

President Roosevelt Is Dead

Mighty U. S. Air Fleet Blasts Tokyo, Strikes at War Plants

Smoke Billows Above Capital Of Nip Empire

Over 400 Planes Join In Attacks on Two Vital Jap Industrial Areas

Guam, April 12 (U.P.)—Four hundred or more Superfortresses and escorting fighters—possibly the largest land-based air armada ever to hit Japan—bombed war plants in the Tokyo area and in Koriyama, 110 miles to the north, today.

Returning crew members whose Superfortresses bombed one of the two industrial targets in the Koriyama area from low level said their bombs landed directly on the target. Fires were caused and huge clouds of smoke were seen to rise. The mission was 17 hours long.

The giant bombers flew 3,800 miles round trip between their bases in the Marianas and Koriyama, their deepest penetration yet of the enemy homeland. Escorting Mustang fighters took off from Iwo Jima, 750 miles south of Tokyo.

Three Fleets Used
Three great fleets of planes made up the armada, which was believed to have equaled if not exceeded the record force of more than 400 aircraft which hit Tokyo and Nagoya last Saturday.

New Bend Plant Starts Operating

Under construction for the past several months, the Bend Concrete Products company plant, operated by R. P. Syverson and L. N. Eisenbeck, turned out its first order today, 12 inch pipe, each section three feet in length, for use by the land conservation service in some irrigation tests. The firm also has an order for The Brooks-Scanlon Lumber Company Inc. on file, and by April 15, the plant will start the manufacture of concrete blocks.

Cousins Meet In Australia

Bridging the gap of Pacific ocean between mother and son, Pfc. Bill Corgan of the famed 41st division, nephew of Mrs. J. F. Arnold, called his aunt recently from Portland with the message that while on overseas duty he had spent a furlough in Australia with her son, Robert C. Arnold, vice-consul at Canberra, near Sidney.

70,000 Yank Prisoners Held in Germany Are Reported Living Under Bad Conditions

Washington, April 12 (U.P.)—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius said today that 70,000 American prisoners of war held in Germany are living under "deplorable" conditions.

1945 Red Cross Dinner Tonight

The annual Red Cross dinner meeting will be held this evening at 7 o'clock in the Pine Tavern with Dr. O. L. Walter of Portland as the guest speaker. Mrs. Robert W. Hemingway, executive secretary of the Deschutes county chapter, announces.

Battleship Killer



(NEA Telephoto) Lt. (jg) William Ernest Delaney, Detroit, Mich., who dropped four 500-pound bombs on the Japanese super-battleship Yamato and watched the enemy efforts to salvage the 45,000-ton vessel after he had parachuted into the ocean from his burning torpedo plane.

Roads Are Slick Across Passes

Highway conditions over the Cascade range between Central Oregon and the Willamette valley were reported bad today by motorists who earlier travelled the Santiam and Willamette routes, as well as by officials of the state highway department here. Bus traffic was slowed, likewise, on the Wapinitia highway, and motorists attempting to cross the mountains in the vicinity of Government Camp without chains were encountering difficulties.

Snow Depths Gain

Snow depths were increased on the summits of the mountains in fitful storms in the night, depositing a total depth of 116 inches on the Santiam pass, and 100 inches on the Willamette. Four inches of new snow were recorded on the Willamette highway, and two inches on the Santiam. Reports were lacking on the Wapinitia route as to snow depths and the latest fall.

Jap Air Power Driven From Sky

Chungking, April 12 (U.P.)—Japanese air power virtually has been driven from the skies over Free China, 14th air force announcements indicated today.

Albany Selected For Mines Work

Albany, Ore., April 12 (U.P.)—Dr. Bruce A. Regers, director of the Northwest Electro Development laboratory, today announced all mining and metallurgical activities of the United States bureau of mines in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana will center at the Albany institution.

Weimar, Cradle of German Republic, Seized By Allies

Men of Patton Take Over Historic City and Find Heavy Damage; Young Wife Gives Big Aid

BY REYNOLDS PACKARD
(United Press War Correspondent)
Weimar, Germany, April 12 (U.P.)—Weimar, cradle of the German republic which Adolf Hitler smashed in his rise to power, surrendered today to the men of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army who entered the city and completed its occupation at 10:30 a.m.

The 80th infantry division occupied Weimar which had surrendered to the Americans despite desperate orders issued only today by Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler that no town or city of Germany was to surrender on pain of death to German officials.

An infantry column led by Col. N. A. Costello, Arlington, Va., paraded into the old city. But most of the populace did not see the entry because they deliberately turned their backs on our troops and glared sullenly at the ground.

Young Wife Aids

The city was surrendered to our forces largely through the efforts of Erika Fischer, pretty blue-eyed auburn-haired wife of a German physician. She is half-American.

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Action Flares On Oder Front, In River Area

Zhukov Believed to Be On March for Capital, As Allies Approach Goal

London, April 12 (U.P.)—Moscow reported today that violent fighting had blazed up in the Red army's Oder river bridgehead on the approaches to Berlin as American mobile forces raced toward the Nazi capital from the west.

"Soviet troops are waging fierce battles beyond the Oder on the approaches to Berlin," a Moscow broadcast said.

The report indicated that Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov had lighted the fuse of his long-brewing push against Berlin, synchronizing it with the Ninth U. S. Army drive to squeeze the heart of Nazidom in a nut-cracker.

Troops Massed

Zhukov's reported onslaught hit the German defenses in the Oder valley about 30 miles due east of Berlin. There he had massed in his bridgehead across the Oder a great array of Soviet troops and arms. Only yesterday formidable forces of Cossack cavalry were reported on the move, evidently into positions to spearhead a lightning sweep westward.

New Push Reported

In the Danube valley west of virtually-conquered Vienna, another Red army push was aimed at Berchtesgaden and the Bavarian Alps, touted as a sanctuary for the Nazi hierarchy.

Funds Provided

Substantial funds already have been provided for the different projects, with more being budgeted, the reports showed.

Harbor of Bari Scene of Blast

Rome, April 12 (U.P.)—Almost 1,900 Italian civilians and undetermined number of allied service personnel were killed or injured today when a munitions ship exploded in Bari harbor.

Plant Operations Briefly Halted

A reported question of seniority was quickly settled this afternoon, after all operations at the big Brooks-Scanlon Lumber Company Inc. plant had been halted while workmen conferred in the International Woodworkers of America (CIO) hall on Bond street.

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F.D.R. Suddenly Stricken



President Franklin D. Roosevelt died this afternoon at Warm Springs, Georgia, his secretary, Stephen T. Early announced this afternoon.

Flash—President Dead

Warm Springs, Ga., April 12 (U.P.)—Franklin D. Roosevelt, president for 12 of the most momentous years in this country's history, died suddenly at 3:55 p.m. (CWT) in a small room in the "Little White House."

Death was caused by cerebral hemorrhage at the resort where the president had been resting for some ten days.

Vice President Harry S. Truman, who succeeds to the nation's highest office, was called to the White House immediately.

An immediate cabinet meeting was summoned.

The four Roosevelt sons, all of whom are in the service, were notified of the President's death by messages from Mrs. Roosevelt. She told them that the President had done his job to the end and that she knew he would want them to do so too.

Mrs. Roosevelt, Early and Adm. McIntyre, the President's physician, arranged to leave for Warm Springs by plane almost immediately.

"We expect to leave Warm Springs tomorrow morning by train for Washington," Early said. "Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon in the East room of the White House."

"Interment will be at Hyde Park Sunday afternoon. No detailed arrangements or exact times have been decided on as yet."

Nazis Expected to Make Death Fight at Leipzig; Gas Probable

Sweden Hears Rumors of Climactic Battle That May Be Armageddon of World War 2

Spain in Break With Japan; Atrocity Charge Is Hurlled

Madrid, April 12 (U.P.)—Spain has made its first break with an axis power. It severed diplomatic relations with Japan last night because Japanese troops murdered Spanish citizens at Manila.

Elbe Crossed By Americans In Surge East

Three Armies Reported Racing for Nazi City; Soviet Junction Looms

Paris, April 12 (U.P.)—U. S. Ninth army mobile forces broke across the Elbe river at Magdeburg today and raced for Berlin, which lay only 49 miles or less ahead of the rambling "hell-on-wheels" second armored division by unofficial account.

Three other allied armies were surging eastward on either side of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's lightning columns, chopping deeper by the hour into the waistline of unoccupied Germany, already less than 100 miles wide between the Russian and American forces.

Big Gains Made

The U. S. First and Third armies advanced up to 26 miles along a linked front aimed at Leipzig and Halle.

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