

British Drop 5040 Tons of Bombs on Major Nazi Rail Centers

Russians Repel Nazi Assaults In Narva Sector

German Stand at Sevastopol in Final Hour As Reds Sink Ships

Moscow, April 21 (AP)—The German command hurled hordes of tanks and tens of thousands of infantrymen today against soviet forces massing in Estonia and old Poland for spring and summer offensives.

The increasingly heavy German "preventive" attacks indicated that red armies may be preparing to strike next in the Narva sector of Estonia in the Baltic states and on the Stanislawow front in the Carpathians as soon as they complete the liberation of Sevastopol, last nazi toehold in the Crimea.

The German stand in Sevastopol, Russia's biggest naval base was believed in its final hours as two Russian armies slowly pressed the doomed garrison back through the streets of the city. Soviet planes blockading the approaches to the port in 24 hours alone sank an enemy destroyer and four transporters totalling 15,000 tons, some of them loaded to capacity with fleeing German and Romanian troops.

(A British broadcast recorded by CBS said a heavy Russian cruiser, standing off Sevastopol harbor, was shelling the docks in the German-held city.)

Tanks Repulsed
The Germans launched their heavy attack against the soviet bridgehead on the west bank of the Narva river southwest of the Estonian railway junction of the same name after a fierce 90-minute artillery barrage.

As the curtain of fire lifted, large forces of tanks, self-propelled guns, and infantry moved forward, "apparently counting on routing our defense by one blow," the soviet communique said.

Instead, a hail of soviet rifle, machine-gun, artillery, and trench mortar fire forced the enemy to turn and flee, but later reports said the attacks were continuing on a heavy scale, though without success. Some 2,000 Germans were killed in the initial battles.

Supporting the red army, soviet planes bombed concentrations of military trains at the Latvian railway centers of Rēzene and Gulbene. Many fires and explosions were touched off. A slate refinery at Kivihill, 45 miles west of Narva, also was raided, and the communique reported that "almost the entire area of the plant" was left enveloped in flames.

Mystery Veils War Project

Richland, Benton County, Wash., April 21 (AP)—A full-fledged city has arisen in this area of central Washington sagebrush desert and rolling hills under the impetus of a mystery-shrouded war project.

Normally a town of about 150 residents, the boom has boosted the population many times over. Now, following a war production board appeal at Washington two days ago for several thousand more construction workers to go to an "important war project, near Pasco, Wash.," the area will grow more. A city of 15,000 population is expected.

Many barracks and scores of attractive houses, in no way a war housing development, have arisen. Some are one-story bungalows and others are two-story duplexes. They are on well laid-out circular, winding streets.

A high school was opened last week and five modern grade schools are being planned. The hotel is modern and a new hospital, service buildings and other civic structures are arising. The new motion picture house already is open.

Prefabricated houses, blocks of them, built at Toledo, Ore., are arriving by truck and train. They are set up in a few hours.

Richland is 10 miles from Pasco, where the Yakima and Columbia rivers meet. The big project is officially known as the Hanford Engine works. The area, under complete supervision of the army engineers, covers more than 15 townships and half a million acres in Benton, Grant and Franklin counties.

The Weather
Partly cloudy tonight. Light rain Saturday. Slightly warmer. Max. 53, min. 36. Rain, trace. River, 4.8 ft.

Capital Journal

56th Year, No. 96 Entered as second class matter at Salem, Oregon Salem, Oregon, Friday, April 21, 1944 ★ ★ Pri

Jap Life Lines In Pacific Snap Says Admiral

San Francisco, April 21 (AP)—"The lifelines of the Japanese Pacific empire are stretching and snapping one by one." That was the way Vice Adm. David W. Bagley, commander of the western sea frontier, today described the trend of events in the Pacific war.

"We have demonstrated our superiority over the Japanese in amphibious warfare," Admiral Bagley told the San Francisco Commonwealth club. "Our maturing experience and offensive power permit broader and bolder operations."

Nearing Power Peak
He said, too, that "our nation is approaching the peak of its belligerent power," which he defined as "the sum of its sea, land and air power used collectively and in true cooperation, plus its civil power."

For, the admiral declared, "our Pacific war will not be won by the army, the navy or the air force. It will be won by all three jointly, backed to the hilt by our home front production of supplies and fighting equipment, with all allegiances merged into a dynamic patriotism."

Fighting an Empire
As to the extent of Japanese conquest, Admiral Bagley said, "we are not fighting an overpopulated and fantastically ambitious country of about the size of California. We are fighting an Asiatic empire with a land area almost as great as that of our own continental United States."

The future of America in the Pacific was at stake, he declared, in the great battle of Midway in June, 1942. He called that "an ultimate testing ground for the Japanese concept of an invasion force, with that force operating under conditions more favorable than ever again are likely to be vouchsafed to our enemies."

Out of the U. S. victory at Midway the Admiral concluded, came an axiom of naval warfare—that command of the sea is essential to invasion operations. "Japan most prematurely presumed such command and supremacy at Midway," he said, "and gambled away an empire in an attempted short-cut to conquest."

As a consequence of a subsequent campaign of bleeding the enemy of strength by constant and wearing attrition, Admiral Bagley suggested "it is possible, if improbably, that the imperial fleet may eventually be scuttled to preserve the quaint myth of its invincibility."

Bagley cautioned that "we must not match the enemy's folly in over-extending lines of communication to the breaking point."

Victory Ship Launched
Richmond, Calif., April 21 (AP)—S. S. Ethiopia Victory, first of 77 contracted Victory ships, was launched yesterday by the Permanente Metals Corp. shipyards.

Mrs. M. F. Novak, Seattle, Wash., was sponsor.

Japs Aim to Seize Crops In Hunon to Starve Chinese

Chungking, April 21 (AP)—A new threat to 20,000,000 civilians and hundreds of thousands of soldiers, developed today as strong Japanese forces drove across the Peiping-Hankow railway in northern Honan province.

A Chinese army spokesman said the Japanese offensive, embracing between 50,000 and 60,000 troops, was spearheaded by contingents from Manchuria where until now Japan has kept the flower of her army even through the seven years war with China.

The Chinese surmised, the spokesman said, that the Japanese were making a bid to smash the Chinese grip on 150 miles of the Peiping-Hankow railway which would permit the enemy to link his north and central forces in China.

Raids on Jap Pacific Island Bases Continue

Washington, April 21 (AP)—American bombers hitting Wake island in the mid-Pacific for the second time in as many days dumped 30 tons of bombs there Wednesday night, the navy reported today.

Only moderate anti-aircraft fire was encountered by the Liberator bombers which made the 19th raid on that little island taken by the Japanese early in the war.

On the same day, the navy reported, other bombers roared down on Ponape, which flanks the eastern approaches to Truk in the Caroline islands, to hit the air field and adjacent buildings. These army bombers encountered only weak anti-aircraft fire.

The enemy's isolated positions in the eastern Marshall islands also were hit again in what has come to be a day-to-day bombing assault. Army, marine and navy planes joined in the attack on unidentified Marshall island positions blasting barracks, gun positions, air strips and other facilities with 50 tons of bombs.

For three consecutive days, enemy plane installation at Woleai island, in the western Carolines, and Satawan island, 150 miles southeast of the key Japanese base at Truk, have trembled under bombs laid by MacArthur's Liberator squadrons.

From Both Directions
The south Pacific fliers are lending a potent helping hand to American bombers which strike the Carolines from their central Pacific bases in the Marshall and Gilbert islands. Army, navy and marine corps aircraft are doing the slugging from both directions.

Since Sunday, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz' central Pacific fliers and MacArthur's bomb-layers have hit the Caroline bases in 23 raids. Their explosives have raised smoke pillars on islands from Woleai eastward 1150 statute miles to Pingelap.

Some of these blows were hit-and-run smacks by navy search planes; others were heavy attacks, considering the vast over-water stretches, like the 46-ton blasting given Truk Wednesday night and Thursday morning, Carolines time, by army bombers in Nimitz' command.

OPA Wants More Help from Labor

Portland, April 21 (AP)—The OPA would like more help from labor organizations in price control problems, Leo Gentner, San Francisco, regional OPA administrator, said here today.

He told a meeting of the Oregon labor advisory board that unions of this district have been asked to select their own representatives to assist in the fight to control inflation, but response has been unsatisfactory. One of the toughest local problems is control of restaurant prices, the meeting was told.

Japs Aim to Seize Crops In Hunon to Starve Chinese

Chungking, April 21 (AP)—A new threat to 20,000,000 civilians and hundreds of thousands of soldiers, developed today as strong Japanese forces drove across the Peiping-Hankow railway in northern Honan province.

Fanning out in three main columns in an offensive launched April 18, the Japanese evidently were aiming at throwing a strong cord about Chenghsien (Chengchow), a former strategic junction of the Peiping-Hankow line running south and the Lunghai railway running east and west just south of the Yellow river.

One column, striking from Chungmow, on the Lunghai to the east, reached a village eight miles southeast of Shenghsien, and two others crossed the railway about 20 miles south of Chenghsien.

Meanwhile about 10,000 Japanese who had massed in a bridgehead on the south side of the Yellow river struck southward and were within six miles of the Lunghai railway.

A later Chinese communique said the Japanese who crossed the Peiping-Hankow railway from the east had advanced to a (Concluded on page 11, column 6)



Great Britain's "Human Torpedo" (AP)—Two men in diving suits ride one of Britain's newly-revealed weapons, the "human torpedo." London announces this device, used against the enemy base at Palermo, Sicily, in January of 1943, is ridden by two men who guide it near its target, set off the explosive charge with a time fuse and then ride the propulsive part to safety. (AP wirephoto via radio from London.)

New Italian Government Includes Count Sforza

Naples, April 21 (AP)—Marshal Pietro Badoglio today announced the formation of a new Italian war government with himself as premier and foreign minister. The men who held the war, navy and air ministries in the old cabinet remained at their posts in the new government, as did the technician whom Badoglio had chosen to head the finance ministry.

The other posts were divided among Italy's six political parties of the liberation junta and some independents.

Badoglio submitted the new list to King Vittorio Emanuele following the agreement of the politician party, the last of the holdout parties, to participate along with the other five of the junta in the new union government.

Five outstanding figures were made ministers without portfolio. They were Count Carlo Sforza, one-time Italian foreign minister who led the anti-fascist movement abroad; Benedetto Croce, philosopher and former senator; Giulio Rodino, leader of the Christian democrats; and Palmiro Togliatti, communist leader who in many years in Russia under the name of Ercolo Ercoli was attached to the third international. Togliatti recently returned from Moscow to take the lead in urging cooperation with Badoglio in formation of a new government, and Pietro Mancini, socialist.

Others heading ministries are: Gen. Taddeo Orlando, war; Admiral Raffaele De Courten, navy; Gen. Renato Sandalli, air; Quinto Quiliteri, president of the Bank of Calabria, finance; Salvatore Aldisio, Christian democrat and former deputy from Sicily, interior; Vincenzo Arancio-Ruiz, liberal party leader, justice; Fausto Gullo, communist, lawyer and ex-deputy of Salerno, agriculture; Attilio Dinapoli, socialist, labor; Francesco Cernaboni, labor-democracy, communications; Prof. Adolfo Omedo, actionist and rector of the University of Naples, public instruction; Alberto Tarchiani, actionist, public works.

General Patton Arrives in Britain

London, April 21 (AP)—Pistol-packing Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., who commanded the American 7th army in Sicily, has arrived in the European theater of operations for duty, it was announced officially today.

The general had last been reported in Cairo where it was rumored months ago, he was to lead an invasion of the Balkans.

He had dropped from the spotlight, however, following the victory in Sicily and after the soldier slapping incident was disclosed last November. This incident involved the punishment of a shell-shocked soldier and Patton later publicly apologized to the seventh army.

Patton stepped into the limelight with the landing of his troops at Casablanca in November, 1942, when, with pearl-handled pistols slapping at each hip, he went ashore with an ultimatum for the surrender of the French forces.

Holman Protests Ration
Washington, April 21 (AP)—Rationing plans for civil aviation gasoline was protested today by Senator Rufus Holman (R., Ore.) who told an OPA hearing that Oregon groups believe such action will slow the war effort.

Elite Troops On West Wall

London, April 21 (AP)—The German radio said today that the greatest concentration of shipping since the Dunkerque evacuation has been assembled in British waters, presumably for an invasion of western Europe.

The royal navy is being concentrated in home waters, along with units of the American, French and Italian fleets, the broadcast said.

"Troops are leaving London," it added. "Every day now, troop trains are leaving London stations taking men to ports."

Germany has moved reinforcements of crack SS elite guards into her Atlantic wall defenses, said a Stockholm dispatch, and nazi broadcasts reported that 300,000 men now stood ready to repel any allied invasion.

"All preparations to counter the invasion have been concluded, and all defenses are ready for the enemy," radio Berlin said.

The Stockholm newspaper Tidningen reported from Berlin that the newly-arrived SS troops "are considerably more strictly disciplined and much better equipped than other line troops."

Federal Hearing On Umatilla Island

The federal interior department will conduct a hearing at The Dalles May 4 to determine whether the state or the federal government owns an island in the Columbia river between Umatilla and Umatilla Rapids.

The state last year leased the island for 20 years to the Inland Navigation company, which is using it as a supply base to provide oil to the Pendleton army airbase.

After the lease was signed, the federal government claimed ownership of the island, on which more than 20 oil storage tanks and other equipment are located.

The state attorney general's office will uphold the state's claim at the hearing.

Monetary Program Announced Tonight

Washington, April 21 (AP)—Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau announced today that a joint statement outlining a preliminary agreement on a program for international monetary cooperation will be made public simultaneously at 5 p. m. (PWT) tonight here and in other United Nations capitals.

Cologne, Berlin, Paris Blasted In Record Pre-Invasion Assault; Bombs Raid Balkans from Italy

Massive Aerial Campaign Roars Through Fifth Straight Day—Bucharest Attacked and Badly Damaged—Targets in Northern France Also Hit

London, April 21 (AP)—The German radio reported a major attack today on southeastern Europe by American heavy bombers, and the air ministry announced the RAF last night dropped the heaviest bomb load of the war—more than 5040 tons—on four railroad centers in Germany and occupied countries.

A German broadcast said Bucharest was attacked by the American bombers, apparently from bases in Italy.

More than 1000 bombers—the greatest force of these planes ever dispatched by the RAF—took part in last night's smash against Cologne and other centers.

This was the second time within four days that the RAF had broken the record for bomb tonnage. More than 4480 tons were cascaded Tuesday night upon four other railroad centers.

Only 16 bombers were lost in the tremendous night operations, including a Mosquito raid on Berlin, which quickly followed yesterday's dusk attack on Adolf Hitler's Atlantic wall by a fleet of 750 to 1000 Flying Fortresses.

An air ministry communique said a great weight of bombs was dropped in the four-ply assault, suggesting that it might have exceeded the 4480 tons deposited on French rail targets by a 1000-bomber fleet Tuesday night when the RAF marked up a record up to that time in bomb tonnage.

American Marauders and Havocs with an escort of RAF, Dominion and allied Spitfires hammered military objectives in northern France today.

In less than 72 hours allied air invasion forces in Britain had sent over 9000 planes roaring against the European fortress with close of 15,000 mixed tons of explosives on rail junctions which tie the invasion coast with the reich, defending air fields, plane factories and coastal defense installations in an unprecedented pattern of destruction obviously designed to flatten a path for Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's troops.

Pattern Continued
The pattern was continued today as bomber formations, including American Marauders, skipped across the channel, continental radio stations closed down, and Spitfires harrassed the military objectives in northern France that were hit by 2500 tons of explosives by the Americans yesterday.

In addition to Cologne, rail targets hit in the RAF assault last night were Ottignies, 15 miles southeast of Brussels, Lens in the Pas-de-Calais area of France, and La Chappelle on the outskirts of Paris where a ring of rail junctions had been attacked in recent raids.

In addition to these strikes, the RAF's fleet of minelayers also went out.

Dutch Coast Forays
Beauntifiers of the coastal command also made a foray against shipping off the Dutch coast, hitting one large escort vessel with a torpedo and damaging two smaller ones.

Although Cologne was bombed through clouds with the aid of both ground and sky markers dropped by pathfinders, the communique said the clusters of bombs were well bunched.

Cologne was riddled by Britain's first 1000-bomber assault on May 30, 1942, but the city still is Germany's third largest and the air ministry explained that its railways, now largely repaired, were still vital to the German war effort.

Its industries have been reduced to comparative impotence, however.

Bolivian Censorship
La Paz, Bolivia, April 21 (AP)—The Bolivian government announced last night that it had established censorship of the press.

Stassen Rescued at Sea By Crew of Sub Chaser

Madison, Wis., April 21 (AP)—"We may have rescued the next president," a Wisconsin sailor wrote his parents in a letter describing the rescue at sea of an officer he identified as Lt. Cmdr. Harold E. Stassen, former Minnesota governor and republican presidential possibility.

The navy department said it had no confirmation of the incident. But at South St. Paul, Minn., Mrs. Stassen, wife of the 37-year-old flag officer in Admiral William D. Halsey's south Pacific fleet, said she had "heard something about it."

"I just had a letter from Harold a few days ago and he did say that he had had some interesting experiences but he didn't tell me anything about the rescue," Mrs. Stassen said. She added that she believed he did not mention the rescue for fear it would cause her to worry.

Bomb Targets In Northern Italy

Allied Headquarters, Naples, April 21 (AP)—Allied warplanes, diverted temporarily from assaults on Balkan rail targets, smashed at German communications in Italy yesterday, with U. S. heavy bombers blasting Venice harbor and pounding other targets from Ancona to Trieste. The big bombers were hampered by clouds, but explosives fell close to a merchant vessel in Venice harbor and other undisclosed targets were hit, headquarters said. The Monfalcone shipyards near Trieste and the port of Livorno (Leghorn) also were attacked.

In all, allied planes flew more than 2000 sorties yesterday, destroying 10 German craft for a loss of eight of their own.

On the ground, meanwhile, German troops on the right flank of the Anzio beachhead were observed taking up both their own and allied mines. Although the front there has generally been quiet, the Germans have been reacting sharply to every allied move, apparently apprehensive of an attack. One such allied movement Wednesday night drew a heavy concentration of artillery fire.

On the same night an American destroyer, patrolling off the beachhead, intercepted four E-boats, probably sending one of them to the bottom and probably damaging another.

The Germans shelled Ortona heavily and threw a harassing fire over other sectors of the Adriatic front. A number of new German gun pits northeast of Tollo were discovered by patrols, who killed two sentries and returned to their lines.

Heavy artillery duels raged again in the Cassino area where patrols also were very active. About 60 German planes were observed over the battlefronts yesterday.

Churchill Cites Empire's Stand

London, April 21 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill told commons today that the British-American mutual assistance agreement was reached in 1942 with assurance from President Roosevelt that "we were no more committed to abolition of imperial preference than the American government was committed to abolition of its protective tariff."

Winding up the empire debate in commons, Churchill said: "At my first meeting with the president of the United States in Newfoundland at the time of the so-called Atlantic charter, and before the United States had entered the war—a meeting on very anxious and critical matters—I asked for insertion of the following words in the Atlantic charter which can be read in that document:

"(With due respect for their existing obligations...)"

"These are the limiting words and they were inserted for the express purpose of retaining to this house and to the dominions the fullest possible rights and liberties over the question of imperial preference."

"The agreement for discussing as to how a greater volume of trade and a more harmonious flow of trade can be created in the immediate post-war years leaves us in every respect, so far as set one is concerned, perfectly free," Churchill said.

"How could it otherwise be when parliament itself would not only have to debate the matters but would have to legislate upon them when they were brought before it?"