

JAP FLEET SUFFERS DISASTER IN SEA-AIR FIGHT AMERICAN TANKS WITHIN 10 MILES OF HANNOVER

Reds Inching Toward Heart Of Vienna, Now Within 4 Miles Of Goal

LONDON, April 7.—(P)—Russian veterans of Stalin-grad and Budapest, inching ahead against the hastily reinforced defenders of Vienna, battered their way today to within four miles of St. Stephan's church in the middle of the city.

Moscow announced that the Germans not only were fighting for every factory and stone building but also had thrown in a number of counterattacks which were repelled by Russian shock troops in bitter fighting.

Soviet forces captured four suburbs along the city line, cleared the south bank of the Danube river east of Vienna in a 10-mile advance and reached the Morava river barrier protecting the Austrian capital's northeastern approaches on a 37-mile front.

The big aircraft assembly and testing center of Schwechat and the suburban communities of Ott-Kettenhof, Rottensiedl and Hannersdorf, all on or adjacent to Vienna's southern boundary, were taken by Marshall Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian army.

Advancing swiftly from Bruck in the Bratislava gap, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian army drove into the twin industrial towns of Fischamend-Markt and Fischamend-Dorf, 12 and 13 miles southeast of the heart of Vienna.

A mass of armor from these two Soviet armies was converging on the southeastern approaches to Vienna, Moscow's communiques revealed. The Russians have forged a 98-mile siege arc around half-encircled Vienna and have reached or approached the southern and southeastern limits of the city on a five-mile front.

The Nazi-controlled Vienna radio transmitter was less than a mile ahead of the Russians. This radio station reported just before midnight last night that violent street fighting had broken out in the city proper and that Russian Tommy gunners had penetrated the railroad defense line along the municipal boundary. The roar of artillery was heard in the background of the broadcast.

Along the 350-mile active front in southeastern Europe, the Russians captured 16,340 enemy troops.

In Czechoslovakia the Russians swept to a point 38 miles southeast of the big industrial city of Brno (Brno). In Yugoslavia, Soviet cavalrymen slashed through

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Fifth Army Troops Take Monte Folgorito

Americans Compelled To Withdraw Slightly From Newly Won Positions Above Strettoio

ROME, April 7.—(P)—American Fifth Army troops, continuing their attack near the Ligurian coast in western Italy, have captured the dominating 3,000 foot Monte Folgorito, and are driving forward against scattered resistance, Allied headquarters announced today.

KEEP CHECK ON COAL SALES

Consumers Must File Certificates With Dealers To Get Fuel

There are now available at Shelby rationing headquarters for coal dealers consumer declarations which must be filed by the consumers with their coal dealers to purchase any solid fuel in accordance with Regulation 26 of the Solid Fuels administration which became effective April 1.

A separate consumer declaration must be filed for each house of building, according to this regulation. If a consumer declaration is filed with the dealer before May 15, a dealer who regularly supplied the same consumer last year, the consumer is entitled to get before October 1, at least 30 percent of the normal annual requirement, if the consumer is ready, willing and able to take delivery of any usable solid fuel on terms agreeable to the consumer and dealer.

Information from the Solid Fuels administration is to the effect that there will not be nearly sufficient fuel to allow as much as ordinarily used. Generally a dealer is prohibited from delivering and a consumer is prohibited from receiving during the period from April 1, 1945, to March 31, 1946, more than 80 per cent of the consumer's normal annual requirements. Conservation is urged in every possible way.

WHAT'S DOING

SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.—U. S. O. center open to soldiers visiting in the city.

MONDAY 7:30 p.m.—State guard drill at armory. 8:00 p.m.—Called meeting of Cleveland Lodge 302 A. F. and A. M. at Masonic Temple for work in second degree.

BREAK OUT OF WESER RIVER BRIDGEHEAD

Two Allied Armies Bearing Down On Northern German Ports

THIRD ARMY BATTLE

PARIS, April 7.—(P)—American tanks struck to within 10 miles of Hannover today in a breakout from their Weser bridgehead, and British armor fought less than 12 miles from the great port of Bremen.

Both allied advances bearing down on the great northern German cities still were going strong this afternoon.

The U. S. Ninth Army lashed out from Hamelin on the Weser river and careened eight miles toward Hannover (472,500). The British plunge carried 35 miles, flanking Bremen (342,000) and hitting to within 60 miles of Hamburg, Germany's third city.

The German high command declared a fierce battle was raging in the U. S. Third army territory east of Muehlhausen and within 130 miles or less of Berlin.

The German-reported battle is near the Eisleben area, where enemy broadcasts yesterday announced airborne operations within 90 miles of the Reich capital. Third army correspondents said they were unable to confirm or deny

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Heavy Bombers' Task In Europe About Finished

PARIS, April 7.—(P)—The day of sky-darkening fleets of heavy bombers is passing from the fast shrinking European battle theater and mass strategic bombing—the "notable experiment" which Prime Minister Churchill said was worth trying to knock out Germany—is coming to an end.

First, the heavy bombers have just about done their part of the job; second, the targets they once reached 1,000 to 2,000 strong from England now have come within range of more economical bombing and rocketing attack by fast, low-flying fighterbombers.

What should be done with the mighty British and American four-engine fleets has already become a question.

It can be assumed that for a time yet some heavy bombing will be continued, probably policing Germany's shattered oil industry and plastering her ports.

RUSSIAN SUPPORT Fighterbombers now are operating from captured fields so deep into Germany they could give front-line support to Russian armies. But so far, although the Russians sometimes have called up heavy bombers from the U. S. 15th Air Force in Italy, they have not asked for close-up fighterbomber support.

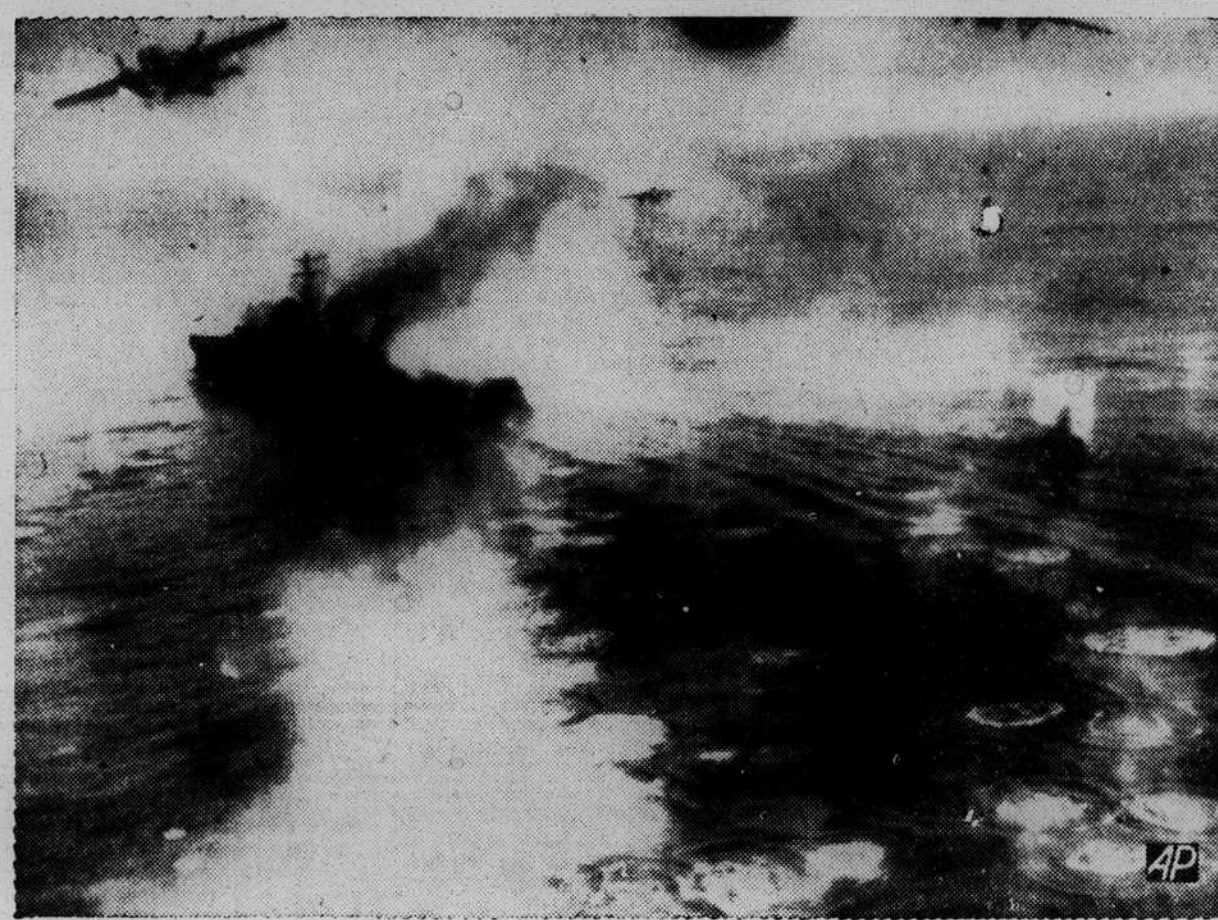
Obviously a considerable force must be kept both as a threat and to fill spot needs until the final crushing of all German resistance. But even so it would be possible to fly much of the force to the eastern theater.

BOMBER SHIFT If any heavy bombers are shifted, they probably would be American Flying Fortresses and Liberators.

Because the British planes were designed to fit specific conditions in this theater, many airmen doubt that they would be as effective in the Pacific area.

It is very likely that many of the big bombers will be converted for the purpose of getting badly needed food, medical and other supplies.

The fleets could parachute thousands of tons of food into hungry western Holland or could reach isolated liberated districts in middle Europe where direct access is impossible or where the needs of war are taking priority on normal transportation channels.



BURNING JAP BOMBER ATTACKS A JAP SHIP—With one engine on fire, a B-29 bomber of the U. S. Fifth Air Force makes its run on a Jap escort vessel caught off the South China coast. Two other U. S. bombers (center and right) take part in the attack.

New Phase Opens In Air War On Japan

Great B-29 Force, Supported By Land-Based Fighters, Attacks Tokyo, Nagoya

GUAM, April 7.—(P)—A new phase in the aerial war against the Japanese homeland opened today as the war's greatest B-29 force attacked Tokyo and Nagoya protected for the first time by land-based fighter planes.

Two of the P-51 Mustang fighters from newly captured Iwo Jima were lost as they shepherded the more than 300 Superforts delivering demolition bombs on two large aircraft factories. The fighter pilots were credited with shooting down 21 enemy interceptors, probably downing six others and damaging 10.

A flight of 1,500 miles was made by the Mustangs in the round trip from Iwo to Tokyo.

The big bombers went in at medium altitude in clear weather, indicating visual bombing of their targets, the Nakajima-Musashino aircraft engine plant in western Tokyo and the Mitsubishi aircraft plant at Nagoya.

270 PLANES An Imperial Japanese communique said 270 planes were in the raiding force, 120 over Tokyo and 150 at Nagoya. No claim was made by the Japanese of any U. S.

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More Gas. In Sight For 'A' Card Holders

WASHINGTON, April 7.—(P)—Basic "A" card gasoline rations will be increased 50 percent after V-E day if the "more optimistic" predictions of government officials materialize, the OPA said today.

Assuming the supply is increased by 200,000 barrels daily, "A" motorists can expect enough gasoline for about six miles of driving a day, instead of four miles as at present, the agency said.

If added that part of any additional supplies will go to "B" drivers.

"These are the groups that need first consideration when additional gasoline supplies are available," Price Administrator Chester Bowles said in a statement.

Philippines-Based Planes Blast Japs On Wide Front

MANILA, April 7.—(P)—Air operations are stealing the show in the Philippines theater.

This latest one-day record for planes was reported in Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique today.

Heavily attacked Hong Kong a third consecutive day, wrecking three merchant ships with direct hits and starting tremendous fires along the waterfront.

JAPANESE FORM NEW CABINET

SAN FRANCISCO, April 7.—(P)—Japan's third war cabinet was formed today amid the roar of demolition bombs bursting in Tokyo from the greatest land-based air raid ever mounted against Japan.

The Japanese Domei news agency announced that Premier Adm. Baron Kantaro Suzuki appointed himself foreign minister and greater East Asia minister two of the most important posts in the cabinet.

Adm. Mitsumasa Yonai, was retained as navy minister although under his administration the imperial navy suffered two disastrous defeats in Philippines waters and lost more than 100 admirals.

WAR MINISTER Gen. Korechika Anami, recently appointed director general of army aviation headquarters, was appointed war minister. Both Yonai and Anami had the blessing of the controlling military cliques of their respective services.

Baron Suzuki's retention of the key non-military posts recalled speculation that, with his old time reputation as a moderate, he may have been selected to lead efforts to arrive at a negotiated peace.

The cabinet positions he kept for himself are the ones that would be involved in any peace offensive.

Admiral Yonai was second man and originally co-premier in the cabinet of Premier Gen. Kuniaki which fell last week under increasing demands for a strong war government.

Sank or damaged three sizable tankers and two small freighters in the Pescadore islands, west of Formosa.

Sank 17 small Japanese cargo ships south of Hong Kong.

FIRES STARTED Started large fires in Tarakan oil storage area of northern Borneo.

And, most sensational because of its very daring, troops of the 11th airborne division were ferried 20 miles in tiny, one-passenger

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MAJOR—J. Frank Love, Jr., with the 8th Air Force in England, has recently been promoted from the rank of captain to his present rank. He entered service immediately following graduation from Citadel in 1943, trained at Ogden, Utah, and has been overseas a year and a half. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Love of Shelby; his wife, the former Miss Mackie Keeter, is making her home with her parents in Morganton.

TROOPS HELP FIGHT FLOOD

Half Million Acres In La. Inundated; 5,000 Families Out

NEW ORLEANS, April 7.—(P)—Troops were thrown today into the flood battle in Louisiana where a half million acres have been inundated and more than 5,000 families driven from their homes.

Camp Livingston troops were sent to help hold the Cane River levee, where engineers said a critical situation existed.

A thousand German prisoners of war are being used to sandbag Red River levees.

Relief agency officials expected the refugee list to increase daily since the flood crests are several days away. The Red Cross said it was prepared to care for 150,000 refugees.

To rescue marooned and trapped families army assault boats, naval amphibious planes, coast guard cutters and helicopters are being used. A big plane from Barksdale Field dropped rafts to persons stranded on rooftops at First Point. The Red Cross estimated more

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Peach Orchards Escape Frost Damage

RALEIGH, April 7.—(P)—North Carolina's vast peach orchards of the sandhills region apparently escaped frost damage, according to the state department of agriculture which said that a lusty wind which swept through the section apparently prevented damage.

Enemy Battleship, 5 Other Vessels Sunk In Battle

WASHINGTON, April 7.—(P)—A "good 25 percent of the remaining Japanese major combat force" was lost or put out of action in the naval-air engagement announced by Fleet Admiral Nimitz, an official naval spokesman said today.

The new losses, he said, leave the Japanese with "a task force that can be handled very easily by any of our major task forces."

In the engagement fought some 50 miles off the southwest coast of the Japanese home island of Kyushu, the enemy lost one of its newest and most powerful battleships, two cruisers and three destroyers.

Three other destroyers were reported left burning and three escaped.

Emergence of the Japanese force, the naval spokesman said, was presumably an offensive action since it was made up entirely of fast ships. The possibility remained, however, that it was merely an effort to escape to more tenable waters.

"Obviously" he said, "the Japanese fleet did not like its position in the island sea which was becoming more and more untenable. Damage inflicted by our raiding air forces and observation from the air was very discouraging to them."

The spokesman speculated that there was a possibility the enemy was seeking to retire to more remote positions north of the home islands.

American naval forces, he added, have been able to keep close watch of Japanese fleet movements for some time.

Assessing the island sea was "getting hotter and hotter for them," he said.

"They must have known they were going to lose them eventually anyway and the fact that it was a very fast force indicated they hoped they could get in a fast hit-and-run raid and get away."

The battleship Yamato, which was sunk, was one of the most powerful in the world, roughly equivalent to the American 45,000-ton Iowa, both in age and characteristics.

Three United States destroyers were sunk, several others and some smaller craft damaged. Seven planes lost.

Japanese fleet losses in addition to the battleship were on Agano class light cruiser, one other lighter cruiser, and three destroyers.

JAPS ATTACKED The battle opened Friday afternoon when heavy forces of Japanese planes attacked United States ships and shore installations in the vicinity of Okinawa. Three destroyers were sunk and several damaged. One hundred and sixteen of the attacking planes were shot down.

No larger fleet units were hit. Early today navy search aircraft sighted an enemy surface force at a point about 50 miles southwest of Kyushu, southern-

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FROST DOES SOME DAMAGE

Extensive frost last night did more damage to the early vegetable gardens than to local orchards in the opinion of County Farm Agent John S. Wilkins, who made a quick survey this morning. The mercury dropped to 29 degrees.

The peach and apple crops had progressed to the point where they were not hurt by the cold. However fig bushes were reported to be heavily damaged.

Where snap beans and Irish potatoes were peeping through the ground, leaves were badly nipped, Mr. Wilkins said that it is too early to say whether the grain crop which was "booting out" in some instances suffered from the cold. Next week will tell that, he said.

W. H. Humphries, who lives in the Beaver Dam community, used fires in saving his three acres of peaches from 28-degree weather which threatened to destroy the crop for the third successive year.

S. C. Hamrick, who has extensive plant beds west of the city, used 1500 100-watt electric bulbs in each bed to keep warm, but even with that lost some of his tender, young stock.

J. D. Elliott, who has large apple orchards in the Sharon community, did not resort to fires and this morning said he did not think his young fruit suffered any extensive damage.

LAY PLANS FOR 7TH WAR LOAN

Preparations are being pressed for Cleveland's Seventh War Loan, county finance Chairman George Blanton, Sr., announced today.

Cleveland's quota for the Seventh War Loan has not been fixed, but will likely be allocated within the next few days. However, E bond purchases made in April will count against the quota.

The E bond phase of the drive opens Monday, this phase including also the sale of the likewise non-negotiable F and G discount bonds. As in previous war loans, the sale of E bonds for the small investor, designed for the two-fold purpose of combating inflation and financing the war effort, will be heavily emphasized.

On May 14 the Seventh War Loan will be stepped up to full-scale operations with the inclusion in the war securities offered of the negotiable Treasury 2 1/2's and other negotiable war bonds, Mr. Blanton said.

Meanwhile, present emphasis is on payroll deduction participation in the War Loan, with payroll purchases dating from April 1 counting against War Loan quotas.