Patton's Tanks Eight Miles From Austria; Reds Conque Two-Thirds Of Nazi Capital; Molotov Blocks Stettinius' Chairmanship

Soviet Army Drives Into Stettin Port

Russian Bridgehead Across Elbe River Nears Americans

LONDON, Friday, April 27 .- (AP) -Soviet armies conquered almost two-thirds of Berlin's pulverized and burning ruins yesterday, seized the great German Baltic naval base of Stettin and extended their bridgehead across the Elbe river 17 miles from the American First Army. As the Russians began to forge an inner ring of encirclement within the smoke-blanketed and encircled German capital, infantry and cavalry of a fourth great Russian army toppled the huge armament city of Bruenn (Brno), second largest city of Czechoslovakia and one of Hitler's last remaining war production centers.

Berlin's deadly street battles paled bitter fighting in another German fortress city. Far behind the lines, Soviet troops battled into the western streets of the longbesieged Lower Silesian capital of Breslau, occupying 26 blocks and several factory districts.

As the world waited for a three power announcement that Red Army and American forces had linked up, Moscow and Berlin reports indicated that two historic meetings were imminent.

West of Berlin, by German account, Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First White Russian Army yesterday raced 22 miles westward, by-passing the city of Brandenburg, to reach a point only 14 1miles from the American Ninth Army on the middle Elbe.

The enemy high command said Zhukov's troops had reached the Rathenow area near Ninth Army lines on the Elbe and Ninth Army front reports said Soviet shells were falling a few miles from Yank lines.

Southwest of Berlin another junction neared-if, in fact it had not altween the Elbe and the Mulde, and comment. the Swiss radio said a link-up along yesterday afternoon.

The fanatical Nazi defenders, the death struggle, were stubbornsixth day under relentless Russian artillery and aerial bombardment. But assault teams of Marshal Zhukov's army's compressing a

men rolled into the desolate rubble. wars." strewn streets of Dahlem in south- A former newspaper man's western suburbs of Spandau and

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

Cutbacks In Munitions In Home-Stretch Drive Are Announced By WPB

WASHINGTON, April 26. —(AP)— The War Production Board announced tonight that the "VE-Day" cutbacks in munitions already have tial stock slump today as Pennstarted

It revealed also that the homestretch armament drive topped its schedule last month for the first time.

hitched up a bandwagon for Fresh dent Truman's election to a full Instead, State Democratic term. The action put into the Truman Curtailment in war industry will 1948 camp two of Wallace's fore
O fister from the lift of th

go faster from now on, the month- most supporters for the Vice Pres- gation, started off with: production communique said, idential nomination at Chicago last even as the war continues on two summer. Senator Joseph F. Guf-fronts Guffey Miller, Democratic nation-

Because of the cutbacks, the draft drain on esential men in al committeewoman, industry will have ended shortly even without regard to VE-Day."

News that the Pennsylvanians blems of war and peace. The report to give the exact location of the massacre them and the Nazi parameters and Elbe rivers, it was impossible to give the exact location of the massacre them and the Nazi parameters. even without regard to VE-Day,"
Said the report prepared by H.
G. Batcheller, WPB chief of operamorning was revealed under remorning was revealed under re-

Pointless Discussion



Anthony Cominotto, right, head chef at San Francisco's St. Francis Hotel, holds up his hands in dismay, wondering what to do for ration points as United Nations Conference representatives jam the dining room. John Renaud, left, assistant chef, and Alfred Baratti, catering manager, look equally perplexed as they display a few kitchen remnants.

Witness Describes Shock Over Molotov Objection

By EWALDO CASTRO Associated Press World Service Writer

ed permanent chairman.

WASHINGTON, April 26 -(R)-

arranged for the purchase of 19 C-2

The 459-foot, 15, 1-2 knot, vessels

Commission's account.

Henry A. Wallace's 1948 presiden- which announcements of that type made to bring them out.

usually follow. The group did not

"We came down here to pledge us."

Republicans as well as Demo-

SAN FRANCISCO. April 26-(P)-Here is the inside story of how Soviet Commissar Molotov stunned the United Nations Conference today by blocking the election of Secretary of State Stettinius as permanent chairman.

I obtained the account from one who was there. Chairman of delegations of 46 United Nations assembled in the have ratified the Steering Commit-

committee. Their job was to set

Local Citizens Express Vague View On World Plan For Security

ON PEACE PARLEY

After many days of extensive routine motion. He proposed that extended bridgeheads on the Elbe's the opening of the United Nations over this conference in America's west bank and seized Strehla and Conference at San Francisco, a San Francisco. Riesa only 17 miles from the Star-News reporter last night at- Then Molotov spoke up. Less than American First Army on the Mulde tempted to gain a cross section two weeks ago he was not even river. But First Army dispatches of local opinion on the work now a conference delegate. Marshal said American patrols had struck under way at the Golden Gate.

deep into the narrow corridor between the Filter and the Filte

A single question, "do you know United States Lines a many-mile front had taken place the purpose of the San Francisco Peace Conference", was asked. "The San Francisco Peace Conthrowing women and children into

ly defending the German capital as wildered restaurant operator "Don't know anything about it", he street battles roared through their sixth day under relentless Russian "Don't know anything about it, he continued and went on with his The United State Lints Co., has work

A well-known public official answered: "It seems to me that it's cargo ships, the Maritime Commismighty band of steel around perhaps 500,000 trapped Nazi soldiers. When asked if he though it was captured the northwestern industrial districts of Gartenfeld and terms of this war, he replied, "no, Shipbuilding Co., yard at Wilming-Siemenstad. it seems that the idea is to seek ton, N. C. No additional construc-At the same time, Konev's tanknen rolled into the desolate rubble wars."

It seems that the idea is to determine the interval of them.

Ryukyu islam
April 26.—(P)—A jeep patrol running at will through disorganized them.

Ryukyu islam
Japan itself.

Western Berlin and as the two south into fashionable Charlottenburg, with only a four and a half gap between them the gap between the gap and hose prisoner of war camps and hose there.

'A former newspaper and said there. mile gap between them, the great of this war but it also seems that States labor and material costs. 8,600 Americans.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3) The 19 vessels will cost in the neighborhood of \$53,350,000.

WASHINGTON, April 26. -(AP)-

sylvania's Democratic leadership

hitched up a bandwagon for Presi-

fey and his sister, Mrs. Emma

Quaker Democrats Set

For Full Truman Term

In Deadlock,

Russian Minister Assures Public Of Solution On Polish Problem

ference into a tight deadlock to-in northern Italy including Milan, day by blocking the election of Turin and Genoa.

by the two Allied armies since the broadcast recorded by CBS.

they opened their all-out offensive (The Swiss Telegraph Agency re-Secretary of State Stettinius to its chairmanship.

The stolid Russian also rejected British compromise.

What was to have been a routine, initial business meeting of chiefs of delegations, broke off abruptly, its tasks far from complete, its participants stunned and amazed at prospects of another

After setting off his explosion, Molotov proceeded calmly into a among Russia, Britain and the United States—over a knotty Polish problem.

the conference's first plenary ses- encircled Berlin. sion to pledge full cooperation, erecting a new and powerful peacekeeping organization.

According to customary procedure at international gatherings, conference hall of the veterans building. They comprised a steering tee's selection of the leader of the host nation's delegation as perup an organization for operating manent chairman or president. this conference intended to build Eden had proposed at this morn-That was what Britain's Anthony

a world organization to keep peace.

As temporary chairman, Stettining's Steering Committee meeting. ius called the meeting to order as chief delegate of the nation— ed, along with a British compromise of four rotating chairmen. the United States-which is host Delegates had no ready reason to the conference, it was the cusfor Molotov's action. They thought

Stettinius immediately be acclaimmanship question of such import-Britain's Anthony Eden, an old ance that the foreign commissar was sparring for time in which to hand at international conferences, consult Moscow. offered what he thought was a

waited impatiently for translations of Molotov's address. He didn't they will be only 25 road miles blue, Molotov asserted:

German lines overran 11 Allied there.

ican lines, pressed on to a town

where they found the bodies of two

Russian Cossacks who had been

killed in a small-scale patrol action

The liberated Allied prisoners of

war were so numerous that the

small patrol told them to stay

where they were while plans were

come out of President's office and Maj. Fred Craig, Friendship, were Germans suffering from bulsay "we're for Truman in 1948."

Tenn., on his return from a palet wounds," Craig continued.

"I can't even estimate how

"But everywhere we went pri-

Because of a news blackout on

"In one camp," said Craig, 'we

only a few hours before.

Instead, State Democratic trol beyond the Mulde toward the

crats have "pledged their support sian lines converging in the nar-

to the President" on current pro- row corridor between the Mulde

The U. S. First Army patrol, disarming whole columns of Germans marching toward the American many forms of the marching toward the American many forms of the marching toward the forms of the marching to the marching to the marchine the mar

many were in other camps," said found 7,000 wounded—half of whom

soners went wild with joy to see only three nights ago. "We found that almost all doc-

the positions of American and Rus- pitals were carrying weapons and

U. S. Jeeps Run At Will,

Free 50,000 Prisoners

shift for themselves.

didn't have time to count them.

"In this camp there were some

3,000 ambulance cases, most of

them suffering from malnutrition."

"In another German hospital we

"There were only five Americans

here. One was a lieutenant of the

Second Infantry Division captured

tors and nurses in German hos-

we disarmed all we ran across,"

he said. The German medical per-

sonnel said they were afraid that the advancing Soviet troops would

To Buy 19 C-2 Ships Built By Local Yard

Peace Parley U. S. Fifth Seizes Verona, Sealing Off Brenner Pass

Patriots Reported Capturing All Major Cities; Nazi Armies South Of Alps Appear Disorganized; Mussolini Reported Fleeing Villa Near Milan

ROME, April 26-49-The U. S. prisoners were being rounded up and 40 guns and destroyed nearly SAN FRANCISCO, April 26—(P) of German troops in Italy, and the situation for German soldiers over the administration of the Swiss reports said patriots were in north Italy is hopless."

The total of prisoners bagged whole of northern Italy, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the administration of the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the straight Army, said a liberation committee had taken over the straight Army, said

Fifth Army captured the railway by the thousands. A captured Ger- 1,000 vehicles as it swept up to the center of Verona in a lightning 20- man corps commander, Gen. Von Adige river in the last 24 hours. mile stab today, virtually sealing Schwerin, who was taken by the off the Brenner pass escape route British Eighth Army, said "I know Milan reported tonight that the Ital-

Nazi armies south of the Alps ap-peared entirely disorganized and Army alone seized 20 enemy tanks

German Radio Announces Goering Quits As Chief

German Hamburg radio announc- ready had been executed. ed tonight that Reichsmarshall news conference to give public Hermann Goering had resigned as portly Goering, whose proud air- from mobile and coast defense assurances of an eventual solution head of the dying Nazi air force force has been blasted almost to guns. to a controversy already flaming because of an "acute" heart illness, extinction, had been succeeded by while a high ranking German general staff member captured by the made a marshal. The text of the trol of all the major cities of northwhile a high ranking German gen. Americans predicted that Adolf Hit- announcement: And from here, he moved on to ler would die with his troops in

pledge full cooperation, "inflexible" support, in a new and powerful peace- front dispatch but termed "internationally known and one of the best informed members of the Ger-

LONDON, April 26- (P) -The and said that Goering probably al

The Hamburg station said that ward Genoa" against heavy fire

of his command as chief of the succumbing.

Luftwaffe at a time when his

The Rome radio declared that "the insurrection in northern Italy"

Other Forces Maintain Infantrymen Drive Deep Pressure On Jap-Held Baguio

MANILA, Friday, April 27.-(A) -Twenty-fourth Division infantry- fantrymen of Maj. Gen. James L. In the light of what happened men under Maj. Gen. Woodruff Bradley's 96th Division drove a tion neared--if, in fact it had not already occurred. Here, Marshal Ivan
S. Konev's First Ukrainian Army
S. Konev's First Uk

When the Yanks reach the gulf ground in the center of the line. mention the morning activities.

South of a prime target in the Muar village, were won in an Bespectacled, balding, dressed in Philippines, the excellent hemp attack which followed a general port of Davao.

"I should like to assure the con- Gen. Douglas MacArthur's comference our country is devoted to munique today also reported the the cause of setting up an organi- 33rd Division maintained its preszation to protect the peace. I wish sure on Baguio, the Philippine sumyou to know that the Soviet Union mer capital on northern Luzon, can be relied upon to protect the while bombers and fighters drop-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5) (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

Into Japanese Secondary Defenses

The heights, just east of Urasoe Japanese withdrawal under heavy artillery shelling.

Fleet warships, meantime, continued their close fire support, knocking out numerous enemy artillery batteries, gun emplacements and defense installations. Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge, com-

features of the outer Japanese de- of death-with clemency. fense line now secured by the Yanks in the eighth dayo f their grand offensive toward Naha, the capital city, about three and one capital city, about three and one capital city. half miles to the south.

WITH THE 69TH INFANTRY DI-, them were 267 Americans. This VISION BEYOND MULDE RIVER, camp was built by the Germans in trol "skyline ridge" across the fore. Petain extended his hand, but Ryukyu island, 325 miles south of Keenig did not respond. there still are thousands of them A Tenth Army spokesman said

the 7th, 27th and 96th Divisions had "We are now only a few hun-

(A partisan-controlled radio in ceived reports from "reliable sour-

ces' that Benito Mussolini, who Wednesday was reported fleeing from his villa near Milan, had been captured by Italian patriots in the town of Pallanza on the western schore of Lake Maggiore.) Fifth Army forces smashed through the Nazis' formidable Adige defense line near Verona, and a terse Allied communique said armored units driving up the western shore of Lake Maggiore.)

Radio reports indicated that Italern Italy, including Verona, with the Americans and Russians had "Reichsmarshal Goering who the Nazi garrisons either fleeing met in the Elbe river area on "a has been suffering from heart or surrendering. The great centers trouble for some time and whose of Milan, Turin, Genoa and many condition has become acute has smaller places were reported in asked the Fuehrer to be relieved patriot hands or on the point of

dure at international gatherings, man general staff"—predicted the this was the session which would war would end within a few days (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1) is sweeping away all German re-

A Genoa station describing it self as the "voice of the committee of national liberation" announced that the Nazi garrison of the port TAKEN BY YANKS that the Nazi garrison of the port laid down its arms at 9 a.m. today. said partisans were fighting the Fascist "black brigade" through the streets of that city of 1,115,000

An Associated Press Correspondent abroad an American bomber said he cruised as far north as Verona without seeing any sign of GUAM, Friday, April 27—(A)—In- fighting and that the Po valley was "a scene of utter peace." He saw American tanks roaring northward between Namtova and Verona. Headquarters announced that a

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

Former French Chief Surrenders To Await High Treason Trial

PARIS, April 26.— (A) —Marshal PARIS, April 26.— (P) —Marshal Philippe Petain surrendered to French officials at the Swiss bor-be shaping up on Patton's front der today to await trial in France nearest Austria, where Germans mander of the 24th Army Corps— on a charge of high treason, for were massing in the mountain which includes the Seventh, 27th which his scheduled prosecutor anand 96th Divisions—reported all key nounced he would ask a sentence Berchtesgaden to meet the shock

Hodge said the Americans con- of the Normandy invasion and be- rendering by the thousands.

British Take Bremen, Push On Dock Area

Censorship Covers Yank Positions At Reported Junction Area

LONDON, April 26-(AP)-The Swiss radio said tonight that a "linkup" between the Americans and Russians in the Elbo region took place this afternoon on a front of many miles."

There was no confirmation from Allied sources.

PARIS, Friday, April 27—(P)— Heavily-gunned U. S. Third Army tank columns battled eight miles from Austria yesterday in a bid for a swift showdown with laststand enemy troops massing at the border, and in the north the British captured Germany's second greatest port of Bremen.

As these blows fell on the north and south segments of dismembered Germany, Allied capitals of front of many miles."

Censorship covered American positions at the reported junction area. But a front dispatch from the U. S. First Army told of a patrol moving at will through German lines between the Mulde and

Elbe rivers. Bremen fell after a whirlwind assault of two days, and only snipers remained in the rubble to challenge the victorious British moving through the dock area of

what once was a city of 350,000 While the world awaited confirmation that the Americans and Russians had met somewhere near Berlin, Gen. Patton's U. S. Third 95 miles from a junction with the

Army in ground-eating strides was Red Army in Austria that would convert Czechoslovakia into a giant German trap. In close echelon with the U. S. Seventh and French First Armies, Patton's forces broke across the

Danube at three points-leaving that river line shredded along a 180-mile front and Munich imperiled by three separate American columns each about 40 miles from the city. Some 20 divisions in these Three

Armies were pressing steadily southward, bent on engulfing the Nazi Alpine redoubt before the SS

passes 70 miles from Hitler's of death—with clemency.

The 89-year-old former Vichy try.

The French sweep along the The French sweep along the completed the en-

forces of the interior at the time where trapped Germans were sur-The U. S. Seventh Army, seiz-

ing 11,335 prisoners, was rampag-The commissar of Dijon and a ing through the mountains more French guard of 30 men also were than 30 miles south of the Danube. the 7th, 27th and 96th Divisions had driven the Japanese from all key Valorbe to form an escort for the was 21 miles wide and the 10th positions in their first heavily for-aged marshal and his wife, who Armored Division s mash ing proceeded by automobile to Les straight south was only a mile Hospitaux-Neufs and there board-from Memmingen, 31 miles south dred yards from the next Jap stone ed a special train for Paris. He of the Danube and 35 miles from

Farther east, the 12th Armored Division turned up unexpectedly at Munsterhausen, 19 miles southwest of Augsburg, a city which was being quickly outflanked by numerous columns some 10 miles or less away.

In the center of the front, German troops in flight from falling Berlin crowded the Elbe's east cans—clamoring to be taken prisoners by the U. S. Ninth Army

before the Russians engulfed them. Other Eleventh Armored forces pressed miles farther east to the vicinity of Furholz, eight and a half miles from the Austrian border, and on south to Roehrnbach, northward from Milan, now re- 10 miles from Austria. Advanced

Patton's troops crossed the Danfrom Milan to Comi, where he and ube for the first time on an 18-The report was not confirmed by Farinacci sought shelter at a mon- mile front and all but encircled the stronghold of Regensburg. It was assumed that Mussolini which lies about 60 miles west

(Continued on Page Nine; Col. 6) found 20,112 prisoners, and among (Continued on Page Nine; Col. 4) this evening said that he and Ro- (Continued on Page Nine; Col. 6) (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

and that this was the fifth camp (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2) is expected in Paris before dawn, the Austria border. "Their guards pulled out four nights before, leaving them to Mussolini Is Reported 'We also overran a camp which Allied prisoners themselves said contained 30,000 men, of whom Captured By Patriots about 6,000 were Americans. We

of Italian patriots as he attempted nized by the local population. to flee from Allied armies and anti-Fascist risings in north Italy, unconfirmed Swiss reports said

The Swiss telegraph agency said patriots found Mussolini in the town of Pallanza on the west shore of Lake Maggiore. The lake lies patriots, the Swiss reports said. last reported Russian positions. near the Swiss border north of

Milan. other sources. No authoritative Al- astery. lied source has announced Mussolini in custody. Radio Rome late

LONDON, April 26.—(U.P.)—Benito | berto Farinacci, former Fascist Mussolini, Fascist dictator who led party general secretary, were at bank-where a few weeks before Italy into a war that brought her a monastery at Como, east of Lake they fought to hold off the Ameridisaster, has fallen into the hands Maggiore, where they were recog-(The Office of War Information,

reporting the Swiss agency dispatch, said it quoted "reliable sources" on his capture at Pallanza.) Mussolini was said to have fled

portedly in the hands of Italian units were about 95 miles from Radio Rome said that he went