

Yanks Drive Close to Heart of Naha in Fierce Fighting

ADVANCE FLANKS JAP DEFENSE LINE IN SOUTHERN AREA

96th Div. Wheels Around
Captured Conical Hill and
Lays Siege To Yonabaru.

Washington, May 15—(U.P.)—U. S. submarines have sunk nine more Japanese vessels, including five warships, the navy announced today.

The combatant vessels included one destroyer, two small escort vessels and two patrol vessels. The remainder of the bag included one large tanker and three cargo vessels.

Guam, Wednesday, May 16—(U.P.)—Tenth army infantrymen fought through the rubble streets and ruined buildings of Naha today in a fiercely-contested advance that carried to within 2,000 yards of the dock area and unhinged the Japanese defense line across southern Okinawa.

Marines of the sixth division, braving a storm of Japanese mortar and machine gun fire, crossed the Asato river and battled house-to-house to within 1,000 yards of the heart of the capital city.

On the opposite end of the six-mile battle front, troops of the 96th army division wheeled around captured Conical Hill, consolidated their positions at Yonabaru air field, and laid siege to Yonabaru City and its east coast port.

Maj. Gen. Pedro de Valle's 1st marine division and Maj. Gen. Andrew Bruce's 77th army division were closing a pincer on Shuri village, the enemy's anchor point in the center of the trans-island fortifications system.

The center of the line proved as tough as either the Naha or Tonabaru flanks. Progress of both the army and marine divisions still was being measured in fractions of miles.

Marines invaded Naha at the Takamotoji district after spanning the Asato. During the crossing, Maj. Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.'s leathernecks were under almost constant fire.

The Japanese garrison, estimated between 30,000 and 40,000 appeared determined to resist bitterly to the inevitable end, as they have in virtually every Pacific campaign.

The capture of Conical Hill, announced yesterday by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, split the Naha-Yonabaru line and opened the way for outflanking movements against Naha and Shuri.

Carrier planes and the big guns of warships offshore continued to support the ground campaign.

Several groups of Japanese ships attacked American shipping off Okinawa Sunday night and early Monday and damaged three units.

Off Okinawa, 35 enemy planes attacked in three groups. They damaged two light American naval units, but lost 25 planes in the effort. One destroyer alone shot down eight enemy planes.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE



Weather

FORECAST: Clearing tonight. Partly cloudy and slightly warmer Wednesday.

Highest Yesterday Temp. 48
Lowest this Morning Prec. .50
To 5 a. m. Today Prec. .21

Fortieth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1945

NO. 46.

VETERANS BUREAU WILL ESTABLISH MEDFORD OFFICE

Contact Representative and
Other Personnel Promised
—Will Fill Major Need.

A contact unit of the United States Veterans Administration, consisting of a contact representative and a clerk-stenographer, with additional personnel later, will be established in Medford according to a wire received by the Mail Tribune this morning from Senator Guy Cordon. The office will be opened as soon as desirable space can be obtained and personnel procured, Senator Cordon's wire states, and the facility will be expanded with assignment of additional personnel as need develops.

County Judge J. B. Coleman stated this morning after hearing the news that he was most gratified at the step and believed this would relieve the county court of the necessity of appointing a local service officer.

Long Sought

Provision for the officer had been made in the county budget now in the process of being adopted by the court, he said. The judge stated that the court had delayed action on the matter of a local service officer in the belief that the problem would be eventually settled in this fashion, but had finally decided upon action when budget-time word from the administration.

Frank Hull, manager of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and Harry Young, commander of the Medford American Legion, also expressed satisfaction at the news. Hull stated that chamber officials had carried on correspondence with both Senator Cordon and Congressman Harris Ellsworth in an effort to have a representative stationed here in the belief that this would simplify the matter of handling veterans' problems. Young declared he believed all veterans' organizations would be pleased to have an administration representative in the district.

VANDALS VISIT SYNAGOGUE ON OREGON CAMPUS

Eugene, Oregon, May 15—(U.P.)—Vandalism in a Jewish synagogue—including swastikas on the military honor roll and desecration of the American flag—was reported today by Chief of Police L. L. Pittenger of Eugene.

The Beth Israel temple on the University of Oregon campus was entered sometime during last weekend but the mutilation was not discovered until late last night Pittenger said.

Large figures of the swastika were cut in the wall paper and marked with crayon in four rooms, the chief reported.

A swastika was scratched with a sharp object on the honor roll containing the names of 14 church men and women in military service.

An American flag standard was overturned in one room and the eagle on the staff broken.

The velvet altar covering was torn in half.

"This entrance apparently was made by a person or persons for the purpose of desecration of this church and follows a pattern of religious persecution of the worst kind," Pittenger said.

Police recovered a carving knife, about 10 inches long, in the church and said it would be checked for fingerprints and identification. They believed it was the sharp instrument used in defacing the walls.

WEATHER

Northern California — Slightly cloudy north portion today, otherwise clear today, tonight and Wednesday; warmer Wednesday.

Brutality, Murder System As Practiced By Germans Is Reported To Congress

Washington, May 15—(U.P.)—Congress heard at first hand today a part of the terrible story of Nazi methods of rule by extermination.

A 12-man committee of both houses, fresh from a tour of German concentration and slave labor camps, verified many of the worst atrocities.

They told a tragic tale of filth, disease, starvation and murder. Declaring the concentration camp practices to be "no less than organized crime against civilization," they demanded "swift, certain and adequate punishment" for those responsible.

Future Justice Hope

But despite the cruelty and horror they saw they held forth hope of future justice.

Senate Democratic Leader Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, spokesman for the committee, voiced it this way:

"Through the sickening spectacle which we have witnessed... will come ultimately a firmer realization that men of all nations and tongues must resist encroachments of every theory and ideology that debases mankind."

Three Camps Seen

The 12-man committee, invited by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to see the results of Nazi treatment of political prisoners and slave laborers, visited camps at Buchenwald, Nordhausen and Dachau.

Members were Barkley, Sens. Walter F. George, D., Ga.; Elbert D. Thomas, D., Utah; C. Wayland Brooks, R., Ill.; Kenneth S. Wherry, R., Neb.; and Leverett Saltonstall, R., Mass., and Reps. R. Ewing Thomas, D., Tex.; James P. Richards, D., S. C.; Ed V. Izac, D., Calif.; John M. Vorys, R., O.; James W. Mott, R., Ore., and Dewey Short, R., Mo.

Barkley, who read his report to the senate, charged that the camps constituted a "calculated and diabolical program of planned torture and extermination on the part of those who were in control of the German government."

He said the three camps visited were an "accurate cross-section" of the more than 100 such concentration and slave labor camps in Germany. Camps were largely conducted and controlled by SS troops and the gestapo either acting under orders from superiors or "given wide discretion in the methods they were to adopt in perpetrating these hideous and inhuman sufferings."

No Americans

He reassured the senate at the outset that American prisoners of war were not incarcerated in any of the concentration camps.

Bodily tortures were not described because "eyewitnesses to the proceedings in the torture chambers seem always to have been done away with."

He said the committee saw with its own eyes:

1. "The barracks, the work places, the physical facilities for torture, degradation and execution."

2. "The victims — both dead and alive," of the atrocities practiced at these camps."

3. "The progress of liquidation by starvation which was still going on."

4. "We saw the indescribable filth and smelled the nauseating stench before it was cleaned up, and we saw a number of victims of this liquidation process actually die."

Sleep On Shelves

Barkley said that at Buchenwald, the first camp visited, the committee saw the "little camp," in which prisoners slept on triple-decked shelves. Each shelf was about 12 feet square with 16 prisoners to a shelf. The clearance height between the shelves was a little over two feet.

In the "little camp," he said, prisoners were given six weeks before being graduated to the "regular barracks."

During this time, he said, they were "expected" to lose about 40 per cent in weight. Rations were less than at the regular barracks and the death rate was very high, recently running about 50 per day.

The "regular barracks," he declared, had dormitory rooms approximately 42 by 23 feet and about 10 feet high in which, since the war, 250 persons were made to sleep with less than one blanket per person and no heat.

The "hospital" at Buchenwald, Barkley said, was a place "where moribund (dying) persons were sent to die." No remedies were available, hence there was no

treatment. Typhus and tuberculosis were rampant and death rates ran from 5 to 20 persons a day.

Used As Guinea Pigs

The "medical experiment building" at Buchenwald was used by scientists from Berlin who came down to inoculate "guinea pigs" with deadly diseases.

The crematory at Buchenwald, Barkley said, had a maximum capacity of about 400 bodies per 10-hour day. It was enclosed by a high board fence and manned by SS guards.

Roll call at Buchenwald was held every evening and a truck collected the bodies of all who had died during the day as well as live prisoners who were to be executed for political reasons.

The dead were taken directly to the crematory. The living were forced down a 13-foot shaft, strangled and hung on hooks by SS men and then fed to the ovens.

There were two batteries of three brick ovens each. Total capacity was 18 bodies. It took 15 to 20 minutes to dispose of an ovenful.

Lack of fuel in March prior to the arrival of the Americans interrupted the cremations, Barkley said. He said the committee saw a truckload of 60 bodies, with about 25 additional bodies near it, standing near the crematorium.

Systematically Starved

The Nordhausen camp, Barkley said, was a combination factory and starvation-center. Slave laborers were systematically starved to death, meanwhile being forced to work long hours at an underground factory which produced V-1 and V-2 bombs, airplane engines and munitions.

"At Dachau, Barkley said, the committee saw about 300 bodies of those who had died that morning. The Dachau camp, he reported, could dispose of about 100 men at a time. Prisoners were also shot after being forced to kneel at the edge of open pits.

Barkley said the worst-treated prisoners were Jews, Russians and Poles. He said the committee was of the opinion that a colossal scheme of extermination was planned and put into effect against all those in occupied countries who refused to accept the principles of Nazism, or who opposed the saddling of the Nazi yoke on their countries."

The number of prisoners and slave-laborers, he said, is estimated to run between 12,000,000 and 20,000,000.

LIST IS DRAWN FOR MAY COURT; STARTS MAY 28

The jury list for the May term of circuit court starting Monday, May 28 was drawn yesterday by the county clerk and sheriff officers. Fifteen of the prospective are women and the remaining 16 men. As it is the opening day of a new term, court will convene at ten o'clock, as required by law.

The list follows:
Medford—Stella Romine, Rt. 2; Mary E. Froehlich, Lillie Douglas, Rt. 2; Elsie Butler Myrtle Jenkins, Mrs. J. C. Stockman, Allen D. Curry, Mary Dodge, Lynn Brown, Ralph A. Fraser, Verna B. Brophy, Dorothy A. Bennett, and Belle L. Bradley, Rt. 2.

Ashland—Roy M. Spalding, Henry C. Galey, Percy Hardy, Arthur E. Peters, Albert C. Joy, C. C. Robertson, Harry D. McNair, Arthur A. Madden, Clyde N. Caton and Gertrude Brower.

Eagle Point—Jessie Freeman, Star Rt. 1, Box 83; Gertrude Stanley and George Millard.

Central Point—Leola Faber, Viola A. Cooper, and Leon C. Taylor, Rt. 1.

Gold Hill—Olive M. Turner and Louis F. Swanson.

LIBEREE ARRIVE

San Francisco, May 15—(U.P.)—A group of 254 civilians liberated from Japanese prison camps in the Philippines, including 47 litter patients and 100 ambulatory cases, arrived here today aboard an army transport.

U. S. DELEGATION EYES TICKLISH SECURITY ISSUE

Further Debate Slated With
Latin American Countries
—Final Draft Pends.

San Francisco, May 15—(U.P.)—The United States Delegation at the United Nations Conference canvassed the ticklish problem of regional security arrangements for nearly three hours today, then arranged to discuss it further with Latin American countries.

Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., called a press conference for later in the day and scheduled a conference with delegation chiefs of the same nine Latin American countries with whom he met yesterday about the regional arrangements question.

Big Stake Involved

High officials admitted that the biggest stakes of the entire conference are at issue in the current crisis over the future relationship of the inter-American regional system to the new world organization which is being drafted here.

Stettinius was asked as he left the delegation meeting whether they had agreed on a final draft of the U. S. compromise on the question.

"Not yet," he replied. "We've been working at it all morning and will continue throughout the day."

Meanwhile, another controversy—but one of far less importance—developed over the question of selection of the secretary general of the proposed world organization.

Under the basic Dumbarton Oaks plan, the secretary general would be elected by the general assembly upon recommendation of the Security Council. The understanding had been that the council's recommendation would require unanimous concurrence of the Big Five.

Cpl. William Kime Freed By British

Cpl. William N. Kime, reported missing in action in Belgium Dec. 17, was held prisoner by the Germans for a time and recently liberated by the British army information received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kime, Griffin Creek district, states. Cpl. Kime is now in Belgium and expects to be able to return home soon, the message said.

JOB DAUGHTERS OFFICER TO BE HERE WEDNESDAY

Mrs. Bernice Britton, Corvallis, grand guardian of Daughters of Job for Oregon, will be in Medford Wednesday evening and will install council members for the Medford Bethel during the regular session of that group. Bethel members will also elect a marshal. The meeting is set for 7:30 p. m. at the Masonic Temple.

GOERING IS ON GERMAN BIG CAPTURED S

History's Greatest Manhunt
Produces Few Captives;
Hitler Fate Is Unsolved.

Thousands of Nazi war criminals and renegade leaders of Germany's puppet states were in allied hands awaiting judgment today. But one week after V-E day, history's greatest manhunt had produced only Hermann Goering out of all the top Nazi hierarchy.

Adolf Hitler and his heir-apparent, Nazi Leader Martin Bormann, were reported dead in the wreckage of Berlin's Reich chancellery, although no positive identification of their bodies had yet been announced by the Red army.

Goebbels Believed Dead

Hitler's top spokesman, Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels, was almost certainly dead. The Russian army organ Red Star said the bodies of Goebbels and his wife and children were found in a subterranean chamber beneath the streets of Berlin—all suicides.

Goering was a prisoner of the American seventh army, fleeing the trial for his part in the direction of Nazi's countless atrocities.

Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler, branded the number-one war criminal following Hitler's reported death, apparently was still at large somewhere on the continent, he had been arrested.

Himmler's ace atrocity expert, Lt. Gen. of Police Ernst W. Kaltenbrunner, who has been accused of responsibility for the Nazi gas extermination program, was reported captured in the Austrian Tyrol by the American third army.

But there was still no word on the whereabouts of Foreign Minister Joachim Von Ribbentrop, Labor Minister Robert Ley, Dr. Arthur Rosenberg, author of the infamous Nazi racial laws, or the virulent Jew-biter Julius Streicher, chief artisans of Nazi Germany's 12-year reign of terror.

Pvt. Rodney Witham Reports Good News

A wire from Pvt. Rodney A. Witham which reached his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Witham, 1428 East Main street, this morning, brought the good news that the soldier is alive and safe. He was reported missing in action while serving with Patton's Third Army March 6 and his parents had had no word of him until the cablegram this morning.

Pvt. Witham went overseas last July and was sent from England to the European front late in December. He is an ordnance man attached to an infantry unit.

Washington, May 15—(U.P.)—Charles G. Ross, who used to be a newspaperman himself, took the oath today as President Truman's press secretary.

Tapped for the '85' Club



Still dazed, wild-eyed and bewildered but wearing huge and apparently permanent grins, this group of more than 100 stalked men cheer as they prepare to leave Camp Bonnie, Calif., for home under the new point re-lease system.

Hitler's Stenographer Recounts Final Hours In Underground Office

By Jack Fleischer
(UP Staff Correspondent)

Obersalzberg, Germany, May 15—(U.P.)—A man who was a stenographer at Adolf Hitler's headquarters in Berlin said today that the Fuehrer decided on April 22 to meet his end fighting the Russians from an underground fortress behind the Reich chancellery.

The man is Gerhardt Herrgeselle, who was summoned to Hitler's headquarters last July to do stenographic work after another stenographer had been killed in the attempt of the German army generals to assassinate Hitler.

Herrgeselle said that Hitler, his sweetheart Eva Braun, Martin Bormann, deputy leader of the Nazi party; Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, and Col. Gen. Alfred Jodl, former chief-of-staff who signed the German surrender at Reims, were living in the underground fortress.

"Around 10:30 a. m. April 21," Herrgeselle said, "the Russian artillery fire became heavier and obviously they were seeking to concentrate their fire on the government district. Later Russian planes made low-level attacks around central areas such as Friedrich Strasse and Hallesches Tor."

Many Conferences

"From noon on there were conferences almost without interruption. Paul Joseph Goebbels, as commander of the Berlin defense, rushed in and out of headquarters many times."

"Subordinate commanders reported in a steady stream. Still no decision was made to remove us to the south."

Herrgeselle said the next day the Russian infantry began pressing steadily in toward the center of Berlin.

"Various officers and government officials frantically rushed around trying to organize the remainder of the chancellery personnel into a Volksturm unit," Herrgeselle said. During this period the first criticism was made of Hitler regarding remaining in Berlin. But Hitler seemed slightly hazy. He often failed to reply to questions. At other times he obviously was not paying attention to questions.

Finally Decides

"The big decision finally was made in a 15-minute conference beginning at 5:30 p. m. Those present were Hitler, Bormann, Keitel and Jodl. Hitler was dressed, as usual, in dark trousers, field gray jacket with iron cross hanging from the left side and a brown shirt that had white collar and cuffs. In recent days he had not looked so fit. His face was rather puffy and he flushed easily. He seemed to become more stooped daily and when he walked his shoulders gave the impression almost of being a hunchback. His left arm shook considerably. His right hand, where he was wounded in the July 20 explosion, also shook."

Herrgeselle said that a steel door was closed for the 5:30 o'clock conference and then Hitler announced to Bormann, Keitel and Jodl: "It is lost. I shall

remain in Berlin. I shall fall here in the Reich chancellery."

The conference, according to Herrgeselle, was confused and heated. At times everybody except Jodl was talking at the same time in loud voices. Keitel and Bormann opposed Hitler's decision to stay in the chancellery. Jodl appeared to be indifferent. Both Keitel and Bormann, according to Herrgeselle, told Hitler: "My Fuehrer, that contradicts what you have taught us in past months." They referred to Hitler's declaration that he would continue to fight so long as there was any German soil left to fight on.

Herrgeselle said that Hitler, his sweetheart Eva Braun, Martin Bormann, deputy leader of the Nazi party; Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, and Col. Gen. Alfred Jodl, former chief-of-staff who signed the German surrender at Reims, were living in the underground fortress.

**99 PROPONENTS
OPPOSE KLAMATH
IN ROAD HEARING**

Portland, Ore., May 15—(U.P.)—Advocates of designation of Highway U. S. 99—via Ashland and Medford—as the official link between Oregon and California has first innings at today's meeting of the state highway commission, with sponsors of Highway U. S. 97—via Klamath Falls—scheduled to give their arguments next.

Mayor C. A. Meeke of Medford said 100,000 persons are served by U. S. 99, compared with 40,000 on U. S. 97. Paul B. Rynning of U. S. 97, secretary of the Oregon Pacific Coast Highway association, declared that the association is not opposing any highway but is seeking additional road development.

Rynning, Jackson county surveyor, said the association had refused to join eastern Oregon in opposing construction of Oregon coast bridges and completion of U. S. 99, which, he said, has more timber and more agricultural development along its route.

Douglas County Judge D. N. Busenbark said the county will have the greatest concentration of logging and lumber activity in the northwest after the war ends.

T. H. Banfield, commission chairman, assured the delegations that each side would be given complete hearing.

**MAN, YOUTH ARE
LISTED MISSING**

Two Jackson county residents have been reported missing from their homes since yesterday, police reported today.

John A. Houser, listed between 55 and 60 years old, was reported missing after leaving his home in Ashland yesterday to come to Medford. Police said Houser was driving a 1935 chocolate-colored sedan, license 460-233, and was reported to have been seen in California. Houser operates a hot dog stand on the highway near Jackson Hot Springs.

Bobby Harp, 15 son of Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Harp, Rt. 1, Box 456, was also reported missing since yesterday noon. According to police the boy is five feet, six inches tall, weighs 155 pounds, dark complexion, brown hair and eyes, and was wearing green trousers, light brown coat and oxfords when last seen. He was riding a bicycle, police said.

DAVIS REVERSED ON NEWS TO NAZIS

Washington, May 15—(U.P.)—President Truman said today that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower intends to permit "a free flow of information and ideas... in Germany in a manner consistent with military security."

Mr. Truman's announcement at a press conference reversed a policy announced last week by Elmer Davis, head of the Office of War Information.

Davis said American and allied newspapers and magazines would not be permitted to circulate among the Germans. He said special, censored publications would be issued for them.

To the People of this Community

Home Front, U.S.A.—Six million volunteers took the field to open a great War Bond offensive...



The finish of this dispatch will be written by you. How you receive these men, women and children who have undertaken the patriotic duty of selling you a personal quota based on your earnings, will determine the success or failure of the biggest home-front job handed you by the war.

There is no glory or fanfare for these volunteers. They are the infantry of this community. They make it easier for you to respond to the 7th War Loan's needs. In most instances they have a brother, a father, a son, a husband, or some other close relative in the service. They cannot succeed without your help.

Your personal quota may be big but it is bigger than the task assigned a soldier to wade ashore on a Japanese island? Your Victory Volunteer will ask you to invest more than ever before. If you think that's tough, tell it to the Marines on Iwo Jima.

THE EDITOR

Seventh War Loan Drive

"E" Sales to date...\$130,812
Quota \$1,067,000

Total Sales to Date
\$239,812
Quota \$2,087,000