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THE BEND BULLETIN

CENTRAL OREGON'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Soviet Siege Armies Storm Berlin

U. S. Troops Make Bid to Break Through Lines, To Join Russians

Elbe Crossed At New Point, Germans Say

Ike's Men Expected to Link With Stalin Army in Assault on Capital

Paris, April 21 (UP)—American troops were reported storming the Elbe river line at a new point northwest of Berlin today in a major bid to break through and join the red army in the final assault on the German capital.

Word of the new crossing attempt on the U. S. Ninth army front before Berlin was flashed by the German DNB news agency as three other allied armies in the south struck along a 200-mile front for Hitler's last redoubt in the Bavarian Alps.

DNB said the Americans attacked in the Wittenberg area, 62 miles northwest of Berlin and 70 miles north of the Ninth army's other bridgehead across the Elbe at Barby.

The enemy agency added cryptically that "as far as is known" all the crossing attempts, had failed.

There was no confirmation at allied headquarters of the enemy report. But a crossing at Wittenberg would put the Americans on the Hamburg-Berlin railway only 79 miles from a juncture with Russian troops in the northeastern outskirts of Berlin and 70 miles from soviet units at the capital's southern gates.

In the Barby bridgehead, the Americans were 40 miles west of the red army vanguards and meeting stiff opposition.

As the battle for Berlin thundered into its final hours, the American Third and Seventh and the French First armies in the south opened their assault on nazism's last strongholds in Bavaria.

Drives Gain Power
The three-army offensive was rolling with increasing weight against the outer ramparts of the Bavarian redoubt on a front looping northward from the Swiss border to northwestern Czechoslovakia.

The fiercest enemy resistance was reported concentrated against the U. S. Seventh army striking straight down from Nuernberg toward Munich. Three thousands of fanatical teen-aged nazis fought a savage and partly successful delaying action on the road to Munich.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's American Third army rammed a half-dozen armored spearheads up to and across the Czechoslovak border on a front looping in to within 58 miles of Pilsen and 98 miles or less west of Prague, the last main escape corridor between northern and southern Germany.

Fate of Fliers To Be Learned

Nuernberg, Germany, April 21 (UP)—The fate of thousands of American and British airmen listed as "missing" may be learned soon.

A processing center for Allied fliers shot down over German territory was discovered in the nearby town of Buchenbuhl. A master index file detailing what happened to 45,000 Anglo-American airmen was found in the center.

Each captured flier was recorded in the master file and listed on a separate card. He was given a number and his belongings were placed in an envelope with the number.

Bushels of rings, watches, fraternity pins, and dogtags were found at the processing center.

NEAR PHILADELPHIA
Russian troops reached within 10 miles of Philadelphia today. The Philadelphia in this case is a German town 12 miles southwest of Berlin.

Nazi Party Members Forced To Dig Up Prisoners' Bodies

Angry Americans Stand Guard as Germans Use Bare Hands in Removing Corpses of 500 Men

Gardelegen, Germany, April 21 (UP)—American soldiers stood guard today while healthy, prosperous nazi party members dug up with their bare hands the hastily-buried bodies of 500 of their former prisoners.

These were the bodies of anti-nazi Frenchmen, Belgians, Russians, Poles, and Dutchmen who were burned to death and shot a few hours before the Americans took this town. Then they were dumped hurriedly into make-shift graves.

A great majority of the townspeople are nazi party members. Most are prosperous merchants. The town looks like any other German town—clean streets, clean homes, clean people with rosy, plump cheeks.

But they could not have failed to notice when the SS troops, aided by the volkstorm, herded the prisoners into a stone barn to the outskirts of the city, sprinkled gasoline on the straw flooring and set it afire.

Shot By Guards
Some fear-crazed victims tried to escape by squeezing under the doors but the guards shot them. The volkstormers dug a 60-yard long trench behind the barn and dumped 500 smoldering corpses into it.

Arrival of the Americans prevented burial of all the victims. Gardelegen today is filled with hate. Civilian efforts to be friendly are rejected coldly by the Americans. This changed the civilians. They avert their eyes when they pass the American soldiers.

The Americans demand an immediate, correct and respectful answer to questions—and they get it.

Civilians Rounded Up
Each day for six days the Americans have been rounding up groups of civilians and marching them a quarter-mile to the scene of the massacre for a silent sermon.

Now the Germans, 200 of them, including 50 principal party members, are being forced to dig up the bodies of the dead.

Port of Bordeaux Opened to Allies

Paris, April 21 (UP)—The Port of Bordeaux was reopened for allied shipping today for the first time in four years following the clearing of German forces from the entire Gironde estuary.

The campaign to eliminate the German pocket around the Gironde on the "forgotten front" virtually ended yesterday—seven days after the French began the offensive along the Atlantic coast.

A communique said French troops hoisted the tricolor at the extreme tip of Pointe de Grave, signalling the end of the campaign.

WOMAN MISSING

Spokane, Wash., April 21 (UP)—Authorities today conducted a county-wide search for Mrs. Hermina Ischi, 72, reported missing from her home since Wednesday.

913,237 CAPTURED

Paris, April 21 (UP)—The allied western armies captured 913,237 German prisoners in the first 20 days of April, headquarters announced today.

Huge Sky Fort Armada Bombs Jap Suicide Plane Bases; Americans Lose Many Vessels

By Frank Tremaine
Guam, April 21 (UP)—Upwards of 300 Superfortresses today blasted the Kyushu bases of Japanese suicide plane bases, but two of the airfields—Usa, near the north coast, and Kushira in the south—were hit for the first time.

A 21st bomber command announcement said the attacks covered the "length and breadth" of Kyushu.

Cebu Conquest Is Completed, Millions Freed

Over 5,000 Nippons Die In Battles on Island; New Campaigns Planned

By Don Caswell
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
Manila, April 21 (UP)—American troops shattered the last Japanese organized resistance on Cebu to complete the conquest of the central Philippines today.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said the sweep through the central Philippines liberated at least 6,400,000 persons on more than a score of islands.

He promised that the resources of the freed area, measuring nearly 33,000 square miles, would be used for the rehabilitation of the Philippines and "for prosecution of the war against Japan itself."

5000 Japs Killed
Japanese losses on Cebu amounted to approximately 5,000 dead as veterans of the American division burst through the last defenses in wide enveloping moves to complete the campaign. A few enemy stragglers scattered through the hills to become prey for Filipino guerrillas.

The conquest of the central islands in the archipelago enabled the Americans further to concentrate on the offensives on Luzon and Mindanao.

They were the last two large islands on which Japanese organized forces were active, although the enemy garrisons slowly were being compressed into decreasing pockets for final annihilation.

Advances Made
On Mindanao Eighth army forces were pushing out rapidly from the new beachhead on the Moro gulf and sent an additional column thrusting 16 miles inland along the main road to Davao.

At the northern end of the beachhead, other American troops advanced 15 miles northeast of Malabang and reached the shore of Lake Lanao, a scant 25 miles across the narrow neck connecting Zamboanga peninsula with the main part of Mindanao.

Front reports said the troops were advancing without meeting serious opposition, although a group of Japanese made a small and futile counterattack on the southern column north of Cotabato.

Geese Molested, Officer Reports

Chasing of ducks and geese off their nests on the islands below the Tumalo avenue bridge, today brought a severe reprimand to two Bend boys who were caught in the act by Officer William Burton. The officer had hurried to the scene after he had received a telephone call.

The boys, each 14 years of age, were found by Officer Burton to be rowing among the islands. They admitted chasing one goose off her nest, the officer reported.

Truman Greets French Delegates to Conference



President Harry S. Truman greets George Bidault (left), French minister of foreign affairs, in garden of the White House after his arrival in Washington with other French delegates to San Francisco Conference. Left to right: George Bidault, James E. Dunn, assistant secretary of state, and French Ambassador Henri Bonnet.

Pioneer of Bend Is Heart Victim

Theodore Aune, 63, Bend pioneer, former city councilman here and Crook county deputy sheriff in early days, died at his home at 123 Franklin last night at 6:15, victim of a sudden heart attack. Mr. Aune was a resident of Bend for 42 years, coming here in 1902, when this town was little more than a stopping place for freight teams on the long haul into the interior and for stockmen trailing flocks into the mountains.

A native of Orkedalen, Norway, where he was born on Feb. 23, 1882, Mr. Aune came to America with his parents when only six years of age, first living in Michigan, then moving to Ashland, Wisconsin. He was a youth of 20 when he came to the pioneer village of Bend in 1902, with his brother, Anton Aune. In 1906, the Aune brothers entered the business here, and in that year constructed the big livery stable on Bond street for many years served as a center for freighters that moved long "strings" over dusty Central Oregon roads and for stage drivers operating between Shaniko, then the railroad terminus, and Bend, via Prineville. The big barn that the Aune brothers constructed nearly 40 years ago remained a landmark in Bend until modern Bend practically enveloped the huge structure. It was finally razed.

Was Deputy Sheriff
Mr. Aune served as deputy sheriff of Crook county when the Bend area was still a part of that county and this portion of Central Oregon was referred to as the "west side." Mr. Aune served for two terms on the city council, before Bend adopted its present managerial form of government.

In early days, Mr. Aune engaged in contract work, and when the big mills came to Bend he assisted with many contracts on logging railroads, wagon roads leading into the midstate woods and in general construction at the mills. In recent years, Mr. Aune assisted his brother in the operation of the Aune Feed store, erected on the site where the sprawling Aune livery stables stood for many years.

Mr. Aune was a member of the First Lutheran church of Bend—a church which he assisted to construct. Services will be held Tuesday at 2:30 p. m. from the Niswonger & Winslow chapel, with Rev. M. A. Thompson of the First Lutheran church in charge.

Family Survives
Aside from his wife, Martha, Mr. Aune is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Everett L. Wiles and Mrs. A. E. Ledbetter, both of Bend, and one son, T. S. Boise Aune, who is serving with the American forces in the Italian theater of war. Also surviving are his brother, Anton, and three sisters, Mrs. Margaret A. Smith, Bend; Mrs. W. K. Wilkenson, Portland; and Mrs. B. A. Nilsen, LaAnse. Grandchildren are Robert Kinnan, Marsh Lynn Ledbetter and Karen Louise Wiles.

7,500 PLANES DESTROYED
Washington, April 21 (UP)—The U. S. navy alone has destroyed 7,500 Japanese planes in the Pacific since the start of the Philippines campaign last October, a naval spokesman revealed last night.

Nazi Leaders Fleeing North, Sweden Hears

London, April 21 (UP)—Leading nazi party members are fleeing to Norway aboard what planes the Luftwaffe has left, dispatches from Sweden reported today. While other reports told of peace riots in Berlin and Munich, the Stockholm newspaper Morgonbladet reported mysterious plane movements over the Swedish-Norwegian border the past two nights.

Swedes near the border saw large numbers of planes on their way to Norway. Contrary to the practice of allied planes in maintaining blackout, these planes switched on their lights immediately after they flew over land, apparently mistaking Swedish border regions for Norway.

The Stockholm newspaper said it was believed leading nazis were aboard the planes.

Churchill Warns Jap War Ahead

Bristol, Eng., April 21 (UP)—Prime Minister Churchill hinted today that he might retire—or be retired—after the defeat of Germany.

In a speech accepting the freedom of this city, he said that he "or whoever stands in my place" would have to ask war-weary Britain "for a new leap forward, for a new lifting of the soul and body" to defeat Japan.

Churchill said that in the event there was a new prime minister he would support him, whoever it may be, but did not elaborate further. However, a general election will be held after V-E day.

Asks War Aid
He called on Britain to help protect "this second war... a conclusion free from any doubt." Churchill again dampened talk of a premature V-E day.

"We have no intention of encouraging any festivities or thanksgiving until we are assured from our military commanders that the task is so far complete that everyone may cheer," he said.

The reference was taken as an indication that victory would be proclaimed only after all pockets of German resistance have been erased.

Two Bit Cars on Portland Market

Portland, Ore., April 21 (UP)—Can you imagine paying two bits for an automobile?

Well, that's just what happened to two Portlanders and it was legal since they bought them from City Purchasing Agent Gen. W. Yates.

The cars, among 18 jalopies that had been left on the city streets by their owners, were auctioned off after being hauled to the city yards.

Bologna Seized By Allied Troops

Rome, April 21 (UP)—American and British troops today captured Bologna, big Italian gateway city to the German-controlled Po plain.

Troops of the American Fifth and British Eighth armies smashed into the great Italian stronghold from three sides.

The city's capture will enable the allies to use their great superiority in armored forces in the battle for northern Italy.

Astride Road
Doughboys of the Fifth army already were astride the nazis' main escape road northwest of Bologna and hundreds of allied tanks and armored cars spilled out into the flat floor of the Po valley for the dash northward.

American Fifth army troops continued their attack across the Bologna-Modena highway into the Po valley, cutting off any German escape from Bologna to the northwest.

The Fifth and Eighth armies' advance was aided by South African troops who smashed into Casalecchio, three miles southwest of Bologna.

Fire Truck Skids, Chief Is Bruised

Fire chief LeRoy Fox received cuts and bruises, and some damage was done to the city's new fire truck late yesterday when the vehicle skidded on loose gravel at Hill street and Deschutes place and collided with a telephone pole. The truck and firemen were en route to 140 Xerxes avenue in answer to a general alarm.

The fire chief received his injuries when he saw that collision between the truck and the pole was inevitable and he jumped to avoid the impact. He had been riding on the left running board of the truck. None of the other firefighters was injured.

A second fire truck was sent for, but by the time the crew arrived at the scene of the blaze, fire had destroyed a pile of stove wood. No other damage resulted from the blaze, firemen reported.

1,800 Allied Airmen Clubbed, Beaten in Nazi Death March

Twenty-First Army Group Headquarters, April 21 (UP)—Eighteen hundred allied airmen were beaten and bayoneted by nazis guards on a torture march they dubbed "the Stettin jaunt," a Canadian survivor said today.

The Canadian, Warrant Officer Armand Joseph Pamburn, Bonifice, Manitoba, an airforce navigator, said the victims included 1,000 Americans.

Pamburn said that during the two-mile march, which took place last July, German marines clubbed and jabbed the fliers with machine guns by other marines.

The prisoners originally were held in Stalag Luft VII in East Prussia, but because of the Russian advance they were sent by train to Memel, thence by boat to Swinemunde. En route they passed through Stettin, giving the trip the title, "the Stettin jaunt."

Reds Outflank Hitler Capital In Quick Move

Capture of Nazi City May Occur Very Soon, News Broadcasts Hint

London, April 21 (UP)—Russian troops are fighting in the streets of the suburbs of Berlin, a soviet communique announced tonight.

The red army has captured Bernau, three and one-half miles northeast of the Berlin city limits, and Strausberg, Werneuchen and Buckow on the eastern approaches of the city, the communique said.

The Russians also captured Erkner, one-half mile from the Berlin eastern city limits.

London, April 21 (UP)—The German high command acknowledged today that Russian siege armies were storming Berlin and that a red army lightning thrust of more than 50 miles had outflanked the doomed capital completely on the south.

Gloomy nazi broadcasts said converging soviet armies had clamped a blazing siege arc against the eastern, southeastern and northeastern suburbs of Berlin, and that red army artillery had begun pumping shells into the heart of the city.

A German communique reported that a soviet column had raced up the Spree valley, by-passed Berlin on the south, and reached the area of Juterbog, 26 miles southwest of the city and 40 miles from the U. S. Ninth army's bridgehead across the Elbe.

Strength Mustered
Supplementary broadcasts reported Russian forces ranging the region southwest of Berlin in the areas of Truenbrietzen, 23 miles from the capital, and south of Beetz, 13 miles southwest of Berlin.

The speed with which the red army mobile units raced beyond Berlin indicated that the nazis had mustered every last ounce of their strength for the defense of the capital itself and on the Elbe line to the west, leaving the city's back door unbolts.

A Moscow dispatch said the final breakthrough on the Berlin front was expected this week-end.

Thousands of soviet guns and planes were pouring steel and explosives into the devastated city in a steady rain. RAF Mosquitos joined in the bombardment with six separate block-buster raids during the night.

Big Guns Heard
The muffled thunder of the bombardment was audible to American Ninth army troops along the Elbe river, 45 miles west of Berlin, a front dispatch from that area said.

(A BBC broadcast said that American and Russian patrols were only 25 miles apart in an unidentified sector of Germany. The report was attributed to "messengers reaching Moscow.") A United Press dispatch from Moscow yesterday said patrols already may have met.

The nazi Transoceanic agency said the first soviet shells were hitting the "built-up area of Berlin." It said Paul Joseph Goebbels as defense commissioner had ordered Berliners unable to reach their normal places of work through "lack of transport" to report immediately for war work.

Line Shattered
The Germans freely admitted the situation was deteriorating (Continued on Page 5)