

Fall of Four German Ports, Isolation of Denmark Near

British and Yankee Tanks Ram Wedge in Weser Line; Patton, Ninth Berlin Bound

Paris, April 7 — (U.P.) — Four Allied tank columns plunging as much as 35 miles across the north German plains, seemed at the point of capturing Hamburg, Bremen, Hannover and Brunswick today, their giant strides having carried them to within 133 miles of Berlin and to within 85 miles of isolating Denmark.

The fall of those four large cities, with a total peacetime population of 2,696,000 appeared imminent as Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's American 9th Army and Lt. Gen. Miles C. Dempsey's British 2nd drove toward and beyond them against slight and disintegrating opposition.

One British column racing up the west side of the Weser was only 15 miles from Bremen and 54 miles from Hamburg. Another which crossed the Weser three days ago was ramming a deep wedge between Bremen and Hannover in what Berlin said was a drive for the Baltic, 85 miles to the northeast, to cut off Denmark.

The Americans were 25 miles past the shattered Weser river line at a point a scant nine miles southeast of Hannover and 25 miles west of the great aircraft center of Brunswick.

The 9th Army joined the race for Berlin with a vengeance and was only seven miles farther from the rubbled capital than Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd Army armor which was 126 miles to the southwest, on the Thuringian plains.

The American 1st Army slashed across the Weser northeast of Kassel, putting four Allied armies over that river for the march on the Elbe, Berlin's last natural defense line in the west.

A high 1st Army officer said that with the shattering of the Weser river line, the Germans had no chance of establishing a cohesive front in the west. He said the Elbe river, which flows within 45 miles of Berlin, was next on the Allied timetable and "the biggest thing now is to drive across Germany and join hands with the Russians, cutting Germany in half."

The 3rd Army tanks, which have driven 235 miles into Germany, strengthened their flanks while infantry mopping up behind encountered fierce resistance and lost ground at points east of Kassel. The 6th Armored Division, striking eight miles north of Muehlhausen, reached the Keula area, on the south slopes of the Harz mountains 62 miles west of Halle and 132 miles from Berlin.

Field dispatches revealed that one of Germany's top military men—Field Marshal Walther von Model, one-time Nazi commander in the west—was trapped in the encircled Ruhr. He was at his post at the head of army group "B" comprising the 5th Panzer and 15th armies when Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' American 1st Army and the 9th snapped off the Ruhr. Model presumably could escape by plane if he chose.

MEDFORD **TRIBUNE**

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Fortieth Year

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NO. 14.

Japanese Suffer Air and Naval Defeats

Allied Armies Close on Hannover



(Acme Telephoto) British and Canadian troops, pushing their Netherlands drive from south, outflank great German port of Bremen. On Berlin road, American Ninth and British Second Armies stream across Weser, converge on Hannover. U. S. First and Third Armies made new progress across German plain towards the capital while the U. S. Seventh and French First Armies knife deeper into southern Germany.

RUSSIANS RAGE IN STREET VIENNA; BATTLES

Moscow, April 7 — (U.P.) — The Official Communist Party Newspaper Pravda raised the question of Austria's war guilt today as the fall of Vienna appeared imminent. Pravda said the foundation for a free and democratic nation should be formed immediately.

London, Sunday, April 8 — (U.P.) — The red army stormed 18 miles to the Danube northwest of Vienna yesterday, encircling two-thirds of the Austrian capital and putting the last German escape roads under short-range artillery fire while other Russian troops battled into the city streets from the south.

Marshal Fedor I. Tolbukhin's 3d Ukrainian army captured Klessenburg, one mile from the Vienna limits and left only a 13-mile gap between its spearheads at the Danube on both sides of Vienna, which lies almost entirely on the south bank.

Street fighting broke out in the shell-shaken Austrian capital as other 3d Ukrainian army units entered the main city from the south, a Moscow communique announced. Berlin admitted a penetration of two miles inside Vienna to the edge of Simmering, the city's gas and electric power station four miles southeast of St. Stephen's cathedral in the city's center.

The battle for Vienna, a metropolis of almost 2,000,000 population and one of the most famous capitals in the world, entered the climactic phase as German commentators vowed that it would be defended street by street.

Besides this route, the only other railroads open to the Germans were an auxiliary line connecting eventually with Brno and the main Vienna-Brno railroad which hugs the west bank of the Morava. Russian columns at or across the Morava were dominating this route with their artillery.

NAZIS PLAN FOR THIRD WAR TOLD

Washington, April 7 — (U.P.) — The Allies have mapped detailed plans for destroying a long-prepared Nazi program to achieve world domination "through a third world war," the State Department disclosed tonight.

Assistant Secretary of State Julius C. Holmes said the United Nations had collected "ample evidence" that Hitler and his henchmen already were working on plans for a strong, world-wide Nazi organization after this war.

He disclosed in the last of the State Department's weekly radio broadcasts (NBC) that the Nazis' post-war plans took shape in 1943, when top party leaders conceded that "Germany could no longer hope to win the war."

BULLETIN (NIGHT GAMES)

Oakland, April 7 — (U.P.) — The hard-hitting Oakland Oaks clinched their series with the Hollywood Stars here tonight by a 6-3 count, in a Pacific coast league game before 2,500 fans.

San Diego, April 7 — (U.P.) — The San Diego Padres maintained a five inning lead over the San Francisco Seals tonight in one of the wildest team vs. team battling duels this season with a 12 to 8 score at the end of the fourth inning.

WAR BULLETINS

London, April 7 — (U.P.) — American bombers and fighters shot down at least 87 German planes today as the crippled Luftwaffe desperately sought to stop crushing raids on their dwindling air bases in northern Germany.

Rome, April 7 — (U.P.) — Fifth U. S. Army Troops advanced in the Tyrrhenian sector for the third straight day, today and drove toward the great German naval base of La Spezia after capturing Mount Zappalote and outflanking enemy-held Massa to the west.

London, April 7 — (U.P.) — A BBC broadcast said tonight that the government of Greek Premier Nicholas Plastiras had resigned. The broadcast said that Greek Regent Daskalos reportedly had asked Adm. Pearsos Voulgaris, commander-in-chief of the Greek navy, to form a new government. Plastiras had formed his cabinet Jan. 3, 1945.

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PLANE SPRAYING FOR FIRST TIME ON VALLEY PEARS

For the first time in the history of the valley's orchard industry, orchard spraying is being carried on from the air. Yesterday morning a pilot and crew from the Central Aircraft company, Yakima, dusted Walter Leverette's Crown Point orchard on Eggar Road and Monday the crew will dust the Fair Oaks tract on Hillcrest Road, Leverette stated last night. Much interest is being displayed in the venture.

The orchardist stated that only the pre-pink and pink sprays could be put on from the air and that the dusting by airplane is in the nature of an experiment. He said the dusting supplies were in a field on the old Barneburg ranch, where a temporary air strip for the plane had been arranged. A "flag" crew posted in the orchard aids the pilot.

According to Leverette, many low crops are regularly dusted from the air for insect and disease control but that dusting of orchards is still in the experimental stage.

MARINE AMPHIBS GAIN ON OKINAWA

Guam, Sunday, April 8 — (U.P.) — The marine 3d amphibious corps continued to drive northward against negligible Japanese resistance on the Ikiikawa isthmus of Okinawa yesterday Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced in a communique today.

Nimitz reported that by noon the leathernecks had advanced about 3,000 yards to the vicinity of Nago town on the west coast of the island and Orbay on the east coast. The 24th army corps in the south was moving through difficult terrain in which the Japanese were fortified behind an extensive system of strong points.

Red Cross Assists Louisiana Victims

Alexandria, La., April 7 — (U.P.) — Rising flood waters of Louisiana rivers by tonight had affected half of the state's 64 parishes and inundated over 1,000,000 acres of land.

Red Cross director John Fligg estimated that 20,000 persons have now been driven from their homes and are being housed in 27 tent cities, state guard armories, high ground churches and municipal buildings. Long food lines formed at hurriedly set up army field kitchens.

ENEMY EFFORT TO HALT B-29 RAID ON TOKYO FAILS

Guam, Monday, April 8 — (U.P.) — American Superfortresses and Mustang fighter planes destroyed or damaged 173 Japanese planes during Saturday's attacks against aircraft plants at Tokyo and Nagoy, it was announced officially today.

More than 400 B-29s—greatest force ever dispatched from Marianas bases—were jumped by swarms of Japanese interceptors who for the first time met U. S. army-fighter plane opposition over the home islands.

Plane Plants Hit The formations which poured tons of demolition bombs on the Mitsubishi aircraft plant at Nagoya and the Nakajima-Musashina aircraft engine plant near Tokyo destroyed or damaged 136 Japanese fighters alone at a cost of five Superfortresses.

Enemy planes made as many as 600 separate attacks on the big bombers, indicating there were at least several hundred interceptors in the area. Of these, B-29 gunners definitely shot down 64, probably destroyed 31 and damaged 41.

Mustang pilots shot down 21, probably destroyed six and damaged ten. Antiaircraft fire was intense, but photographs revealed the bombs hit their targets. Damage assessments will not be announced until all reports are in.

Huge Yamato Sunk An all-out Japanese effort to interfere with the American invasion of the key bastion of Okinawa had ended in complete disaster today as reports showed that 417 enemy aircraft and six warships, including the 40,000-ton battleship Yamato, were destroyed in a two-day period.

As defeat was heaped upon defeat, Baron Kantaro Suzuki, the new premier of Japan, warned his country that the war now "warrants not the least bit of optimism whatever for our nation's survival."

Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's fast carriers went hunting and found a Japanese task force, spearheaded by the huge Yamato, in the waters off the southern tip of the enemy homeland. Within a few hours, the battleship, an Agano class light cruiser, a smaller cruiser or heavy destroyer and three destroyers were left burning and three were reported to have escaped.

A navy spokesman at Washington said a "good 25 per cent of the remaining naval Japanese combat force" was wiped out.

Washington, April 7 — (U.P.) — A naval spokesman revealed today that 1,212 Japanese planes have been shot down, destroyed on the ground or damaged since March 18 in the campaign of Okinawa.

In addition, 493 enemy vessels ranging from warships to small junks and luggers were sunk or damaged in support of the landings. This total included 244 vessels sunk, 206 damaged and 43 probably sunk or damaged.

CIRCUS TRAGEDY JAIL TERMS CJT

Hartford, Conn., April 7 — (U.P.) — Superior Court Judge William J. Shea suspended today the prison terms of one of the six Barnum and Bailey-Ringling Brothers Circus officials held responsible for last July's big top fire and reduced the terms of three others.

Shea said he suspended the six months jail sentence of David W. Blanchfield, rolling stock superintendent, because "the court is impressed with your testimony in this case. You have stated the truth."

Blanchfield was the only one of the six to testify that the circus could continue without him.

GOLD RESERVE OF NAZIS CACHED IN SALT MINE VAULT

Americans Take Treasure Trove, and Priceless Art Loot.

With the 90th Infantry Division, at Merkers, Germany, April 7 — (U.P.) — American soldiers found a vast treasure trove said to include the entire German gold reserve in a salt mine today.

Fritz Vieche, a balding official of the Reichsbank, was on guard. He said the subterranean vaults contained approximately 100 tons of gold bullion, \$2,000,000 in United States currency, 100,000,000 francs in French currency, 110,000 British pounds, 4,000,000 Norwegian crowns, and lesser amounts in other currencies.

The salt mine also sheltered a priceless art collection. The gold and currency were stored in a room 2,100 feet under the ground.

"The gold was brought from Berlin by train, starting February 11th and later all the rest of the treasures were brought in," Vieche told this correspondent. "Later when the Berlin printing presses were all destroyed by bombing, we attempted to return the paper currency back to the capital."

"However, because of blown can armor moved so swiftly, we bled and the fact that Americans were unable to escape with the paper currency and were forced to give up the entire idea."

The tip-off on the hidden treasure came late yesterday when two military policemen stopped two women who were on their way to get a midwife for a friend.

Walking with them, they passed the mine entrance. One woman said: "That's where the bullion is hidden." The M. P. barked "What did you say?" She repeated her remark. The M. P.'s investigated at once.

Eight civil servants in all were in charge of the treasure. They showed no inclination to run away and both Vieche and Rave were most willing to talk.

COAL MINE WAGE PEACE FORECAST

Washington, April 7 — (U.P.) — The soft coal mine wage dispute will be ended on Monday, both sides predicted tonight.

Operators and miners said they expected to solve their own wage-hour problems without drastic government intervention by signing a new two-year contract. It would replace the one which expired April 1.

The new contract, removing the threat of nationwide government seizure of mines, will provide substantial pay increases for miners but will not, it was understood, include the 10-cent-a-ton royalty originally asked by the united mine workers.

New York, April 7 — (U.P.) — The demands of John L. Lewis for a 10-cent a ton royalty on all hard coal mined by his union mine workers if successful, could lead to union efforts to tax the American public almost \$3,000,000,000 annually, Ira Mosher, president of the national association of manufacturers said today.

GALES FORECAST ON COAST TODAY

San Francisco, April 7 — (U.P.) — Storm warning for gales tonight and Sunday were hoisted from the mouth of the Columbia river in Oregon to Cape Mendocino in California, the U. S. Weather Bureau announced tonight.

KLAMATH DENTIST BATAAN SURVIVOR MUCH IMPRESSED

Portland, Ore., April 7 — (U.P.) — Maj. Denton Rees, Klamath Falls dentist, who survived the infamous Bataan death march and three years of imprisonment at the Cabanatuan camp in the Philippines, said today his arrival here that his foremost impression of wartime America is "the way everyone wants to do things for you."

"After the Jap prison treatment, you're surprised whenever anyone tries to do anything for you," he said.

An "Oregon Club"—formed by U. S. prisoners at the camp—was prevented from meeting by the Japanese, who thought its activities were directed against them.

The biggest trouble was that it was the hottest time of the year, and the Japs had destroyed our canteens—just for the hell of it. The fellows had malaria and were starved. We had straight rice for the first three weeks," he added.

DUMBARTON PLAN CAN BE CHANGED

Washington, April 7 — (U.P.) — The World Security Organization proposed at Dumbarton Oaks "is subject to amendment" by the United Nations conference at San Francisco, Chairman Tom Connally, D. Tex., of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said tonight.

Connally thus agreed with his Senate colleague on the U. S. delegation to the April 25 conference, Arthur H. Vandenberg, R. Mich., that full opportunity should be provided for changing the Dumbarton Oaks charter if changes are desirable. There have been charges that the Big Four would try to ram the proposals through without alteration.

CIVILIANS HELD BY FOE DUE SOON

San Francisco, April 7 — (U.P.) — More than 800 rescued U. S. prisoners of the Japs—the largest group ever to reach the coast at one time—is due to arrive at a U. S. Pacific coast port "soon," the navy announced today.

All the repatriated prisoners are civilians who had been interned by the Japs in Santo Tomas and other Philippines island prisons. Included in the group are ministers, missionaries, salesmen, students, engineers, Red Cross officials, clerks, miners, druggists, and others from all walks of life.

LEGION PROTESTS NEW ORDER USING SIMILAR EMBLEM

Portland, Ore., April 7 — (U.P.) — Officials of the Yank Legion, a group of World War II veterans and war workers, today revealed the American Legion has protested the new organization's insignia and name as an infringement of patent rights.

Ralph B. Gregg, national judge advocate of the American Legion, wrote the Yank group, which has headquarters in Portland, that "the emblem is similar to that adopted by the American Legion and protected by letters patented in the United States patent office and renewed by act of congress. We feel that the use of the name 'Yank Legion' and the emblem as displayed is an infringement on our rights, and must respectfully request that this practice be discontinued."

WAR PRISONERS URGE SURRENDER

Washington, April 7 — (U.P.) — A group of German war prisoners in Camp Devens, Mass., have appealed to the people of Germany to overthrow Hitler and make an immediate peace with the allies, the war department revealed tonight.

The plea was contained in a petition signed voluntarily by 1,391 of the 3,102 German prisoners at the camp, the department said. The appeal will be broadcast to Germany, it was announced.

"The continuation of this combat, which was mad from the beginning, brings us only closer to the total destruction of our homeland, our native country; the bleeding to death of our people," the petition said.

Declaring that "the dead have no future," the petition pleaded, "put down your weapons immediately, stop the war, surrender."

EXECUTED COUNT MAY BE 'BABS' KIN

Stockholm, April 7 — (U.P.) — Four Copenhagen men, including Count Ludvig Reventlow, were shot to death by order of the Germans yesterday, the Danish Press Service said today. It was not known here whether the young count was a relative of Count Haugwitz von Reventlow, former husband of the American heiress, Barbara Hutton.

WHOLESALE MEAT ABOVE CEILING IS ACCUSATION HERE

Local OPA officials stated Saturday they will be forced to call in Portland and San Francisco investigators unless meat wholesalers desist from the practice of selling meat above ceiling prices.

The OPA officials said complaints that local wholesalers are selling meats to retailers and restaurants above ceiling prices have been made by many Medford merchants who claim that the gravity of the situation will force them to close several days a week unless it is cleared up soon.

"The overcharges are frequently made by changing the weight of the meat on the invoice which automatically places it in a higher price bracket and results in a substantial overcharge," the officials said they had been informed.

DAMAGED CRUISER BACK IN ACTION

San Francisco, April 7 — (U.P.) — The 12th naval district disclosed today that the U.S.S. Birmingham, a light cruiser, has returned to action in the Pacific after undergoing extensive damage repairs and modernization.

The Birmingham was standing by the doomed light carrier Princeton last Oct. 24 off the Philippines when the Princeton's magazine exploded. The cruiser suffered 64 casualties.

The Birmingham was within 50 feet of the carrier when the magazine exploded. The cruiser's topside structures were pierced by a hail of torn fragments. The stacks, deckhouse and anti-aircraft guns and mounts were considerably damaged.

State Board Keeps Tax Commissioners

Salem, Ore., April 7 — (U.P.) — The state board of control today reappointed Earl Fisher and Charles V. Galloway to the state tax commission for four-year terms. Secretary of State Robert Farrell opposed the action, but was outvoted by Gov. Earl Snell and Treasurer Leslie M. Scott.

ALLIES IRK RUHR MAYOR, SAY THEY ARE 'CONQUERORS'

By Jack Fleischer United Press War Correspondent Recklinghausen, April 7 — (U.P.) — Dr. Josef Hellermann, allied appointed mayor of this Ruhr city, said today he was very "disappointed" with the Americans and British.

His disappointment—like that of many other Germans I have talked with—stems from the fact that we have not come as "liberators" but conquerors and because, he charged, we have not strictly controlled freed allied prisoners of war and slave laborers.

He complained that German homes were being "plundered." These complaints have been made both by Germans who are Nazis and by some who claim they are anti-Nazi. The mayor, like a good many other Germans, advanced what appears to be the post-war German propaganda line—it was all the fault of Adolph Hitler and the Nazis.

It seems apparent that the Germans are already trying to shift all responsibility for the war off their own shoulders. German after German whom I have interviewed denounces the Nazis, and in the next breath recites almost verbatim some Nazi propaganda theme such as "the crime of the Treaty of Versailles."

Hellermann is a former superintendent of city schools in Recklinghausen who was retired on a pension after two months in a Gestapo jail. He had been charged with showing favor to a city employee who had made insulting remarks about Hitler.

HAPPY POST-WAR SEEN BY TRUMAN

Buffalo, April 7 — (U.P.) — Vice-President Harry S. Truman forecast a prosperous postwar America in a speech tonight to a Grover Cleveland day dinner of the Democratic party.

"As long as we utilize our plants, resources, manpower and skills intelligently, there seems no sound reason why America should fear the future in any field of human endeavor," Truman said.

"As long as we remain free and industrious, our progress should be practically unlimited." With the nation using its power and prestige in the cause of justice, he said, "America may again lead the world back to tolerance and understanding."