

# YANKS TAKE LEIPZIG AND HALLE

## MEDFORD

## MAIL TRIBUNE

## Twin Stronghold Fall Threatens Collapse Of Nazis' Central Front

Fortieth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1945 NO. 24

# Churchill Believes Nazi Government Authority On Eve Of Disintegration

## WINNIE DECRIES SPECULATION ON DATE OF V-DAY

### Warning on Atrocities to Be Given Whatever Government Functioning.

London, April 19 — (U.P.) — Prime Minister Churchill indicated belief today that the authority of the German government may disintegrate within a few days.

Churchill told the House of Commons that a three-power warning to Germany on war atrocities, signed by himself, Marshal Stalin and President Truman will be issued within a few days.

The warning will be addressed, he said, to the "German government or whatever authority exists" at that time—indicating belief that the crumbling Nazi regime may not be functioning as an entity by the time the joint statement is dispatched.

He revealed that a special parliamentary delegation is leaving Britain tomorrow to obtain eyewitness evidence of Nazi atrocities.

Churchill revealed that the parliamentary body is being sent at the direct request of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower who messaged Churchill today that new discoveries of atrocities, particularly those in the Weimar area, far surpass anything previously found.

The prime minister's announcement came after he had replied tartly to a member's question as to when V-Day might come.

## RED CROSS FOOD GOING TO P. W.'S

Washington, April 19 — (U.P.) — Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters has reported that large quantities of Red Cross supplies are being delivered to American and Allied prisoners of war in German prison camps.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said today.

Stimson said the largest concentration of American prisoners is now at Stalag 7-A at Moosburg, 25 miles northeast of Munich. At last reports there were 9,812 U. S. prisoners, including about 4,000 officers and some enlisted men who had been transferred from Stalagluft 3 at Nurnberg, there.

## SIDE GLANCES

Ray Miksche undergoing the humiliating experience of being almost knocked out in an encounter with a bird cage.

George Davis recounting, with gestures, his initial experiences with army routine.

Ralph Koozer too busy planting tomatoes to answer the phone.



This Was Last Trip Home for Ernie. The late Ernie Pyle, famous Scripps-Howard war correspondent killed in action on island of Ie, near Okinawa, is pictured here with "That Girl"—his seldom photographed wife, Mrs. Geraldine Pyle, in library of their Albuquerque, N. M., home just before he left for the Pacific. With the couple is their pet Shetland sheep dog, Chetah. Life photo by Bob Landry.

## SUPERS PLASTER KYUSHU DROMES FOR THIRD TIME

Superfortresses raided Kyushu for the third straight day today, Tokyo said, and American ground forces scored new gains in Okinawa and Ie in the Ryukyus and on newly-invaded Mindanao in the Philippines.

Enemy broadcasts said more than 100 B-29's bombed Kyushu, southernmost of Japan's home islands, while three other B-29's and 60 escorting Mustang fighters attacked airfields in the Tokyo area.

Foreign Tokyo one-tenth destroyed, with diplomats have evacuated the capital, the broadcasts admitted.

The Kyushu raids presumably were aimed at the six airfields from which Japanese suicide pilots have been taking off to attack the American fleet off Okinawa, 330 miles south of Tokyo.

Another broadcast said the American raiders bombed and strafed Tokyo airfields for half an hour.

Marines cleared three-fourths of Okinawa with a drive to the northern tip of the island. Other marines still were embattled on Motobu peninsula jutting from the northwest coast and army troops at the south end were stymied by stubborn defense lines before Naha, the capital.

A Pacific fleet communiqué said that the first 18 days of the Okinawa campaign, with associated operations in the Ryukyus chain and air raids on Japan, had cost the Americans 7,895 killed, wounded or captured.

American assault forces on tiny Ie, three miles west of Motobu, continued gains, but were meeting with stiff resistance from dug-in Japanese positions.

American invasion troops drove inland today on a 35-mile beachhead from Mindanao, southernmost of the Philippines. The landing was effected on Moro gulf Tuesday with virtually no opposition.

## Pyle Will Be Buried Among Soldiers He Immortalized

By Mac R. Johnson, United Press War Correspondent

Okinawa, April 19 — (U.P.) — Ernie Pyle will be buried among the soldiers he immortalized.

The beloved little war correspondent killed by a Japanese machine-gunner yesterday probably will be laid to rest in an Army cemetery here in the Ryukyus where he covered his last campaign.

The soldiers he loved brought him back from the battlefield. Back to where the noise of the guns is distant and dull. They lifted his pint-sized frame from the ditch where he fell, victim of a sneak Japanese machine-gun ambush.

One of his hands still clutched his green fatigue cap. They put him on a litter, and crossed his arms, and then carried him back to the rear.

It wasn't easy. That Japanese machine-gunner seemed jealous of his prized victim. It was five hours after Ernie was killed before anybody could get to his body.

Albuquerque, N. M., April 19 — (U.P.) — Messages of condolence poured into the Albuquerque home of Ernie Pyle, the war correspondent who wrote the human side of the war and was killed by a Jap machine-gunner on the Pacific island of Ie Jima.

The messages were from people of all walks of life. Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal wired Mrs. Geraldine Pyle, Ernie's wife who was known as "that girl" in his columns: "On behalf of the entire Naval Service I extend to you our sincerest sympathy in your great loss which is also a loss to the nation."

Another wire from General Joseph Stilwell said, "I have just learned of the death of your husband on an American battlefield. All American soldiers will keenly feel the loss of a man who has done so much to tell their story."

Hollywood, April 19 — (U.P.) — The commander of the Hollywood world war II post of the American Legion resigned today in a dispute over admission to legion membership of Japanese-American war veterans.

Post Commander William P. Schneider quit only a few hours after Harley Oka, world war II veteran of Japanese ancestry and central figure in the dispute, had also resigned. Oka was the first Japanese-ancestry veteran ever to become a legionnaire.

Both Schneider and Oka blamed "intolerance" by World War I Legionnaires for their decisions.

## RUSSIA REQUEST FOR POLAND IS REJECTED BY U.S.

### State Department Reiterates Firm Stand on Agreement Reached at Yalta Parley.

Washington, April 19 — (U.P.) — The United States today turned down Russia's second request that the provisional Polish government of Warsaw be invited to the San Francisco Security conference.

The State Department reiterated its firm stand that Poland will not be represented at the United Nations parley unless a new "government of national unity" is formed before the conference begins next Wednesday.

Agreed at Yalta. Russia, Britain and the United States agreed at Yalta to foster such a new Polish regime. But it has not been set up. Apparently there have been differences of opinion as to interpretations of the Yalta agreement.

The State Department confirmed that the Soviet government, in a note received here yesterday, had reiterated "the Soviet request that the present provisional government now functioning in Warsaw be invited to send representatives of the conference at San Francisco."

Receipt of the note had been announced but its contents had not been officially disclosed.

Request Rejected. Russia's first request that the Warsaw government be invited to San Francisco was rejected by the United States and Britain on March 31.

A belief is current here that Big Three Representatives likely will be unable to agree on a new, broadened Polish government in time for the conference.

The whole difficult problem will be thrashed out this week-end by the British, American and Russian foreign ministers and the other Big Three diplomats who have been trying unsuccessfully at Moscow to agree on a new Polish regime.

The situation now rests with President Truman, Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden, who is already here, and Russian Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov, who is en route from Moscow.

The British and American diplomats who have been working on the problem with Molotov at Moscow also are here.

## LIGHTS TO SHINE IN BRITAIN NEXT WEEK

London, April 19 — (U.P.) — The British blackout will be lifted Monday except for a five-mile coastal belt, Home Secretary Herbert Morrison announced today. It has been five years and eight months since the lights have burned at night in Britain.

## U.S. Casualties Near Million

Washington, April 19 — (U.P.) — Officially announced U. S. combat casualties, approaching 1,000,000, reached an overall total of 912,200 today. This was an increase of 12,810 in a week.

Meanwhile, German casualties on the western front are mounting by the hundreds of thousands.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson disclosed at his press conference today that British and U. S. armies have captured 2,100,000 Germans since Normandy D-Day last June 6. Of this total, 900,000 were captured in April alone.

The U. S. combat casualty total included 813,870 Army and 98,330 navy, marine corps, and coast guard losses since Dec. 7, 1941.

The all-service figures for total U. S. casualties:

Killed	162,505	37,920	200,425
Wounded	496,803	45,554	542,357
Missing	83,926	10,595	94,521
Prisoners	70,636	4,261	74,897
Totals	813,870	98,330	912,200

Of the army wounded, 261,596 have returned to duty.

## OLD HOUSES TO BE REMOVED FOR NEW CITY PARK

### Council to Call for Bids For Removal to Make Way For City Improvement.

Four old dwellings on East Main street on the site of the proposed new city park will be removed in the near future, city councilmen at the last meeting having authorized the city attorney to issue a call for bids for their removal.

The dwellings, including the Mansion cafe, are at 501, 511, 517 and 523 East Main street.

City Superintendent Frank Rogers stated today that the call for bids would be issued soon and that the contractor could either demolish the buildings or remove them in their entirety. The site for the park does not include the service station at the corner of Main street and Hawthorne or the buildings on the west side of Hawthorne.

Members of the city planning commission last night approved the council's post-war program. It is to be announced in a complete form, Mayor Clarence A. Meeker stated this morning.

## JOAN "SHOCKED" BY \$75 VERDICT

Hollywood, April 19 — (U.P.) — Joan Barry today tried to figure how to raise her 18-month-old daughter as a multi-millionaire's child on the \$75 weekly check she'll be getting from Charlie Chaplin, the baby's legally-adjudged father.

She said she didn't think it could be done. The red-haired Miss Barry, one-time drama protegee of the 56-year-old comedian, said she was bewildered and "shocked beyond words" at the news Superior Judge Clarence Kincaid had ignored her plea for \$1500 monthly support for the baby and \$50,000 attorney's fees.

Kincaid yesterday ordered Chaplin to pay Miss Barry \$75 a week for Carol Ann's support, \$5000 for attorney's fees and court costs.

## Hypnotism Used To Combat Mental Ills Contracted In War

New York, April 19 — (U.P.) — Doctors in uniform have turned the "magic" of hypnosis on battle casualties whose wounds don't show.

Seeking quick cure for "combat fatigue" and neuroses, psychiatrists in U. S. army, navy, merchant marine hospitals and field stations are hypnotizing mental victims of the war and obtaining results once considered impossible.

Their progress was reported by R. A. Motherland in the May issue of Mechanix Illustrated magazine. He said hypnotism in mental treatment was proved safe, efficient and lasting.

## WHITE HOUSE LUNCH

Washington, April 19 — (U.P.) — President and Mrs. Truman lunched today in the White House with Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Truman was driven over from the Blair house across the street. The President walked over from the executive wing of the White House.

## HOOVER URGED

Washington, April 19 — (U.P.) — Appointment of former President Herbert Hoover as a delegate to the San Francisco security conference was urged in the senate today by Sen. Homer E. Capehart, R., Ind.

## Paris, April 19 — (U.P.) — The twin German strongholds of Leipzig and Halle fell to the American first army today in a crushing double victory which threatened the complete collapse of the Nazis' central front.

The two cities, keystones of the enemy's entire defensive system in central Germany, were taken by first army doughboys only a few hours apart today in the bloodiest street fighting since the Rhine crossing.

FEW SCATTERED SNIPERS LEFT. A few scattered snipers were reported still holding out in the ruins of Leipzig tonight, but all resistance was stamped out in Halle, 15 miles to the northwest.

Far to the northwest, U. S. ninth army forces battled to stem a fierce German counter-attack against their northern flank between Magdeburg and Brunswick.

A strong German task force of perhaps 1,000 men and 70 tanks and armored units struck suddenly into the ninth army flank some 45 miles west of the Elbe early today and made considerable progress before the Americans could rally to meet the blow.

PART OF NAZI FORCE SLIPS THROUGH. Attacking southeastward from the Wittingen area, the Nazis slipped part of their force 15 miles through the American lines into the Kloetz forest, but their main body was checked with heavy losses after a three-mile advance.

The thrust apparently was aimed at cutting clear across the ninth army front into the Harz mountains, some 60 miles south of the Kloetz forest.

Leipzig, the fifth city of Hitler's reich and the pivot on which his entire western battle line depended, was conquered by two first army divisions early today in one of the bloodiest, close-in fights of the war.

Americans Halted. With stray shots still flying in a half-dozen sections of the city, thousands of liberated allied prisoners and some civilians lined the streets to hail the Americans. On the part of the civilians it was an open acceptance of Germany's defeat.

German hopes for a prolonged stand in the west were fading fast and the fall of Leipzig was expected to speed the final disintegration of the Wehrmacht.

The Nazi collapse in that great central stronghold came as Gen. Omar N. Bradley announced that the three pace-making armies of his American 12th army group had reached their established objectives and were pausing before the next phase of their assault on the dying reich.

Two Million Captured. More than 2,000,000 Germans were revealed to have been captured by the western allies since their landing in Normandy last June, almost half of them taken since the Rhine crossing six weeks ago.

"Virtually every German soldier who faced us back on the Siegfried line on Feb. 23 is now either killed, wounded or a prisoner," Bradley said.

TO BERLIN. The nearest distances to Berlin from advanced allied lines today:

Eastern front—14 miles (from east of Oder river, by German report).

Western front—45 miles (from Elbe river).

Italian front—516 miles (from near Comacchio).

and 23 northeast of the capital, the Germans admitted.

After the fall of Wriezen, one broadcast said, the Russians moved "several kilometers" down the road to Strausberg. A later alarmed radio report said that after achieving a deep breakin, a spearhead "thrust a few kilometers" beyond the road into Strausberg.



American troops slashed in Czecho-Slovakia, cutting pre-war Germany in two, though Nazis still hold a corridor from North Sea to their Bavarian redoubt. On eastern front, Russians were reported in sight of the burning Reich capital. Far to north, the British were within 30 miles of Hamburg, had cut the Hamburg-Berlin railway line and German plans for stand at North Sea ports appear doomed.