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Yanks Push Within 85 Miles Of Red Front; Capital Pays Final Homage To Roosevelt; Soviets Penetrate Nazi Lines East Of Oder

State Library Greensboro

Von Papen, Former Nazi Envoy, Taken

Seized In Ruhr Pocket And Believed Flown To The United States

By BOYD LEWIS
United Press War Correspondent

PARIS, April 14.—(UP)—Baron Franz von Papen, former chancellor of Germany, was seized in the Ruhr pocket by American troops this week and is believed to have been flown to the United States.

"I wish this war were over," von Papen told his captors, one of whom answered: "So do eleven million other guys."

The shrewd political fixer for Adolf Hitler in World War II and saboteur extraordinary for the Kaiser in World War I, was taken by troops of the U. S. 177th Airborne Division at the town of Stoskhausen along with his son and son-in-law on Wednesday.

London reported there was no indication whether Von Papen was on the Allied war criminal list. The list being drawn by the Allied war crimes commission is shrouded in secrecy and among all the Nazi criminals on it only Adolf Hitler thus far has been identified by name.)

The tall, monocled Papen, an overbearing Prussian of 66 years, was seized in a small hunting lodge in the hills near Stockhausen, 30 miles southeast of Hamm, by a first lieutenant and seven glider infantrymen.

He was flown to Paris from a small airfield 20 miles behind the front lines. It is believed he later was flown to the United States, according to the custom of special treatment of high ranking generals and leading civilian prisoners taken by Allied forces.

The men who took the highest-ranking Nazi to fall into Allied hands since Rudolph Hess para-

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OKINAWA ASSAULT REPULSED BY U. S.

Marines Virtually Complete Occupation Of Motobu Peninsula

GUAM, Sunday, April 15—(AP)—Ninety-Sixth Division Infantry troops beat off a small Japanese counter-attack in southern Okinawa yesterday while to the north Marines virtually completed their occupation of Motobu peninsula and advanced northward up Ishikawa isthmus.

After two days of desperate, fanatical Japanese aerial attacks on both the amphibious task forces lying off Okinawa and against American-held airfields on the island, the enemy sent only a few aircraft against Yank forces yesterday.

Nine were shot down, bringing the three-day toll of Nipponese warcraft destroyed in and near

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WEATHER

FORECAST

North Carolina: Sunday partly cloudy and mild.

Eastern Standard Time
(By U. S. Weather Bureau)
Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p.m., yesterday.

Temperature
1:30 am, 67; 7:30 am, 67; 1:30 pm, 75; 7:30 pm, 61.

Precipitation
Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 pm, 0.06 inches.
Total since the first of the month, 0.85 inches.

Tides For Today
(From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey)

	High	Low
Wilmington		7:06a
	12:09p	7:13p
Masonboro Inlet	10:08a	3:56a
	10:32p	4:06p

Sunrise, 5:41 a.m.; Sunset, 6:42 p.m.; Moonrise, 8:12 a.m.; Moonset, 10:35 p.m. Cape Fear River stage at Fayetteville on April 14, at 8 a.m., 10.08 feet.

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'Self Defense'

Japan entered the war in "self defense," her people were told by Shigenori Togo, above, new Foreign Minister, who declared that Nippon's wartime diplomacy should be "boldly and vigorously" carried out.

WAR LOAN DRIVE QUOTA SET HERE

Goal Of Seventh Campaign, Opening May 1, Totals $5,167,000

The Seventh War Loan quota for New Hanover county has been set at $5,167,000, with an "E" bond quota of $2,478,000, J. G. Thornton and E. A. Laney, co-chairmen for the New Hanover campaign, announced yesterday. The "E" bond quota has been increased $489,000 for the drive, which begins May 1, as compared with the "E" bond quota of the last campaign, which was $1,989,000.

Officials of the campaign pointed out that special emphasis will be placed on the payroll allotment plan during the forthcoming drive more than ever before, with all firms being urged to increase allotments.

Securities to be offered in the Seventh War Loan are E F and G War bonds. Also to be included are U. S. Treasury 7-8 per cent certificates due in one year; Treasury 1 1-2 per cent bonds due in five and one-half years; Treasury 2 1-4 per cent bonds due after 14 to 17 years; Treasury 2 1-2 per cent bonds due after 22 to 25 years. These bonds will be available to individuals from May 14 to June 30, officials said. However, all bond purchases during April, May and June will count against the Seventh War Loan quota.

Officials stressed that the coming War Bond campaign is of no less importance than previous efforts. They pointed out that war materials are needed as much as ever before, to carry out the war in the Pacific against Japan, and to bring about a quick victory in Germany to end the last elements of Nazism.

War Bonds will be available in Wilmington at all banks, building and loan associations, the post office and all theaters.

Aim To Reach Reich Capital Before Yanks

Reported Only 26 Miles From Berlin In Powerful New Offensive

By ROBERT MUSEL
United Press War Correspondent

LONDON, Sunday, April 15 — (UP) —Germany reported last night that the Red army had opened attacks on a 35-mile front west of the Oder and penetrated German lines only 26 miles from Berlin in the first phase of a general offensive aimed at reaching the capital before the Americans.

The German news bureau commentator, Ernst Von Hammer, said the closest thrust to Berlin was made due west of Soviet-held Kuestrin on the Oder where the Russians, by enemy accounts, drove to the Seelow area early in April.

While not confirming the reported Berlin attack, the nightly Soviet communique reported that Red Army troops in the south had raced 17 miles from last positions west of fallen Vienna and was storming the key road junction of Sankt Poelten after capturing Hergozenburg, five miles northeast of the town, and Boeheimkirchen, five miles east.

Move On Berchtesgaden

Sankt Poelten lies 31 miles due west of Vienna. Unofficial Moscow dispatches said that Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's forces had swept on some 50 miles beyond Sankt Poelten to the approaches of Linz, only 75 miles from Adolf Hitler's "Valhalla" at Berchtesgaden.

Berlin admitted a "deep breach" in the Sankt Poelten area and said the Russians were trying to outflank the key defense point to the south in a powerful drive through the Semmering pass.

Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian army northeast of Vienna meanwhile thrust six miles deeper into Moravia and captured Moravska Zizkov only 28 miles southeast of the big Czechoslovak arms center of Brno.

The same drive sent a spearhead across the Brno-Breclaw (Lundenburg) railroad to stary Breclaw, one mile north of Breclaw, leaving the latter 14-way traffic junction and castled fortress virtually isolated.

In the immediate Vienna area, Malinovsky's forces west of the Morava river captured 11 towns on a 25-mile front including Pfoesting, seven miles north of the fallen Austrian capital. Malinovsky was merging with Tolbukhin for a joint drive on Prague across the rolling country northwest of Vienna.

All-Out Assault

Far in the north, the Soviets opened an all-out assault on German expendables on the Samland peninsula west of Koenigsberg and, capturing 60 towns, carved down the enemy holdings in East Prussia to 120 square miles. The road-

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Chief Of Staff Pays Respects

Wearing a mourning band on his arm, Chief of Staff George C. Marshall and his wife are shown arriving at the White House soon after getting news of the President's death. Speaking of the late commander-in-chief, Gen. Marshall said: "His far-seeing wisdom in military counsel has been a constant source of courage to all of us who have worked side by side with him from the dark days of the war's beginnings." (International Soundphoto)

Registration For City Vote Climbs To 11,927

BOOKS CLOSED

Fourteen Candidates, Including Two Negroes, Seek Council Posts

As registration books for the municipal election closed at 7:42 p.m. yesterday, the registration within the city increased from 11,307 to 11,927, a total of 622 new registrants.

The primary will be held April 23, and the general election May 8.

Largest increase in registration was recorded in the fifth ward, first precinct, which jumped from 1,079 registrants to 1,264, an increase of 185.

The only decrease was seen in the sixth ward, first precinct, which decreased from 896 to 855.

Showing the second largest increase was the fifth ward, second precinct, which jumped from 1,479 registrants to 1,659.

Last to file for the City Council race as wiling time closed at 6 p.m. Friday was E. R. Mayhan, 1910 Castle street, Wilmington grocer, who made the 14th candidate, two of which are Negroes.

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RAF Bombers Raid Potsdam And Berlin

LONDON, April 15. —(U.P.)—Strong forces of RAF Lancasters, clearing a path for Allied armies converging on Berlin, last night heavily attacked Potsdam, while other bombers blasted the dying Reich capital.

Potsdam, a garrison town and transport center directly in the path of American troops sweeping toward the Nazi capital, is 18 miles west of Berlin.

More than 2,000 sorties were flown Saturday by fighters and fighter bombers which hit airfields and communications lines.

AMERICANS SEIZE ISLES OFF LUZON

Quickly Eliminate Japanese Garrisons On Rapu Rapu And Bataan

MANILA, Sunday, April 15.—(U.P.)—merican troops have landed on Rapu Rapu and Batan islands off the coast of southern Luzon in bay Gulf and quickly eliminated the enemy garrisons, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

The landings, on the 39th and 40th islands in the Philippines archipelago invaded thus far, were made just off the Legaspi peninsula where a Japanese force has been trapped by American forces converging from north and south.

Batan, an island of about 48 square miles, lies 15 miles northeast of American-held Legaspi City. Rapu Rapu, 30 square miles in area, is just east of Batan and separated from it by a two-mile wide strait.

In northern Luzon, ground troops closing in on Baguio, Philippines summer capital, were supported by fighter planes and bombers which dropped 540 tons of explosives in low level attacks on enemy rear installations.

Constant air attacks by bombers and fighters were taking their

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Simple Rites Conducted At White House

400,000 Stand In Shocked Silence As Body Is Taken To Mansion

TRAIN LEAVES

WASHINGTON, April 15—(AP)—The train bearing the body of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt left Washington at 11 p. m. Eastern Wartime tonight for Hyde Park, N. Y., where funeral services will be held tomorrow morning.

WASHINGTON, April 14—(AP)—Family and friends and the nation's great, paid the capital's last homage to Franklin D. Roosevelt today in the sad splendor of a White House funeral.

And over the world millions joined in the mourning for the man who symbolized for them the ideals and aspirations of the United States. Thier high diplomatic representatives stood for them beside the bier in the famed east room of the executive mansion.

In a flag-draped casket, the body of the fallen leader arrived from Warm Springs, Ga., at 9:50 a.m., was carried along the once-triumphal inaugural route from the Union station to the executive mansion, past between 300,000 and 400,000 capital residents who stood in shocked silence.

The black army caisson brought the late President to the door of the mansion at 11:16 a.m. At p.m., President Harry S. Truman joined the widow and close relatives, associates of many years and represenatives of many foreign governments in the rites of the Epsicopal church.

In the flower-decked room, the casket stood on a small oriental rug before an altar.

The Right Rev. Angus Dun, Eishop of Washington, officated at the simple, 23-minute ceremony of the faith in which Mr. Roosevelt was a lifelong communicant.

On one side stood a vacant wheelchair, mute symbol of the

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

SUPERFORTS START HUGE TOKYO FIRES

GUAM, April 14.—(U.P.)—Fires burned throughout a five-square-mile "arsenal area" of Tokyo tonight, hours after hundreds of American Superfortresses, one of the largest forces yet employed, dropped bombs on the city, and Tokyo broadcasts said Premier Kantaro Suzuki had apologized to the emperor for damage done to Imperial Palace buildings.

(A 20th Air Force communique at Washington said that six bombers were missing from a "very large task force" which attacked Tokyo.

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No Black Market?

Declaring most talk about the black market is "sheer rumor, gossip, hoax and without foundation," Thomas I. Emerson, deputy price administrator in charge of enforcement, is shown above as he testified before the Senate Food Investigating Committee.

MOLOTOV COMING TO ALLIED MEET

Selected To Represent Russia At San Francisco Conference

WASHINGTON, April 14.—(U.P.)—The White House announced tonight that Soviet Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov will attend the San Francisco conference.

The White House revealed that Soviet Premier Josef V. Stalin decided to send Molotov after President Truman had advised Stalin that such a move would be welcomed "as an expression of earnest cooperation in carrying forward plans for formulating the new international organization."

President Truman directed Ambassador W. Averill Harriman in Moscow to deliver the message to Stalin yesterday, the White House said. Mr. Truman stated in that message that he would also look forward with pleasure to a visit by Molotov to Washington.

"Today the President was advised by Marshal Stalin that Foreign Secretary Molotov would attend the San Francisco conference," the White House announcement said.

The statement was handed to reporters at the White House by the late President Roosevelt's press Secretary Jonathan Daniels. It came less than eight hours after British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden arrived here to attend Mr. Roosevelt's funeral.

There had been great disappointment over Stalin's original decision not to send Molotov to San Francisco. Soviet Ambassador Andrei A. Gromyko had been named head of the Russian delegation.

Disclosure that Molotov will at-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

First, Third Armies Drive Pass Leipzig

Germans Open Up With Artillery On Yanks 45 Miles From Berlin

PARIS, Sunday, April 15—(AP) — U. S. First and Third Army tanks drove deep beyond besieged Leipzig and within 85 miles of the Russian lines yesterday while the Germans opened up with artillery against the Ninth Army front less than 45 miles west of Berlin.

A German radio commentator today described the Third Army drive, which had reached within seven miles of Chemnitz, as "significant," and predicted its speedy exploitation for a link-up with Marshal Ivan S. Konev's First Ukrainian army in Silesia.

The same commentator declared Berlin now was "a front-line city" and "may well reckon with defense simultaneously against the western Allies and the Soviets."

The Americans west of Berlin moved up to the twice-breached Elbe river on a 90-mile-wide front while some 750 RAF heavy bombers subjected Berlin and the suburban garrison town of Potsdam to a heavy night bombing.

Entry Imminent

(The American broadcasting station in Europe told the German people that the entry into Berlin was "imminent" and asserted a "state of tension" existed in the capital, now menaced by American forces 45 miles away and Russian troops 30 miles away.)

As American armored columns roared 10 miles or more eastward under a partial news blackout in the center of Germany, one infantry unit was only 18 miles from the Czech frontier.

The First's Ninth Armored Division and the Third's Fourth and Sixth Armored Divisions had struck so deep into the enemy's rear that the Germans now must turn for a back-to-back death stand or be cut off from retreat into the southern mountains.

Already this mountain fortress of Bavaria and Austria had been penetrated on the north by yet another Third Army column the Eleventh Armored Division—which roared into the Wagnerian city of Bayreuth, 124 miles north of Munich and 173 miles from Hitler's retreat at Berchtesgaden.

Battle For Leipzig

The battle for refugee-packed Leipzig, 75 miles southwest of Berlin, thundered into its second day. The Ninth Armored Division quit the Leipzig siege and joined the powerful eastward push.

North of Leipzig, the First Army's Third Armored Division broke loose on a 30-mile gallop that reached a point three miles south of Dessau, six miles from the Elbe river, and 55 miles southwest of Berlin itself.

The U. S. Ninth Army forced a second crossing of the Elbe river at an undisclosed point on its looping front bulging within 45 miles of Berlin, and was battering against the capital's leveled antiaircraft guns as it strove to build up the bridgehead.

The Germans on this front also were being forced to fight back to back with the Russian lines 90 miles away, but there was as yet no indication that any forces had been disengaged from the eastern front to attempt to save the ruined capital.

Berlin in fact reported the Russians were about to launch a mighty offensive along the Oder and Neisse rivers east of the Reich capital.

Far behind this front, two big German cities fell — Brunswick, aircraft manufacturing center with a population of 201,000, and the Ruhr's Dortmund, with a population of 537,000.

In Final Stage

The battle to liquidate the Ruhr pocket was in its final phase. It had shrunk to one-fifth its original size and 114,000 of the estimated

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)

Victory By Allied Proclamation Not Expected To End Fighting In Reich

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS, April 14.— (AP) —Victory on the European front by Allied proclamation—whenever it comes—probably will not mean an end of fighting on a military scale in Germany or its stolen outposts.

The best information here is that if the fighting is not broken down to mere guerrilla warfare by late fall, it might conceivably stretch on through the winter in the pass-guarded hideaways of Norway and southern Germany's "national redoubt", where snow and ice would slow the cleanup.

In such an event, weeks and months after proclaimed victory American divisions might still be in the line on European soil.

American boys still might be dying in a war whose end already had been celebrated.

There is no reason to suppose that the link-up with the Russians, splitting Germany into two in the middle, would be signal for Gen. Eisenhower in conjunction with Premier Marshal Stalin to proclaim victory.

After the junction with the Russians, large German forces still will be in the field in the north or south or both, and it is believed here that V-E day will be proclaimed only after those forces are much more greatly broken down and boxed in.

Already there is no cohensive front nor coherent German command in the west. The junction of the Allies of the east and west seems near, but V-E day will come, according to best opinion here, somewhere between that junction and the end of the subsequent fighting.

It is hardly that Gen. Eisenhower would proclaim victory until the eastern front too has collapsed and a proclamation is issued jointly with Stalin.

A fortnight ago Eisenhower predicted that the Germans would fight on as best they could for the last inch of Reich soil; that there would be no formal surrender; that victory probably would come by proclamation.

Events since have borne out that prediction.

Two fighting fronts now are shaping up. One is in the north guarding the great German ports and perhaps Berlin.

The other is the "national re-

(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 1)

City Pauses As Funeral Services Held For F.R.

In commemoration of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Wilmington businesses and other institutions paused in brief silence at 4 p. m. yesterday as simple funeral services began in the East Room of the White House.

Many residents attended memorial services in churches throughout the city.

Services were conducted in all Episcopal churches, as the late President was a member of that denomination.

All city, county and federal offices were closed, with the exception of public safety divisions.

Almost all other churches held services yesterday afternoon, and others will conduct memorial services this morning. Burial services are scheduled to begin at 10 a. m. at the Hyde Park estate.

Mayor W. Ronald Lane requested yesterday that all businesses that remain open Sunday, close for 30 minutes at the hour of the late President's burial service.

Wilmington telephone facilities were affected momentarily at 4 p. m. yesterday, as a brief pause was observed throughout the nation.

W. B. Bryan, of the telephone company, pointed out that insofar as he knows, this is the first time telephone facilities ever have been affected by any occasion.

Memorial services will be held at Camp Davis this morning, with the post's personnel attending.

Yesterday, five minutes of si-

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 3)