

REDS ABANDON NEUTRALITY PACT

Koiso Government Resigns In Midst Of Grave Military Crisis

Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1945

Number 10432

Suzuki To Form New Nip Cabinet

LONDON, April 5 (AP)—The Japanese government of General Kuniaki Koiso fell today in the midst of the empire's grave military crisis and Emperor Hirohito called upon Admiral Baron Kantaro Suzuki, 77-year-old president of the privy council, to form a new cabinet. Tokyo broadcasts announced that Koiso and all his ministers stepped down, a communique said, "because of the gravity of the situation," a reference to the mounting series of disasters during their eight months in office which have reached a climax in the American invasion of Okinawa, on the doorstep of the homeland.

The communique, broadcast by Domei agency, said "a far more powerful administration will be formed" and the choice fell on the aged Suzuki after the emperor had consulted the elder statesman of the empire.

Suzuki had been in semi-retirement for eight years prior to his appointment as president of the privy council last August 10.

The pre-war years Admiral Suzuki was considered one of Japan's moderate statesmen and an opponent of the extreme army clique's aggressive adventures. He was seriously wounded in the Tokyo army revolt of Feb. 26, 1936, when he held the post of lord chamberlain.

The young officers who led that revolt held Suzuki was counselling moderation on the emperor. Several invaded his home and he received several sword cuts, so severe that for a time his life was despaired of.

May Offer Peace
(Many close students of Japanese affairs predicted that the next change in the Japanese government would call into power some "moderate" who might offer peace gestures to the United States and the allies.)

The text of the Tokyo communique: "In view of the gravity of the situation the cabinet has decided to resign en bloc in order to open the way for a far more powerful administration."

"Premier Koiso accordingly tendered the collective resignation of his cabinet to the throne today."

Bulletin Given
The communique was preceded by a Domei news agency bulletin announcing the fall of the government.

The German news agency DNB broke a routine transmission to flash news of the Japanese cabinet's resignation, indicating its importance within Germany.

"The Koiso cabinet resigned this morning," the Domei news agency said.

The resignation en bloc of the cabinet was decided upon after an extraordinary meeting of the whole cabinet which met at 9:50 this morning (Tokyo time).

"At the end of the meeting Koiso proceeded to the imperial palace at 10:30 a. m. and tendered the collective resignation of the Japanese cabinet to the emperor."

Formed in '44
The Koiso cabinet was formed on July 22, 1944.

Popularly known in Japan as "the Tiger," Koiso succeeded Gen. Hideki Tojo as premier.

Warren Welch Dies on Iwo Jima
PFC Warren W. Welch, 26, husband of Mrs. Kathlene Welch of Lakeview and son of George Welch of Alturas, was killed in action March 9, on Iwo Jima while serving with the third division of the marine corps.

Word was received by his family on March 28 in a message from General A. A. Vandegrift, commanding officer of the United States marine corps.

Warren was born September 9, 1918, in New Pine Creek and spent his childhood at Davis Creek, Calif. He was a graduate of Modoc Union high school and on March 5, 1939 was married to Kathlene Anklin of Davis Creek. A daughter, Dixie Kay, was born April 19, 1941.

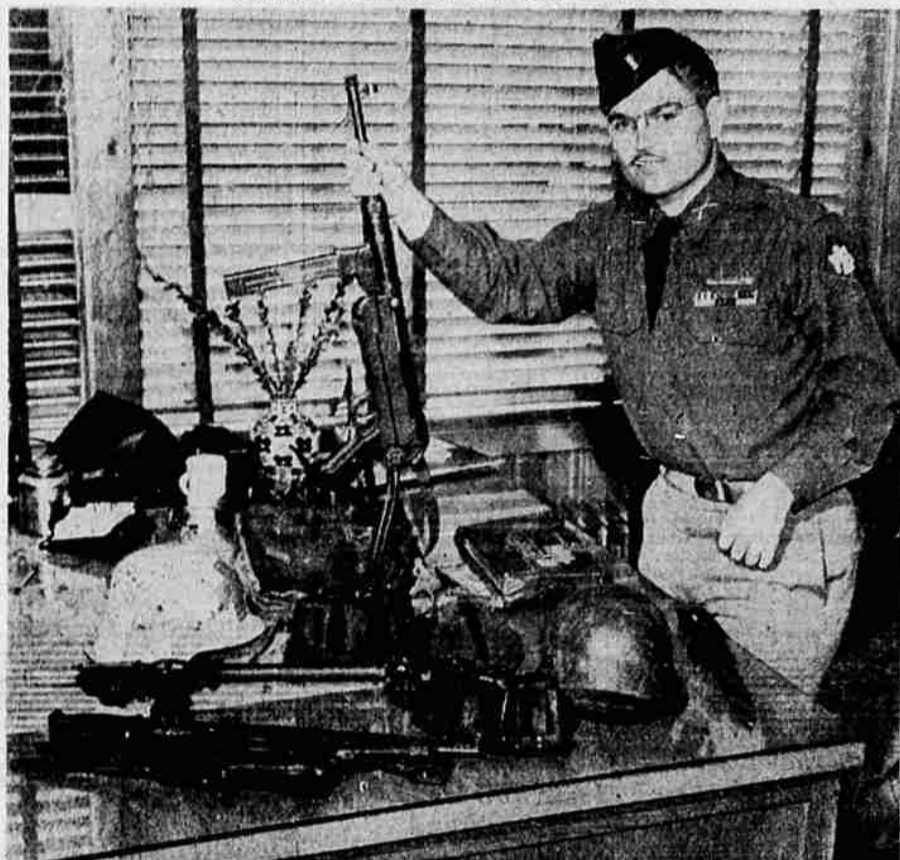
Welch enlisted in March, 1943, and left the United States in December of 1943 en route to the South Pacific. He was wounded during the battle of Guam and hospitalized in New Caledonia where he received the Purple Heart. In addition to his wife and daughter, Warren leaves his father and two sisters, Edith Partridge of Alturas, and Thelma Gooch of Lakeview.

Wounded Marines Arrive at Adair
SALEM, April 5 (AP)—Two hundred and thirty marines, wounded on Iwo Jima, arrived at the naval hospital at Camp Adair on Easter Sunday, it was announced today.

Most of the men suffered breast wounds, and will be hospitalized for some time. When they have partially recovered, they will be transferred to hospitals near their homes.

The men were the first received at the hospital since the navy took it over from the army.

Souvenir Collector Comes Home



Lt. Ralph Taylor of Klamath Falls is shown with some of the souvenirs he brought home from European battlefields. Ralph is showing a German Schmeisser machine pistol, otherwise known as a "burp gun." Other articles on the table include a German flare pistol, several bayonets, cartridge boxes, a German canteen, two Nazi helmets, a German bearskin pack, and a German officer's dispatch case. The white helmet, at left, is a German medic's headgear. Lt. Taylor was wounded four times. (See story on page 2).

Gen. Eisenhower Holds Nazi Surrender Improbable; Sees Guerrilla Warfare

WASHINGTON, April 5 (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower has informed President Roosevelt that "a clean cut military surrender" of the Nazis is improbable.

In a letter to the chief executive, released by the White House today, the supreme allied commander in Europe foresaw extensive guerrilla warfare.

Prevent Guerrilla Control
He said he was hopeful of launching operations at the proper time that "should partially prevent a guerrilla control of any large area, such as the southern mountain basin."

On the basis of past performances by German armed forces, Eisenhower said it is likely that "a V-E day will come about only by a proclamation on our part rather than by any definite and decisive collapse or surrender of German resistance."

Such a proclamation, if it does come, the White House said, probably would be issued by Eisenhower himself.

Fragmentary Battles
"The further this campaign progresses," Eisenhower said, "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, their fragments continue to fight until surrounded."

The general visualized a condition which would mean that eventually all areas in which fragments of the German army, particularly paratrooper, panzer and SS elements may be located, will have to be taken "by the application of or the threat of force." This, he said, would lead to a form of guerrilla warfare which would require a large number of troops to suppress.

Third Army Now 132 Miles From Berlin; Germans Flee

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
Associated Press War Editor
U. S. third army tanks plunged to within 132 miles of Berlin today in the Schlotheim area and British and Americans battling shoulder to shoulder in the north closed up along the Weser river on a wide front 23 miles from Hannover as the Germans were reported in headlong flight toward the Elbe, which flows within 50 miles of the reich capital.

U. S. first and ninth army troops opened new attacks against Germans, estimated at up to 150,000, bottled up in the Ruhr.

Cross Danube
Red army troops poured across the Danube from the area of captured Bratislava to join the assault on Vienna. Encircled.

Near Plauen
Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's U. S. third army, fanning out on the open Thuringian plain on a 100-mile front, was 55 miles from the great rail center of Plauen, capture of which would split Germany in two.

Patton's tanks sheared toward Erfurt, which is 11 miles beyond captured Gotha and 130 miles from Berlin. Leipzig was 70 miles away. Ahead of them U. S. planes roared over central Germany, striking at strategic targets. Behind them in-

vestigation of Nazi Deaths Set
PARIS, April 5 (AP)—General Dwight D. Eisenhower has ordered an immediate investigation into the death of an undisclosed number of German prisoners of war during their movement by rail in the American zone of operations, March 15 and 16.

An official SHAEF statement today disclosed the deaths, which occurred during movement from the forward area to prisoner of war camps in the rear, and said Eisenhower had informed the German high command of the incident and of steps taken to insure a proper investigation.

Canada's fighting forces in the Pacific war will be numerically "very much less" than those employed in Europe, King told parliament late yesterday. He said the dominion's efforts after the defeat of Germany would "to a considerable extent" be turned to producing foodstuffs and war materials and to work of reconstruction, relief and rehabilitation.

Tokyo Accused Of Assisting Nazis In War

LONDON, April 5 (AP)—Soviet Russia today denounced its neutrality pact with Japan, accusing Tokyo of helping Germany to war against Russia.

The Moscow radio announced that Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov had informed the Japanese ambassador that continuance of the compact was impossible since Japan was fighting against Russia's allies, the United States and Great Britain.

"In such a situation the pact on neutrality between Japan and the USSR has lost its meaning," Molotov said.

The note was handed the Japanese ambassador at 3 p. m., today in the midst of a new Japanese cabinet crisis.

The pact was signed in April, 1941, and whether Russia would renounce it before the opening of the world security conference at San Francisco April 25 had been a subject of speculation.

The soviet note emphasized at the outset that "the pact of neutrality between the soviet union and Japan was concluded on April 13, 1941—that is before the attack by Germany on the USSR, and before the outbreak of war between Japan on the one hand and Great Britain and the United States on the other."

"Since that time the situation has radically changed," the note said. "Germany attacked the USSR and Japan—Germany's ally—helps the latter in her war against the USSR."

The treaty ordinarily would have run until April, 1946.

The announcement becomes effective April 13, just 12 days before the opening of the San Francisco conference.

The Moscow announcement said Japan's Ambassador Naotake Sato had "promised to bring the declaration of the soviet government to the attention of the Japanese government."

There was no indication in the Moscow announcement of Russia's intentions in future relations with Japan. However, Premier Marshal Stalin has publicly described Japan as "an aggressor nation."

WANT HAND IN PACIFIC
Many have expected Russia all along to denounce the treaty if for no other reason than to gain a free hand in the San Francisco conference discussions of any problems concerning the Pacific war.

Up until the Crimea conference, however, Premier Stalin maintained extreme caution in making any move that would tend to antagonize the Japanese.

In the previous meeting of the Big Three at Tehran, Japanese phases were excluded. Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt held a prior meeting with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek in Cairo.

At Yalta, however, Stalin agreed to sit with the Chinese delegates at the forthcoming Golden Gate meeting—something he had sidestepped in all previous conferences when the Pacific war was up for discussion.

PREVIOUSLY INFORMED
There were indications that both the United States and Britain had been previously informed of the soviet action announced tonight.

This was signified this week when Secretary of State Stettinius met with the Russian, British and Chinese ambassadors in Washington—the first time that the soviet and Chinese envoys had openly conferred.

The pact with Japan was the second neutrality treaty that the soviet has repudiated in recent days. In previously terminating the pact with Turkey, however, Russia indicated willingness to negotiate a new relationship.

The note to Tokyo made it clear Stalin has no such intention toward the Japanese.

The neutrality pact was signed at the Kremlin four days ago by Molotov and Yosuke Matsuoka, then Japanese foreign minister.

MASBATE WON; HONG KONG HIT; MARINES GAIN

MANILA, April 5 (AP)—Masbate, sugar-rich little central Philippine island, was overrun Tuesday by elements of Maj. Gen. Rapp Brush's 40th division and its capital quickly liberated while Philippine-based bombers ravaged Japanese-occupied Hong Kong across the China Sea.

Both actions were announced today by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who declared Japan's lifeline to the East Indies was completely severed by a chain of American air bases stretching more than 1000 miles from Luzon in the north to recently-invested Tawitawi at the southern tip of the Sulu archipelago only 30 miles from Borneo.

After seizing Masbate City, doughboys with the help of guerrilla forces moved rapidly to secure the entire island, the communique said. They met negligible opposition.

Hong Kong Raided
Heavy bombers escorted by fighters spanned the China sea to smash at the great shipping base at Hong Kong. Primary targets were identified as the Kowloon and Taikoo docks, where 126 tons of bombs left innumerable fires and large explosions.

Fighter planes shot down three and probably two more Nip interceptors the communique said. Not an American plane was lost.

Okinawa Gains
GUAM, April 5 (AP)—United States army units driving toward the Okinawa island capital of Naha have been slowed by stiffening Japanese resistance while marines on the north side of the American wedge worked (Continued on Page Two)

Winter Again Hits Midwest

By The Associated Press
Winter swung a wallop at the nation's breakfast today in the form of whistling winds, rain, snow, flood, and heavy frosts that nipped budding fruit trees and gardens—and the forecast was for more of the same at least until Friday.

The Chicago weather bureau officially reported a narrow belt of snow fringing the upper Mississippi valley and Great Lakes region in depths ranging between 4 and 12 inches. Unofficial reports said a 6 to 17-inch blanket blockaded most of southern Minnesota.

Army Halts Meat Supplies to Freed Civilians

WASHINGTON, April 5 (AP)—The army quit supplying meat to civilians of liberated countries three months ago, senate food investigators were told today, because of the shortage in this country.

Maj. Gen. Carl A. Hardigg, director of subsistence for the quartermaster corps, told the agriculture committee that cereals, beans, dried eggs and sugar are the principal foods distributed by the army as relief.

Hardigg agreed, in response to a question from Senator Wheeler (D-Mont.), that black market operations made it more difficult for the army to get the meat it desires.

Wheeler said he had been informed that red ration points are being sold freely in New York City for \$6 a thousand.

Marine Held on Charge of Rape

A charge of statutory rape was filed in justice court this morning against Pvt. Odis Carroll, Marine Barracks.

Carroll, 25-year-old native of Kentucky, is the third service man to face this charge in which two 15-year-old girls are involved. Carroll is in custody of the military but a request was made today to have the marine turned over to civil authorities.

Justice of the Peace J. A. Mahoney said Carroll's bond would be set at \$2500, same amount set for S 1/c LeRoy Junior Milliken and S 2/c Richard Burdette Graham, both in the county jail in lieu of bail.

Both Milliken and Graham waived preliminary hearing in justice court this week. The girls remain in juvenile custody.

WEATHER

(April 5)
Max. (April 4)...54 Min.25
Precipitation last 24 hours.....00
Stream year to date7.91
Normal...9.38 Last year...6.03
Forecast: Increasing cloudiness. Probably light showers.

Weeks Leave Month in Daze

If you feel like eating honey for breakfast, being kind to animals, or taking care of the health of your feet, you may do so in April—and feel virtuous about it.

There is a week set aside in April to observe each of the above.

In fact April is a busy month, with each week designated for the observance of something.

There are not enough weeks in April to observe all the things allocated to this popular month so some of them have to double up and share observance with something else.

March 31 to April 7—national baseball week; April 1 to 7, conservation week, sponsored by National Life Conservation society, and honey for breakfast week; 1 to 8, negro health week.

April 8 to 14, want ad week; 15 to 21, be kind to animals week; 17 to 20, packaging; 21 to May 5, baby week; 22 to 28, better homes week; 23 to 28, foot health week.

April 28 to May 5, fisherman's week and boys and girls week; April 29 to May 5, noise abatement week.

Federal Court Opens, Recesses

Judge James Alger Fee, Portland, this morning opened the first federal court held in Klamath county but recessed immediately to return to Medford.

Court will reconvene in circuit court rooms here, Monday, April 9.

This is a special term of the United States district court and not a statutory term as is held each year in Medford, Judge Fee stated.

Purpose of holding federal court in Klamath county concerns condemnation of property situated in this area, the property to be viewed by the jury in each case. For this reason, it was found to be convenient to hold the first federal court here.

It was also noted in the order that the expense of trials would be lessened by meeting in Klamath county. This special term does not affect the regular terms held in Portland and Medford.

Judge Fee left at noon for Medford to hear a case which originated in Grants Pass. He was accompanied to Klamath Falls by his secretary, Esther Davis; Cloyd Rauch, court reporter; Ross DeMott, deputy clerk, and Al Price and William Rickard, marshals.

Members of the federal court jury, which includes a number of Klamath county residents, will report at 10 a. m. next Monday.

DNB Reports 5th Army Attacks

By The Associated Press
The German DNB agency reported that the United States 5th army had launched an attack along the Ligurian coast in Italy early today.

The dispatch, reported by the federal communications commission, said that American artillery had laid down a heavy barrage for several hours before ground forces began their operation.