

Nazis May Abandon Northwest Germany for Elbe Stand

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

Fortieth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1945

NO. 11.

PROGRAM DETAILS COMPLETED FOR HEROES WELCOME

Parade to Form at 2 P. M. Thursday; Park Exercises When Parade Disbands.

Details of the parade and program for the "heroes' homecoming day" Thursday were completed today, with Senator Earl Newberry of Ashland scheduled to deliver the address of welcome. The event was planned by a citizens' committee to honor returned veterans in the county at this time and especially men recently liberated from Japanese prison camps.

C. C. Leonard will be grand marshal for the parade which is to form at 2 p. m. at the corner of Ninth street and Riverside avenue. In the line of march will be the colors and color guards, the honored heroes and their families, the Ashland Kiltie band, the Sheriff's posse, civic groups, the Medford school band, veterans' organizations, the Ladies' Mounted Troop, fraternal organizations, the Rogue Troopers and others.

Parade To Park

The parade is to proceed on Riverside from Ninth to Main street and then west on Main street to Oakdale and south on Oakdale to Eighth where it will disband.

Otto Frohnmayer will be master of ceremonies for the program at the park which is to open with a flag ceremony by Boy Scouts and the national anthem sung by the assemblage accompanied by the band. The Rev. Harry W. Hansen will deliver the invocation and "God Bless America" will be sung as a group.

Following Senator Newberry's address of welcome Mayor Clarence A. Meeker of Medford and Mayor T. S. Wiley of Ashland will give responses. A band number will be followed by meditation and prayer for departed heroes by the Rev. Louis C. Kirby and Cpl. Carl Frock will play taps.

To Introduce Heroes

Introduction and interviewing of servicemen will be by Miss Bernice O'Denny of the Riverside USO. Among those to be presented will be Cpl. William E. Davis, who returned today from San Francisco to attend the event, Sgt. Lorne B. Cox, Sgt. William Distell, and Sgt. Bill Lorton, all former prisoners of the Japanese. Sgt. John F. Batchelor, who has returned to an army hospital, will be represented by his wife, here on leave from the Waves. Another veteran expected to be present is Lt. H. D. Byington who is here after serving 17 months in the Pacific theater with the navy.

Medford school children will be dismissed at 2 p. m. in order to attend the ceremonies and some business houses have signified their intention of closing. At a meeting of retailers this morning, representing a number of the city's larger establishments, it was declared that since the shoppers from outlying districts would be uninformed of the celebration, planned on short notice, some establishment owners had decided that they should not close.

CENTRAL POINT MAN WOUNDED IN EUROPE

Harris E. Blasing, technician fifth grade, serving in the European war theater, has been wounded in action according to today's release from the Office of War Information. Blasing is the son of Mrs. Grace Blasing, Central Point.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

The fire ladders tramping up birthdays for Oliver King in order to augment the cake supply.

Arch Work frightening fellow pedestrians by accidentally smashing a glass coffee maker on the postoffice steps.

Jeanne Selby inquiring how many beans it will take to feed 150 servicemen.

Revenge for Russian Slave Laborer



A former Russian "slave laborer" (left), released by Allies after three years of forced labor in Bonn, Germany, factory, unleashes his pent-up fury and hatred in this attack against German civilian policeman.

RUSSIANS STORM VIENNA DEFENSES; BRATISLAVA TAKEN

London, April 4.—(U.P.)—Russian forces today captured Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, and were reported by the Nazis to stand ready for their climactic offensive of the war along a 150-mile front before Berlin.

Soviet assault forces were storming Vienna. Nazi hints of the Red army weight being hurled at the Austrian capital indicated its fate was sealed.

As the defenses of southeastern Germany crumbled under the impact of Russian blows, the German radio indicated that the grand assault on Berlin was imminent. Such an attack would be timed with the Allied sweep through central Germany to within less than 180 miles of a junction with the Red army.

Marshal Roldion V. Malinovsky's second Ukrainian army captured Bratislava, 30 miles east of beleaguered Vienna. The city of 160,000, Czechoslovakia's third largest, fell within a few hours of the Soviet onslaught.

OL 'MISSIP' ON SPRING RAMPAGE

New Orleans, April 4.—(U.P.)—The Mississippi river, at flood stage along a 1,550-mile course from Iowa to the Gulf of Mexico, added additional threat to Louisiana today.

The river, fed by flooding Red, Black, Ouachita, Tennessee and Little rivers and scores of smaller streams, already had forced more than 10,000 from their homes in Louisiana. Thousands more were to be evacuated today.

Red Cross rescue crews were sent from Atlanta, and every levee board in Louisiana was alerted and levees everywhere were being patrolled.

ADAM LEFOR OUTLINES BRAKE TESTING PLAN

Adam F. Lefor, of the traffic safety division of the secretary of state's office at Salem, spoke before a group of law enforcement officers in the auditorium of the county courthouse this morning.

He emphasized the nationwide brake testing program which will be carried out between April 15 and June 1. Lefor cited the importance of good brakes, giving figures on accidents which are caused by faulty brakes.

KIWANIS CLUB HEARS REP. BENGTON TALK

O. H. Bengtson, Jackson county representative to the state legislature, spoke before the Medford Kiwanis club today on his experiences during the recent legislative session.

Guests at the meeting, held in the Holland Hotel, were Parker J. Wood, Astoria; L. E. Francis, Corvallis; Lt. Ben Russell and Ensign Bob Bauman, both of the U. S. navy.

Liberated Slave Laborers Giving Germany Bad Time

By Richard D. McMillan

United Press Correspondent With British Second Army, Germany, April 4.—(U.P.)—Hordes of liberated slave laborers trekking across Germany are taking revenge on their former task masters and terrifying the German people.

Free to roam among the people who made them suffer for years, some liberated laborers are turning to violence while others are more practical in their revenge.

They need food for the long trail back to their homes, so they help themselves. They take

bedding and blankets for sleeping in the fields. If they can find horses and wagons which the Wehrmacht did not requisition, they harness them and set off.

It is a common sight to see frantic Germans rushing across fields screaming:

"Come help us. The robbers have taken our food. The slaves are burning our homes."

The British do what they can but the problem is far too vast for them. The Germans do not seem to see anything incongruous in appeals to their conquerors for help.

Last night a group of German farmers came to our billet and said:

"Please come. The slaves drank all our snappans and they are attacking our families."

Troops intervened and restored order, but explained to the Germans:

"You brought these people here as slaves. You have only yourselves to blame."

Already there are hundreds of thousands of liberated laborers roaming the ruined countryside. Soon there will be millions, for the Germans shipped in 15,000,000 slaves from every corner of Europe to work for them.

ROOSEVELT OKEHS DEBT LIMIT HIKE

Washington, April 4.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt has approved legislation raising the federal debt limit from \$260,000,000 to \$300,000,000, the White House announced today.

The debt now stands at \$235,000,000. Budget bureau estimates forecast a debt of \$292,000,000 at the end of the fiscal year 1946.

Total net receipts were \$6,892,252,395.76. Receipts for February were \$3,766,772,666.51.

WALTERS RECOVERING FROM CRASH INJURY

Charles Walters, Ashland cafe owner who was injured in an auto accident near Redding Tuesday which claimed the life of Earl Woodridge, Medford, was said to be recovering satisfactorily this morning. According to Ashland news sources, Walters is suffering from severe cuts and a concussion but no broken bones. He will remain in a hospital at Redding until able to be released.

TO BERLIN

By United Press

The nearest distances to Berlin from advanced allied lines today:

Eastern front—31 miles (from Zaekerick).

Western front—140 miles (from Gotha area).

Italy—516 miles (from Comacchio).

JAP RESISTANCE ON OKINAWA ISLE BECOMES STIFFER

Tokyo Radio Claims Huge Convoy Waiting to Launch Quick Landing Operations

Guam, April 4.—(U.P.)—Japanese resistance stiffened on Okinawa today as American columns advanced southward along the east and west coasts of the island within striking distance of two more Japanese airfields and only six miles or less from Naha, capital of the island.

(Tokyo radio said a "huge convoy" was off Naha "ominously lying in wait to launch sudden landing operations." The broadcast, for Japanese home consumption and recorded by the FCC, admitted that "we have not been able to crush the enemy's offensive based on material superiority.")

(Admitting that Okinawa has been cut in two, Tokyo said the war situation had become "definitely serious," adding that "the decisive battle of Okinawa is reaching a crucial stage from one moment to the next.")

(Another convoy is cruising off the mouth of the Minato river in southwestern Okinawa, and carrier planes from part of the task force launched raids on the southern part of the island, Tokyo said.)

As the greatest invasion of the Pacific war went into its fourth day only 362 miles southwest of Japan, the enemy garrison of 60,000 was believed preparing to make its first stand along a line across the narrow isthmus north of the airfields.

VINSON APPROVED AS RECONVERSION OFFICE DIRECTOR

Washington, April 4.—(U.P.)—The senate by voice vote today unanimously approved the nomination of Fred M. Vinson to be director of war mobilization and reconversion.

The nomination was approved on motion of Senate Democratic Leader Aiken W. Barkley, Ky. Vinson was nominated Monday at the same time that James F. Byrnes' resignation was announced.

The senate finance committee unanimously approved the Vinson nomination an hour before the senate acted on it.

Byrnes in resigning said V-E Day was near and he thought the man who will have charge of reconversion should take office now.

Iceland Attacked By Moscow Radio

By United Press

A Moscow broadcast, recorded by the FCC today, attacked Iceland for what it charged was Iceland's refusal to declare war on Germany.

The Moscow commentator noted that Iceland had been saved from the Nazis by the United Nations and that it had achieved independence "with the direct support of the great powers."

Anti-Hitler Coup Uncovered in Germany, Says Stockholm Press

By W. R. Higginbotham

United Press Correspondent London, Apr. 4.—(U.S.)—A Stockholm dispatch of doubtful authenticity said today that the Gestapo had discovered plans for a new anti-Hitler coup in Germany.

An uncredited dispatch in the Stockholm newspaper Tidningen said Marshal Karl von Rundstedt, deposed German commander on the western front, was executed by a firing squad following exposure of the plot.

Other arrests were made throughout Germany and guards were doubled, then tripled at Adolf Hitler's mountain retreat at Berchtesgaden, the dispatch said.

SOLON SUSPECTS ILLICIT STEAKS CUT FROM HORSE

Senate Committee Chairman Thinks Black Market Not Entirely on Beef Basis

Washington, April 4.—(U.P.)—The War Food Administration "wouldn't know" about it, but Chairman Elmer Thomas, D., Okla., of the senate food investigating committee suspects that some of the "beef" civilians buy at black markets is horse meat.

Thomas delved into the question at the committee's hearing today.

He asked Lt. Col. Ralph W. Olmstead, WFA director of supply, if there was "a black market in horsemeat?"

Happened Before

Olmstead turned the question right over to Norris E. Dodd, another WFA official. Dodd said he "wouldn't know."

In World War I, Dodd said, a demand developed in this country for hindquarters of horse.

Dodd said that if beef slaughter continues at its present rate, it will total 39,000,000 head by the end of the year, 5,000,000 more than last year's record kill. He said the overall meat supply is off 10 per cent from last year but is 6,000,000,000 pounds higher than before the war.

Olmstead reminded the senators, however, that despite the heavy beef slaughter, there still will be a world deficit for military, lend-lease, and liberated-area requirements are met.

Use Less Rice

Because of higher relief feeding requirements in rice-eating areas such as the Philippines, Americans will consume 30 per cent less rice this year than last WFA said. Civilian allocations for 1945 are estimated at 5,500,000 bags, compared to consumption of 7,900,000 bags in 1944.

WFA said civilians would get about 323,000,000 pounds of butter in April, May, and June compared with 325,000,000 to 328,000,000 in the first three months of the year.

In the same period other butter allocations will include 152,800,000 pounds to the military, 5,000,000 to Russia, 2,400,000 to U. S. territories, 700,000 to the Red Cross, and 700,000 for lend-lease and export.

WFA also announced these dairy products allocations to civilians:

Cheddar cheese, 107,000,000 pounds, compared with 106,800,000 in the first quarter; condensed milk 67,300,000, compared with 47,000,000; evaporated milk, 435,000,000, the same as the first quarter allocation.

365,437 PWS NOW IN UNITED STATES

Washington, April 4.—(U.P.)—There were 365,437 prisoners of war in the United States on April 1, an increase of 6,189 during the last two months.

An army breakdown showed 311,030 Germans, 3,258 Japanese and 50,549 Italians. About 35,000 Italians were members of Italian service units, directly engaged in war work.

Mass Evacuation of Entire Territory is Reported by Airmen

Paris, April 4.—(U.P.)—American third army troops burst through the German center little more than 130 miles from Berlin today and air pilots reported that Nazis may be abandoning northwest Germany and falling back toward a death stand on the Elbe river, 43 miles from Berlin.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's third army exploded a new drive for Leipzig and the west-bound Russian army, less than 180 miles beyond their speeding tanks. Late reports said the Yanks were closing on the Saxon stronghold of Erfurt, 130 miles southwest of Berlin, at a mile-an-hour clip that already may have carried them into the city.

TWO ARMIES STORM WESER LINE

Farther north, Berlin spokesmen said American first and ninth army troops were storming the Weser river line, last big writer barrier before the Elbe, at points 161 miles southwest and 177 miles west of Berlin.

British and Canadian forces also were racing for the Dutch and German North sea coasts along a 90-mile front, threatening to envelop all Holland and trap perhaps 50,000 Nazis in the coastal areas.

RAF fliers swarming over the northern battleground reported a tremendous concentration of German flak over the Bremen area, and signs that the evacuation of western Holland was turning into a mass evacuation of all northwestern Germany.

LAST DITCH LINE BELIEVED INTENT

Returning fliers said the Nazis appeared to be fleeing back behind the Elbe river in the hope of forming a last-ditch line from Bremen southeastward to Magdeburg—Berlin's main outer fortress in the west.

The Elbe loops back within 43 miles of Berlin just north of Magdeburg.

There was no immediate comment from headquarters on the reported German evacuation.

Enemy spokesmen said the U. S. ninth army was nearing the Weser river in the Minden area, 33 miles west of Hanover and 177 miles from Berlin.

Farther south, they said, the first army raced 27 miles east of Paderborn to reach the Weser near Beverungen, 161 miles southwest of the capital.

PATTON TANKS FAR IN FRONT OF DRIVE

Patton's rampaging tanks were far out in front of the Berlin drive, however. They cleared the last Nazi snipers from Kassel, on a tributary of the Weser 40 miles southeast of Paderborn, and 68 miles farther to the southeast they broke out on the Frankfurt-Leipzig-Dresden superhighway within six miles of Erfurt.

The Americans cleared all but a handful of Nazi snipers from the big aircraft center of Gotha, 13 miles west of Erfurt, in a day-long gain of about 23 miles. Eisenach, a German hedgehog position 16 miles west of Gotha, was by-passed in the advance.

Other third army forces farther to the south plunged ahead 17 miles to the Werra river, where they were only 65 miles from the northwestern corner of Czechoslovakia.



British forces push rapidly northward to entrap German troops in Holland and reach port of Bremen, while Americans to south slash toward the Weser defense line, chief river barrier before Berlin. Farther south, the U. S. Seventh Army spearheads wheeled ahead, slowed only by supply problems.

ARGENTINA NABS GERMANOPHILES

Buenos Aires, April 4.—(U.P.)—Seven hundred Germans, Germanophiles and other axis sympathizers and saboteurs have been arrested throughout Argentina in the past 48 hours, it was reported today from reliable sources.

They include Enrique Oses, editor of the closed nationalist newspaper El Pampero, and Fritz Mandl, former Austrian munitions magnate and former husband of Hedy Lamarr, whose arrest was revealed yesterday.

Parachutists were to have carried out the attack on Berchtesgaden, the dispatch said.

Swiss dispatches to the London Daily Express, while not mentioning the plot, said the entire Berchtesgaden area of upper Bavaria had been closed off to all travelers.

Other European reports told of the wholesale removal of prominent allied prisoners to the Bavarian Alps, where die-hard nazis are expected to make their last stand.

SMUDGE CHASES FROST FOR SECOND MORNING

Orchard temperatures ranging from a low of 23 degrees in the cooler areas to 29 degrees elsewhere, caused smudge pots to be fired this morning for the second time this season. The smudging lasted from around 4 o'clock until after sun-up. There was no commercial damage from the frost. Indications were for cloudiness tonight.

TOO LATE

Los Angeles, April 4.—(U.P.)—The proposal to preserve the San Gabriel, Cal., home in which Lt. Gen. George S. Patton was born, had to be altered today. The adobe house was razed in 1910.

CHAMBER DIRECTORS MEET FRIDAY NOON

Regular meeting of the board of directors of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, will be held Friday noon, in the chamber headquarters.

The three legislative representatives of Jackson county will be guests and matters of importance will be brought up.

All members of the chamber of commerce desiring to do so may attend. They are asked to please call 2294 for reservations before 10 a. m. Friday.

BOYS SHOW TOUGHNESS BY SHOOTING OWN LEGS

Mt. Savage, Md., April 4.—(U.P.)—William C. Wharton, 18-year-old merchant seaman home on leave, is plenty tough.

So are Nevin E. Lashley, 17, and Donald Meaney, 16.

Each shot himself in the leg to prove it. State Police Sgt. Harold C. Carl reported today.