SOVIETS TO DROP NIPPON PACT

Weather.
Forecast: Partly cloudy with few light showers tonight and Friday. Slightly cooler.
Temp.
Highest yesterday 64
Lowest this morning 35
Precipitation to 5 p. m., none

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

PULITZER AWARD 1934

U-ited Press—Full Leased Wire | United Press—Full Leased Wire

Fortieth Year | MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, [illegible] 5, 1945 | NO. 12.

U. of O. Library

Patton's Forces, Soviet Troops Near Juncture

(Acme Telephoto)

The U. S. Third Army runs loose again, sweeping through central Germany towards Erfurt, 130 miles southwest of Berlin, while other American units slashed within 65 miles of the old Czechoslovakian border. Russian troops battle in outskirts of Vienna. A juncture of Patton's forces and Soviet troops now on Oder River appears likely. To north, British and Canadian forces race for North Sea to close trap on Nazis in Holland, seize ports of Bremen and Emden.

2 Ya[illegible]k Armies Storm Into Ruhr To Finish 150,000 Trapped Nazis

TANK SPEARHEAD RACES EASTWARD TOWARD BERLIN

Western Front Ablaze as 7 Allied Armies Surge Forward; Defenses Erased.

With American Ninth Army, April 5—(U.P.)—The 9th army today crossed the Weser river, last major barrier on the highway to Berlin short of the Elbe.

Paris, April 5—(U.P.)—Two American armies stormed into the Ruhr valley to finish off an estimated 150,000 trapped Germans today. Other American tank forces were reported racing eastward into the Harz mountains, 120 miles from Berlin.

The Western Front from the North Sea to the Black Forest blazed with seven Allied armies surging forward in a coordinated onslaught that sent the Germans reeling back.

Cut Off Escape

British and Canadian armies at the top of the assault line drove across the flat coastal plains toward Bremen and the Dutch Zuider Zee to cut off the last escape routes for the Germans in the western Holland.

American Ninth Army troops stormed up to the Weser river, Germany's last big natural barrier short of the Elbe river and Berlin, and teamed up with the U. S. First Army to destroy the enemy divisions in the Ruhr.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's American Third Army troops were reported sweeping against weak opposition through a 100-mile breach in the German central defenses guarding the central roads to Berlin.

To the south, French First Army forces struck for Stuttgart, and Berlin reported that the U. S. Seventh Army was swinging southeastward from captured Wuerzburg in a bid to outflank the Nazi shrine city of Nuernberg.

Defenses

Whatever defenses the Germans had left in front of Berlin appeared to have been swept away by the Allied drive, on the northern and central fronts at least.

Aerial reconnaissance reports said that the roads east of the Weser river as far back as Hannover, 136 miles from Berlin, were jammed with fleeing German transport, suggesting a wholesale Nazi flight behind the Elbe river, which loops back to within 43 miles of the capital.

American Ninth Army troops cleared a 40-mile stretch of the Weser river's west bank, capturing Minden, Bad Oyenhausen, and Hamlin, and deployed for a crossing into the open plains stretching back to Berlin.

Simultaneously, the British Second Army sent a half-dozen mile-long columns of troops, tanks, and guns speeding 26 miles northward into the railway center of Diepholz, 37 miles southwest of Bremen and 91 miles southwest of Hamburg.

Bombers Rake Ports

Both great ports were raked for the first time by low-flying Allied tactical bombers swarming out in front of the advancing ground troops.

In the Ruhr pocket battle the First Army struck on a broad front west and northwest from the Berleburg area, at the southeastern corner of the pocket 69 miles southeast of Duesseldorf.

American Ninth Army troops on the northern flank of the trap broke across the Lippe river southwest of Hamm and advanced into the outlying factory towns less than three miles from the big industrial city of Dortmund.

The Egyptian lotus, or blue lily, is the characteristic flower of the Nile river.

Eisenhower Expects Nazi Forces To Continue Guerrilla Operation; No Clean Cut Surrender of Arms

Washington, April 5.—(U.P.)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of allied armies in Europe, has written President Roosevelt that there probably "will never be a clean cut military surrender" of the German armies, the White House disclosed today.

Eisenhower said that if the present situation continues, V-E Day (victory in Europe) will be signalized only by an allied proclamation and not by any definite collapse of German resistance.

Many Troops Needed

He foresaw "guerrilla warfare which would require for its suppression a very large number of troops."

The further the European campaign progresses, Eisenhower wrote Mr. Roosevelt, "the more probable it appears that there will never be a clean cut military surrender of the forces on the western front."

"Our experience to date is that even when formations as small as a division are disrupted," he said, "their fragments continue to fight until surrounded. This attitude if continued will likely mean that a V-E-Day will come about only by a proclamation on our part rather than any definite or decisive collapse or surrender of German resistance.

"Projecting this idea further it would mean that eventually all the areas in which fragments of the German army, particularly the paratrooper, panzer, and SS elements, may be located, will have to be taken by the application of or the threat of force. This would lead into a form of guerrilla warfare which would require for its suppression a very large number of troops."

CITIZENS HONOR WAR HEROES ON HOMECOMING DAY

Today is homecoming day in Medford and Jackson county for the heroes of Bataan and Corregidor recently released from Philippine prison camps and for other veterans home after long months of service overseas. School children, civic and lodge groups and bands paraded through flag-lined streets with the soldiers and navy men, and a program of honor and memoriam was scheduled at the city park immediately following.

State Senator Earl Newbry of Ashland was to deliver the address of welcome, and a program of patriotic music, prayer and meditation was to precede the introduction of the honored veterans. Upon conclusion of the park service, the honored servicemen and their families were to be entertained at Riverside USO. A specially decorated large cake from Fluhrer's bakery and ice cream from Sniders' Dairy were to be served.

Heading the citizens' committee on arrangements was Larry Neeley.

BOGUS RED POINT GANG ROUNDED UP

New York, April 5.—(U.P.)—Daniel P. Woolley, OPA regional administrator, disclosed today that "a gang of mobsters" from New York's East Side had been rounded up for peddling counterfeit red ration points "on a large scale" in New York and Boston.

Woolley made his announcement after Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, D., Mont., had charged in Washington that red points "obtained from the OPA" were being sold at $6 a thousand in New York.

Woolley denied that any red points were trickling from OPA offices, and said that 'what has apparently reached the senator is a garbled version of the drive the OPA has made and is continuing" against red point counterfeiting.

Youngest Slayers Due For Hearing

Glendale, Calif., April 5.—(U.P.)—Two tousled-haired brothers 11 and 14 years old, described by police as the 'youngest slayers in California history," appear today at a predetention hearing to determine if they should face murder charges in an adult court.

The youths, Lee McKay, 14, and his brother, William, Jr., 11 confessed the fatal shooting of Donald Keikle, 26, when he surprised them burglarizing his home Feb. 16.

HITLER APPEALS TO SOLDIERS FOR CLIMAX EFFORT

First Public Utterance Since Allied Breakthrough Says New Offensive Coming.

London, April 5 — (U.P.) — A Nazi broadcast said today that Adolf Hitler, in his first public utterance since the Allied breakthrough in the west, appealed to German soldiers to hold until a new German offensive is launched soon.

Hitler made the appeal a few days ago while addressing an army unit which had distinguished itself on the eastern front, a brief broadcast by the German Westphalian station said.

Offensive Promised

He told the soldiers it was necessary for the German army to hold firm against the enemy until the new offensive could be launched in the near future, the station said in a broadcast recorded by the BBC.

European reports said Hitler was believed to have moved every prominent Allied personage in German hands into a "last-stand zone" around Berchtesgaden where they will be used as hostages to bargain for the lives of Nazi war criminals.

Among those shifted to hideouts in the Bavarian Alps, the London Daily Herald said, were reported to be King Leopold of Belgium, former French Premier Paul Reynaud, Jakob Stalin, son of Premier Stalin, and Kurt von Schuschnigg, former Premier of Austria.

The Herald suggested that Hitler was planning to threaten to kill these hostages unless he and members of the Nazi gang were granted amnesty.

A Zurich dispatch to the London Daily Mail said Hitler alternates between long spells of silence and violent, screaming attacks of rage. He sleeps rarely and his face is lined with worry, the dispatch said.

It added that Hitler was believed scared of British parachutists.

Another Daily Mail dispatch, this one from Stockholm, said Nazi Propaganda Minister Paul Goebbels was injured when the automobile in which he was riding last Saturday near Berlin crashed into the rear of another in which assassins killed two Gestapo guards and their chauffeur.

REDS LAY SIEGE TO VIENNA OVER FIFTY-MILE ARC

London, April 5.—(U.P.)—Russian troops and tanks laid siege to Vienna along a 50-mile arc today. Vanguards were fighting through the southeastern outskirts of the Austrian capital.

Massed Russian artillery and red air force bombers pumped ton after ton of explosives into the burning city, which Adolf Hitler has ordered defended to the death to protect the back door to Germany.

A Moscow dispatch said assault forces fighting in the suburbs of Vienna had been joined by the vanguards of other army units racing westward from captured Bratislava, and the junction of the two armies was expected to result in the speedy fall of the capital.

Vienna's last big outer fortress, the Slovakian capital of Bratislava, 25 miles to the east, was toppled yesterday by Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's second Ukrainian army group.

Legion and Leaders Discuss Jobs For All At War's End

Washington, April 5.—(U.P.)—Leaders in government, industry, labor, agriculture and veterans affairs meet here as guests of the American Legion today to discuss postwar jobs for all.

Lawrence J. Fenlon of Chicago, chairman of the Legion's national employment committee said the emphasis would be on jobs for returning veterans but not confined to that.

"We should do them (veterans) no favor if we found jobs for them and left other millions unemployed," he said. "That way lies economic collapse. And so we must find jobs for all."

TURKEYS FOR CIVILIANS PLACED UNDER EMBARGO

Washington, April 5—(U.P.)—Civilians may as well add turkey to the growing list of foods they probably can't buy.

The War Food Administration today announced its annual embargo on sale to civilians of turkeys grown in major producing areas including Oregon. All birds produced in 21 states and nine counties of two other states must be offered to the army before April 8 until military requirements are met, probably shortly before Thanksgiving.

Worried Japs Seek Peace With China, Says Adviser Koo

Hamilton, N. Y., April 5—(U.P.)—T. Z. Koo, adviser to the Chinese delegation to the San Francisco conference, said today that Japan has been trying desperately to make peace with China before the defeat of Germany.

Koo said that Japan's attitude toward China changed markedly a year ago "when a Japanese leader whose name is known to most Americans came to me as emissary and opened the conference with an admission that the war had reached a most critical stage for Japan."

When they could reach no basis for an agreement, Koo said, he was asked what advice he had for Japan.

Koo said he advised Japanese army leaders that their cruelties would one day react against their country. Since then, Koo said, the Japanese army has been less cruel in its treatment of the Chinese.

SCIENTIST DIES

Berkeley, Cal., April 5.—(U.P.)—Dr. Harry Edmond, 83, internationally known mathematician and expert on the magnetic compass, died at his home here yesterday after a short illness.

BLOW FALLS SOON AFTER RESIGNING OF KOISO CABINET

Soviets' Action Is Believed Forerunner of Entry In Pacific War With Allies.

London, April 5.—(U.P.)—Russia today renounced her neutrality pact with Japan in an action believed to foreshadow her ultimate entry into the Pacific war.

Announcement of the action came a few hours after the fall of the Japanese government of Premier Gen. Kuniaki Koiso, presumably upon the receipt of word from Moscow of the Russian action.

(After a conference of elder statesmen, it was announced that Admiral Baron Kantaro Suzuki, 77-year-old president of the Privy Council, has been ordered by the emperor to form a new cabinet.)

Ambassador Told

Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov announced the Soviet action to Japanese Ambassador Naotaki Sato in Moscow.

As a result of the Soviet action, Russo-Japanese five-year neutrality pact automatically expires at midnight April 24, 1946.

The Soviet action immediately opened grounds for speculation upon Soviet entering the Pacific war and moving into action her powerful far eastern red banner army which has stood guard at the frontiers of Siberia and Manchuria since long before the outbreak of the European war.

Situation Changed

Molotov's action was announced by Radio Moscow.

The foreign minister advised Sato, the account said, that since the pact was signed on April 13, 1941 the world situation had changed considerably.

Germany, he noted had attacked the Soviet Union and Japan has aided Germany in the war against the Soviet Union.

In addition, he said, Japan is at war against Great Britain and the United States who are the allies of the Soviet union.

Therefore, he told Sato, the pact of neutrality 'has lost its sense" and it is impossible for it to be continued.

Japan's second wartime cabinet fell only four days after American invasion forces stormed ashore on Okinawa Island, 330 miles southwest of the enemy's home islands, against almost non-existent opposition.

Japs See Gravity

The Japanese board of information announced that the resignations were decided upon "in view of the gravity of the war situation and in order to bring a more powerful cabinet" into office.

The Koiso cabinet went into office eight and a half months ago after the overthrow of the extremist government of Gen. Hideki Tojo in a political crisis touched off by the loss of Saipan in the Marianas.

Koiso's ministers, mostly conservative elder army, navy and business leaders, had been expected to rally the Japanese people and armed forces for new exertions to stem the allied march toward Japan.

Woe Follows Woe

But instead disaster followed disaster. The cabinet weathered the furore caused by the Superfortress offensive against Japan, the invasion of the Philippines and even the loss of Iwo Island, only 750 miles south of Tokyo, to American marines last month. The successful invasion of Okinawa was the final straw, however.

Who will succeed Koiso was problematical. Koiso, like Tojo, was a product of the ruthless Kwangtung army in Manchuria, through perhaps slightly more moderate than his predecessor.

Should another army or navy man be chosen to succeed Koiso, far eastern observers looked for a final frantic effort to prepare Japan to repel the ultimate allied invasion of the homeland itself.

An all-civilian cabinet, however, might be the first step toward peace.

CHAPULTEPEC FINAL ACT SIGNED BY ARGENTINA

Mexico City, April 4.—(U.P.)—Argentina signed the final act of the Chapultepec conference today.

Signing was done in the big ornate reception room of the foreign ministry by Argentine envoy extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary Adolfo N. Calvo.

AUSTRALIANS WIN FIGHT WITH JAPS ON BOUGAINVILLE

By United Press

Australian troops, in savage fighting won a fierce and bloody battle against the fanatical holdout Japanese garrison on bypassed Bougainville in the Solomons Easter week-end, front dispatches reported Wednesday.

The Aussies, attacked repeatedly by banzai-charging Japanese, were in a desperate plight and facing possible defeat when Australian-built Matilda tanks arrived and broke up the enemy offensive.

An account of the battle was sent from the scene by carrier pigeon. It was written by Arthur Mathers, correspondent for the Australian broadcasting network, broadcast by Melbourne radio, and recorded by United Press, San Francisco.

Fiercest Battle

Mathers described the Easter battle as the fiercest ever fought on Bougainville, which originally was invaded by U. S. marines in November, 1943. Leathernecks went ashore at Torokina, Empress Augusta Bay, on the western shoreline.

Australian forces in the southern part of the island "had been cut off and decimated by the Japanese, who for days had been making one large scale banzai charge after another," Mathers reported. He said the Australians had been without food for two days and their ammunition was almost exhausted.

TO BERLIN
By United Press

The nearest distances to Berlin from advanced Allied lines today: Eastern front—31 miles (from Zaeckerick). Western front—130 miles (from Erfurt area). Italian front—516 miles (from near Commachio).

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Ruth Esther Meeker deciding that her education had been neglected as far as the making of fancy sandwiches was concerned.

Pauline Bush carrying on an enthusiastic conversation about her favorite tuberous begonias

Esther Kirby feeling a bit tired after having been a guest at two social functions and hostess at another all in one day.

Henry Zacharisen reluctantly agreeing to match coins for morning coffee, he being sure of losing in advance.

B-29s Light Fires On Honshu Island

Guam, April 5 — (U.P.) — Big fleets of B-29 Superfortresses left fires burning in five target areas after yesterday's pre-dawn attack on Honshu Island, 21st Bomber Command Headquarters announced today.

Three of the targets were bombed for the first time by the big raiders—an aircraft engine plant at Shizuoka, 89 miles southwest of Tokyo, and the Tachikawa and Nakajima aircraft plants in the Tokyo suburbs.

CONTRACTS WITH STUDIO UNIONS ARE TERMINATED

Hollywood, April 5 — (U.P.) — The Motion Picture Producers Association today announced termination of collective bargaining contracts now in force between nine film studios and the striking conference of studio unions.

The action followed notification of 10,000 striking employes yesterday that they were fired for refusing to end the 25-day AFL jurisdictional strike of craftsmen in the film industry.

The major producers said such action was taken because of the striking unions' "failure of its members to perform their services in accord with contracts with the producers."

The Producers Association sent wires to the painters, interior decorators, machinists, electricians, and set decorators unions, all out on strike.

ICKES IN FAVOR OF TAKING OVER MINES AT ONCE

Washington, April 5—(U.P.)—Fuel Administrator Harold L. Ickes said today he belived the government should take over the soft coal mines at once.

"I don't think we ought to wait," Ickes told a press conference," in view of continued wild-cat strikes that have cut soft coal production to 65 per cent this week.

"With the demand what it is today and the prospects in Europe, we seem to be running into trouble.

"I don't think any miners have the right to lay down their tools at a time like this when all we need is to continue what we are doing to win through to victory in Europe. It is unsupportable and inexcusable."

Ickes' call for seizure of the mines came as an open revolt against United Mine Workers' leadership in Pennsylvania cut production again today. Wage contract negotiations here continued with the same futile appearance which has marked them for more than a month. Roving pickets in Pennsylvania discouraged back-to-work movements at many mines.

Three Dog Owners Assessed $1 Fines

Sam Gilbert, Ted Sidwell and James Bishop paid $1 fines to city police today for permitting dogs to run loose during the gardening season. Police warned citizens again that dogs found running loose will be picked up and their owners arrested.

U.S. Casualties Now Over 900,000

Washington, April 5.—(U.P.)—U. S. combat casualties officially compiled and announced here reached 892,909 today. This means that the actual total, including losses yet to be recorded in Washington, has surpassed 900,000.

Today's official figure was 20,047 greater than that announced a week ago. It included 798,383 army and 94,526 navy, marine corps, and coast guard casualties.

The figures:

	Army	Navy	Totals
Killed	156,471	36,649	193,120
Wounded	466,929	62,988	529,917
Missing	88,755	10,623	99,378
Prisoners	66,228	4,266	70,494
Totals	798,383	94,526	892,909

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said at his news conference today that 187,799 dead Japanese have been counted in the Philippines. He estimated total enemy casualties in the Philippines at more than 311,000.

U. S. casualties in the Philippines now total 8,138 killed, 28,356 wounded, and 487 missing, he said, pointing out that the ratio of Japanese counted dead to Americans killed is 23 to 1.

When units of the 77th division landed in the Kerama Islands in the Ryukus, Stimson said, the U. S. losses were 24 killed and 61 wounded. The Japanese lost 306 killed, 140 sealed in caves and 99 captured.