

Red Army of 1,500,000 Open Direct Assault on Flaming Berlin

Allies Capture Bologna, Italy Gateway to Po

Fall Comes Quickly After Long Siege—Other Citadels Seized

Rome, April 21 (AP)—Bologna, first major objective of the all-out allied offensive in northern Italy, fell today to troops of the fifth and eighth armies.

Polish troops of the British eighth army under Maj. Gen. Bohuszyszk and the U. S. 91st division commanded by Maj. Gen. William G. Livesay and the 34th division under Maj. Gen. Charles Bolte all entered the historic Italian fortress city on the southern edge of the Po valley at the foot of the Apennines.

Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander in a message of congratulations to the victorious troops said:

"Let us keep driving forward until the last enemy soldier has been driven from Italy."

Gen. Mark W. Clark, allied ground commander, said his 15th army group now stands "inside the gateway to the Po plain poised to destroy the Germans who continue to enslave and exploit northern Italy."

Budrio Also Taken
The fall of the city of 270,000, which had blocked allied troops for months came quickly after fifth army troops had severed the important Bologna-Modena highway northwest of the city yesterday.

There was no indication of any general withdrawal in the face of Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott's sledgehammer blows, although considerable enemy movement was reported north and northwest of Bologna.

Caselechio was entered by hard-fighting South African units who blasted their way along the mountainous terrain approaching that outer fortress of Bologna.

Continuing the momentum of the drive on Bologna from the east, eighth army troops cleared Budrio, eight miles distant.

Eighth army troops fighting northeast of Bologna rolled through heavy shell fire. They entered San Nicolo Ferrarese, key village nine miles southeast of Ferrara.

Find List of Missing Pilots

Nuernberg, Germany, April 21 (AP)—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.

No Hope for Speedy End of Nazi War

Paris, April 21 (AP)—Lt. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, Gen. Eisenhower's chief of staff, said today he held no hope for an immediate end to the war in Europe and added that there may be bitter fighting and heavy casualties to come.

Addressing war correspondent at supreme headquarters, Smith said General Eisenhower would try to get the war over as soon as possible but had no intention of throwing away the lives entrusted to him and would fight as economically as he could.

With the Germans still resisting and apparently determined to stand to the end in a national redoubt, rooting them out may take considerable time, Smith added.

The Weather
(Released by the United States Weather Bureau)
Forecast for Salem and vicinity: Clear with only occasional scattered clouds tonight and Sunday. Temperatures near freezing with frosts in colder sections tonight. Rising temperatures tomorrow. Conditions will be favorable for dusting in the morning. Max. yesterday, 72. Min. today, 43. Mean temperature yesterday, 57, which was 3 above normal. Total 24-hour precipitation to 11:30 a. m. today, 0. Total precipitation for the month, 2.29, which is 42 inches above normal. Willamette river height, 4.5 ft.

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Russians Battle Within 5 Suburbs And Flank Shell-Pounded Capital

W:1 Sweep Toward Americans

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London, April 21 (AP)—The Germans declared today that 1,500,000 Russian troops laying siege to Berlin had battered into five suburbs, and flanked the shell-pounded capital on the southwest with a sweep to within 32 miles of American lines.

Even as Soviet guns pounded the Potsdamer Platz in the heart of Berlin, Moscow dispatches asserted the desperate defenders had fired forests and blown up a power dam, unleashing torrents of water on Soviet infantrymen.

A German broadcast said 16 armies, including four tank armies, were pounding at Berlin's gates in a battle "never surpassed in ferocity." Moscow reported the Germans were making suicide charges with fixed bayonets.

Soviet forces, by enemy account, had fought their way into Berlin suburbs at five places—Bernau, Strassberg, Fuerstenwalde, Koenigs-Wusterhausen and Zossen.

The Russian drive to Bernau, three miles from the city limits, was announced by the German high command. This action constituted part of the northern envelopment move against Berlin.

Record Bomb Blitz on Berlin

London, April 21 (AP)—RAF Mosquitos set a record for bombing Berlin last night, hitting the besieged reich capital six times as the climax of a day-long blitz on German railways by more than 3000 planes. Three times were the most Berlin ever had been railed in one night before.

Last night's attacks, made without loss of a single aircraft, brought to 76 the number of raids on Berlin in the last 58 nights.

More than 600 American Flying Fortresses yesterday slammed 1600 tons of bombs on seven key outposts in the city's defense perimeter.

U. S. Eighth air force headquarters announced its planes had dropped 51,385,550 pounds of high explosives within Berlin's limits in 19 attacks since March 4, 1944.

While British raiders were hammering the western and central parts of the besieged capital, Russian bombers were mauling defense lines on the eastern outskirts by the light of flares and artillery flashes.

Allied pilots dealt the Nazi air force another heavy blow yesterday, destroying more than 112 planes—84 on the ground and 28 in aerial combat—and boosting to 3166 the number knocked out in the last 12 days.

U. S. Ninth air force pilots led in the number of kills, with 71 on the ground and five in the air.

Torture March For Airmen

21st Army Group Hdqs., April 21 (AP)—Eighteen hundred allied airmen were beaten and bayoneted by Nazi guards on a torture march they dubbed "the Stettin Jaunt," a Canadian survivor said today.

The Canadian, Warrant Officer Armand Joseph Pamburn, Bonifac, Manitoba, an airforce navigator, said the victims included 1000 Americans.

Pamburn said that during the two mile march, which took place last July, German marines clubbed and jabbed the fliers to tempt them to escape. If they tried, they were mowed down 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 Swinemund. A Enroute they passed through Stettin, giving the trip the title "The Stettin Jaunt."

Petain Escapes Into Switzerland

Paris, April 21 (AP)—The newspaper L'ordre, crediting private sources, said today that Marshal Henri Petain has escaped from Germany into Switzerland.

The article added that Pierre Laval, Marcel Deat and other collaborators remained behind. Simultaneously, a demand was made by the newspaper La Depeche that the case against Petain be prepared and legal machinery be set up for a swift trial of the former head of the Vichy government.

Yanks Driving to Junction with Russians to Split Nazi Front And Capture Asch in Pilsen Push

Paris, April 21 (AP)—U. S. and Soviet troops drove today toward a junction to split the Nazi front, and the dramatic junction appeared to be only a matter of hours. Patrols may already have already met along the Elbe some 75 miles south of Soviet-besieged Berlin.

Allied armies meanwhile chewed, into the two great remaining German pockets in the north and south, and the American third army in a second thrust into Czechoslovakia captured Asch, in a push aimed at blocking off the munitions cities of Pilsen and Prague.

Canadians drove harder on the ports of Emden and Wilhelmshaven, and against the sea-flooded Holland defense line. The British cut off Bremen, and fought within a mile of Hamburg.

French and American forces closed on Stuttgart. The French broadened a corridor farther south within 14 miles of the Danube's headwaters. Americans of the seventh army battled 70 miles from Munich, and pushed to within 27 miles of Ulm, north of the Nazis' southern mountain redoubt.

The hookup between the eastern and western allies will be the result of coordinated planning with the juncture carefully planned to prevent confusion in the meshing of forces, supreme headquarters said.

The prisoner bag in the west rose to 913,237 for the first 20 days of April.

Czechoslovakian Drive
Three allied armies—the French first and the U. S. seventh and third—hammered southward toward the Nazis' Bavarian-Austrian redoubt, and fought within 70 miles of Munich and 30 from Lake Constance.

Asch, just inside the old Czech border, fell to their army units fighting to cut off the redoubt from Czechoslovak war factories. Asch is 60 miles from Pilsen. Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's troops farther south in Grafenwohr were 58 miles from Pilsen and 125 from Prague.

Red army front dispatches said Russian and U. S. patrols were as close as 25 miles south of Berlin, and a junction on the Elbe 75 miles south of the German capital was believed imminent.

45-Mile Gap
The best information at allied headquarters was that 40 to 45 miles still separated Russians northeast of Dresden from U. S. first and third army forces along the Mulde river east of Leipzig. But it was clear that the two forces now could meet almost at will, perhaps within the next 24 to 48 hours.

Doubtboys were 15 to 20 miles from the Elbe opposite the Russian wedge, and the Soviets were reported only 25 miles from the Elbe.

A British correspondent with the U. S. ninth army declared the muffled thunder of Russian guns could be heard.

Ninth in Flank Attack
General Eisenhower quickened his drives to crack open the areas where the Germans may make their last great stands—the northern port belt and the southern redoubt.

The president's speech, to be heard on all networks, will be about 10 minutes long and will wind up the half-hour program.

Central Philippine Campaign Ends with Annihilation of Japs

Manila, April 21 (AP)—American troops shattered the last Japanese organized resistance on Cebu to complete the conquest of the central Philippines today. Gen. Douglas MacArthur said the 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."

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.

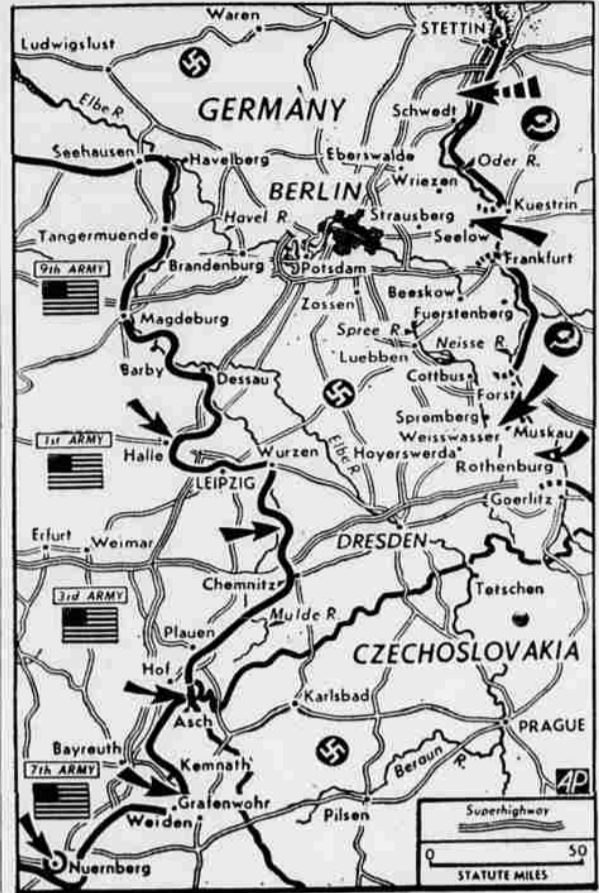
The conquest of the central islands in the Archipelago enabled the Americans further to concentrate on the offensives on

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.

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.



Where Two Fronts Draw Closer (AP)—Greatest gain reported on the western front was an American drive southeast of Bayreuth capturing Grafenwohr and reach Kemnath. On the eastern front Moscow officially reported fighting west of the Oder river beyond Kuestrin and in the south told of taking Forst, Muskau, Weisswasser and Rothenburg. Berlin said the red army also was attacking (broken arrow) across the Oder south of Stettin.

America and Britain in Full Accord Says Eden

Washington, April 21 (AP)—British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden today declared "We are in complete agreement on all points" after a conference with Secretary of State Stettinius. The two presumably discussed the attitude they will take on the ticklish Polish problem at their meeting with Soviet Foreign commissar V. M. Molotov, who was expected to arrive here tonight or tomorrow.

"We had very useful discussions on a number of subjects," Eden told reporters as he emerged from an hour and a quarter's session with Stettinius. He would not elaborate.

Molotov's delay in reaching Washington has left very little time for the big three to settle the broad range of problems facing them and both Eden and Stettinius appeared to be growing impatient.

Another part of the hurried international discussions taking place here was carried on at the White House where U. S. Ambassador to Russia W. Averell Harriman spent three quarters of an hour talking with President Truman.

There was some hope that the Russians would back down on their twice-presented demand that the present provisional government in Warsaw be invited to San Francisco. American diplomats were prepared to stand firm in their refusal to admit the Warsaw group, until it is reorganized along the lines laid down at Yalta.

British - Russian - American talks on establishment of a new Polish government steamed in Moscow several weeks ago and will be carried on here over the week-end, although there still is no indication of what can be expected.

Diplomats also were awaiting Molotov's arrival for release of a three-power warning to Germans on atrocities which allied troops have found mounting in horror as the Nazis slide down to defeat.

Soldier's Own Letter In Dead Nazi's Pocket
Headquarters 15th Army Group in Italy, April 21 (AP)—Staff Sgt. Cameron E. Butte of Astoria, Ore., reported today how he killed a German soldier yesterday and searching him found a letter in the dead Nazi's pocket addressed to Sgt. Cameron E. Butte.

"The letter" was from my grandmother," Butte related, "and I learned later from the mail clerk that he gave the letter to a buddy of mine and asked him to deliver it. My buddy is missing in action. The German either killed or captured him and stole the letter as a souvenir."

German General Shot Killing Yank
With the U. S. First Army in Germany, April 21 (AP)—American tankmen shot a high ranking German general to death yesterday in the Ruhr pocket when he and his men ran from a house and killed a U. S. soldier with a machine pistol.

The Americans were making a routine patrol south of Schmallenberg when eight Germans burst out of the house and fired on them. A tankman opened fire with a machinegun. Besides the American and the German general, two of the general's fleeing men were killed and two others wounded. Three escaped.

Yanks Enter Dessau
New York, April 21—U. S. first army troops entered Dessau today, the American broadcasting station in Europe reported in a broadcast recorded by CBS.

Americans 15 Ships by Jap Suicide Planes

Guam, April 21 (AP)—Fighting on southern Okinawa raged fiercely today as Japanese troops fought a stubborn defense action against three American divisions driving toward Naha, the island's capital.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz' communique yesterday said 15 American ships of all types were lost during Okinawa operations between March 18 and April 18. The Japanese lost 100 vessels, among them the prized 45,000 ton battleship Yamato. Added to this total in sea-land-air warfare were 2569 blasted Japanese planes.

List of Lost Ships
American losses included five destroyers, a destroyer-transport, two minercraft, a gunboat, four landing craft and two ammunition vessels.

Despite terrific casualties from artillery preparation for the southward push of the 27th, 96th and 7th divisions, the enemy of southern Okinawa was resisting stubbornly. The 27th passed Kakazu ridge, but was mopping up by-passed pockets of Japanese. The 27th advanced 1000 yards in the first 24 hours and was only 800 yards from the Machinato airstrip, northeast of Naha. In the center of the three-pronged drive the 96th was bucking rough terrain, its right flank delayed nearly a half hour in starting because of a fierce enemy artillery bombardment. Men of the 7th after a 1400 yards advance, were inching toward Yonabaru airstrip, a bare 200 yards from its fringes.

B-29's Hit Kyushu
On little Ie island the enemy defense had taken a suicide aspect as the 77th division coped with makeshift defenses, including wooden mines, depressed anti-aircraft guns which raked beaches, and 500-pound bombs rigged with detonating grenades.

Japan's homeland felt the thunder of B-29's again as a fleet of between 200 and 300 of the sky mammoths bombed nine airfields on Kyushu island. Enemy planes attacking American forces in the Ryukyus have been taking off from these fields.

Half of Germany Now Occupied
(By the United Press)
Allied armies have occupied one-half of the 225,256 square miles of Adolf Hitler's "greater Germany."

The advances by soviet troops converging onto Berlin brought the total area under allied control to the half-way mark—112,630 square miles.

"Greater Germany" includes the 182,471 square mile Reich and 24,064 square mile Austria and 8,721 square miles of the Czechoslovak Sudetenland.

220 Prisoners Burned and Shot to Death Near Leipzig
Thekla, Germany, April 20 (Delayed) (AP)—The charred bodies of 220 political prisoners who were sprayed with flaming acetone and burned and shot to death just before American troops captured

of Leipzig they decided to destroy the last 324 left on their hands.

"All were scheduled to be killed that night—Tuesday," said the Czech barber, Carl Tykal. "But for some reason the guards decided to wait until the next day. During the night 30 men managed to climb over the fence. Most of them hid in holes and corners of the factory."

"To get them out of hiding the guards went around the next day, carrying big steaming cans of potato soup and shouting that all who came out would be fed. Most of those hiding were so hungry they fell for this trap."

I walked over to the ruins of the 40 by 150 foot building and saw the charred skeletons, more than 25 at each door. They had burned into a mingled mass of bones. One skeleton head lifted above the others and its blind eyeballs stared sightlessly under the warm spring sun.

From here the Germans were marching prisoners by the hundreds to points farther east until last Saturday. When guards learned the U. S. Ninth armored division had swung around east

and Battle Never Surpassed in Ferocity—Germans Firing Forests, Blowing up Dams and Making Suicide Charges with Fixed Bayonets

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In Southwest Sweep
In a swift penetration of Nazi defenses below the capital, other Russian forces advanced to positions southwest of the capital, the German transoceanic agency announced. In this sweep the Russians reached the vicinity of Beelitz and Treuenbrietzen, respectively 12 and 22 miles southwest of Berlin's great southwestern suburb of Potsdam.

Treuenbrietzen is 32 miles northeast of the last reported American positions in the vicinity of Dessau.

Russian forces in a 35-mile breakthrough also reached the important rail junction town of Juetterbog, 10 miles southeast of Treuenbrietzen and 27 miles below Berlin, the German high command said.

Retreat Cut Off
With this sweep the Russians severed virtually all the southward avenues of retreat out of Berlin.

The Berlin radio announced that Nazi Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels, in his capacity as gauleiter and defense commissioner for Berlin, would address the residents of the besieged city later today.

Marshal Ivan S. Konev's first Ukrainian army was engaged in the drive south of Berlin.

Farther south in Saxony where Konev's men also were driving toward a linkup with the Americans the Russians reached Kamenz, 19 miles northeast of Dresden and 59 miles from Chemnitz, the Germans said.

35-Mile Breakthrough
The German high command communique announced a 35-mile breakthrough scored by Marshal Ivan S. Konev's first Ukrainian army had reached Juetterbog, 27 miles south of Berlin.

To the north the first White Russian army, making a frontal assault on Berlin, was locked in a bitter battle with Nazi defenders of the capital along the Czechoslovak Sudetenland.

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