronghold, rolling an unstoppable wall of tanks to within 22 miles of Munich, cradle of nazidom that already was reported torn by revolt.

The reich now is split into two traps, one on the north barely the size of Indiana and one on the south little larger than Colorado.

The southern one was crumbling badly at its very core under the blows of the U. S. Third and Seventh and French First armies.

The Seventh army was but 22 miles west of Munich, considered the northern bastion of the Alpine redoubt, and the U. S. Third army was 27 miles away on the north.

As the tide of Third army tanks and troops struck down a super-highway toward Munich, their field radios picked up a broadcast on the city's wavelength announcing a "free action of Bavaria" revolt and asking the Americans to bomb Field Marshal Albert Kesselring's headquarters at Pullach, six miles south of the city.

Later Gauleiter Paul Giesler of Munich went on the air and declared the revolutionaries had been dispersed and that a "treasonable transmitter" was trying to spread confusion.

Momentarily?



Sen. Tom Connally (D-Texas), chairman of senate foreign relations committee, who "announced" German capitulation and later declared Nazi surrender would be made known "momentarily."

Short, Pithy Denial Given Peace Report

WASHINGTON, April 28—(AP)—President Truman tonight authorized the following direct quotations on his denial that Germany has surrendered: "Well, I was over here, as you can see, doing a little work, and the rumor got started. I had a call from San Francisco and the state department called me. I just got in touch with Admiral Leahy and had him call our headquarters—commander-in-chief in Europe—and there is no foundation for the rumor. That is all I have to say."

PARIS, April 29—(Sunday)—(AP)—The Paris radio said today tremendous events were impending.

LONDON, April 28—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill declared today that rumors of a German offer to surrender were "in harmony with the enemy's desperate situation," and strongly reaffirmed that any German capitulation would be accepted only on a joint basis by the Big Three.

LONDON, April 28—(AP)—The Stockholm Svenska Dagbladet, quoting "reliable circles" said that Hitler had suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and was near death in Berlin and that "it was believed an immediate announcement of Hitler's death would mean mass capitulation of a great number of troops."

Truman Denies All Reports Of Nazi Surrender

Reds Confirm Rejection of Himmler Appeal; Connally Sees News 'Momentarily'

Moscow announced early today (Sunday) that Heinrich Himmler had attempted to surrender Germany unconditionally to Britain and the United States, but a startling report at San Francisco that a surrender actually had been made to all three major allies was flatly declared by President Truman to be "unfounded."

These developments climaxed a climactic day of world news. The United States and Britain rejected the Himmler offer because it did not include Russia, according to the Moscow broadcast by the official soviet Tass agency.

The San Francisco report that a surrender had been made with "no strings attached," originated with Senator Tom Connally, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee and vice chairman of the American delegation to the United Nations conference.

This information, given at first with the stipulation that Connally not be identified, was carried by the Associated Press at 7:35 p. m., Eastern war time, Saturday.

One hour and forty minutes later President Truman told an extraordinary press conference at the White House in Washington that he had gotten Admiral Leahy to telephone General Eisenhower in Paris "and there is no foundation for the rumor."

Learning of the presidential statement, Senator Connally authorized identification of himself as source of the surrender report and told a reporter that he still expected the surrender announcement to be made "momentarily." He said he believed the official news would be forthcoming in a matter of hours.

Molotov Presides Over Bay City Conference Like a Lamb

By Henry C. Cassidy
Associated Press World Service Writer
SAN FRANCISCO, April 28—(AP)—Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov, who came roaring into this United Nations conference like a lion, presided over its plenary session today as gently as a lamb.

South Santiam Road to Open

The South Santiam highway, closed Monday afternoon, will be opened to traffic Monday morning, R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer, declared Saturday.

War-Shy Sweden Still Clings Grimly to Neutrality Policy

By Daniel De Luce
STOCKHOLM, April 28—(AP)—Cautious, war-shy Sweden is clinging grimly today to her policy of official neutrality and making no commitments to any allied power to fight the Germans in Norway.

Could Himmler Effect Peace?

LONDON, April 28—(AP)—James F. King, AP staff correspondent, in an analytical story tonight, said, "Whether Himmler will split with Hitler and could deliver, even if he sought peace in good faith, was problematical—as evidenced by the fact that the battle for Berlin has raged for a week with no prospect reported by Nazi propagandists leading the fight inside the dying capital."

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Wind
San Francisco	71	49	SE 10
Eugene	66	47	SE 10
Salem	68	46	SE 10
Portland	64	41	SE 10
Seattle	63	38	SE 10
Willamette River 6 ft. 2 in.			

FORECAST: By U. S. Weather Bureau, McNary Field, Salem. Partly cloudy with occasional rain. Temperature about the center. Maximum temperature expected today near 64 degrees.