

North Carolina—Fair and slightly warmer today and tonight, followed by partly cloudy and warm Wednesday.

U.S. ARMOR ENTERS HANNOVER

EIGHTH ARMY LAUNCHES NEW OFFENSIVE IN ITALY

CROSSES SENIO IN EFFORT TO DESTROY NAZIS

Hope To Prevent Withdrawal Of Enemy Into Southern Germany

HEAVY AIR ASSAULT

ROME, April 10.—(P)—The British Eighth Army supported by a bombardment from hundreds of guns and the heaviest allied air assault ever carried out in Italy, has crossed the Senio river in a campaign to destroy as much as possible of the opposing German army before it can withdraw into Germany's southern mountain redoubt.

Great forces of U. S. 15th air force bombers and fleets from the U. S. 12th air force and the RAF were aloft, resuming the blasting of a path through German defenses for the attacking ground forces.

Shortly after noon, 3,400 100-pound high explosive bombs and 180,000 fragmentation bombs were poured into two small areas between the Senio river and the Santerno river.

The eastern end of the Italian front burst into flame at 7:30 o'clock last night when hundreds of heavy guns opened up. Bridgeheads were established on a broad front on the north side of the Senio in the vicinity of Lugo. More than 1,000 heavy bombers, plus hundreds of lighter planes

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ASK IMMEDIATE TRIAL FOR EPES

Move For Postponement By Defense Is Expected, However

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 10.—(P)—Solicitor T. Pou Taylor said today he would seek "immediate" arraignment for trial of Lt. S. C. Epes, indicted by the Richland grand jury yesterday for the murder of his wife, Mrs. Mary Lee Williams Epes, the early morning of January 28, but indicated that a move for postponement by the defense would not be unexpected.

Taylor said that Edgar A. Brown of Barnwell, attorney for the defense, was in a Columbia hospital receiving treatment for a throat ailment and that Brown, president pro tem of the state senate, also was engaged in the current session of the legislature.

TWO FACTORS

These two factors might bring a request for postponement, which in such instances always has been granted to legislators in the past," Taylor said.

The grand jury returned a true bill yesterday at the opening session of criminal court, on an indictment charging that Epes "administered or caused to be administered" a pain-relieving barbiturate to his wife and then "did suffocate her, wrapping her in a blanket or cloth and burying her."

Should the Epes trial be carried over from this term of court, it would come up at the next term of criminal court which opens here May 21.

Dr. Scarborough, Baptist Leader, Dies At Age 74

AMARILLO, Tex., April 10.—(P)—Dr. Lee Rutland Scarborough, 74, Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth, and former president of the Southern Baptist convention and the Baptist general convention of Texas, died today. He was 74.

Dr. Scarborough conducted a revival service at the First Baptist church here a few years ago.



W. E. ABERNETHY IS RE-ELECTED

Begins Tenth Year As Superintendent Of City System

Walter E. Abernethy was re-elected superintendent of city schools last night when the school board met to elect teachers and other school personnel for the coming terms. The term of superintendent which is of two years duration, beginning July 1, will begin Mr. Abernethy's tenth year as superintendent of the local schools.

Prior to holding this position he was principal of the local high school for seven years having succeeded Capt. Ben L. Smith as superintendent. All white principals and all state-allotted teachers were re-elected to their present positions. Re-election of the negro teachers was deferred because of the sharp decrease in school attendance. The board must await a notice from state headquarters stating the allotment of negro teachers for the coming year before elections can be held.

Action will probably be taken at the May meeting of the board. White school teachers for the coming year were elected, but the list of the faculty for the coming year will not be published until contracts have been accepted at the close of the present school term.

Two Japs Killed For Each American In Okinawa Fight

WITH 24TH ARMY CORPS ON OKINAWA, Ryukyu Islands, April 10.—(P)—Two Japanese have been killed for every American killed or wounded in the first nine days of fighting on Okinawa Island, a 24th Corps spokesman said today. American casualties, he said, include a very small percentage of killed while the counted enemy losses are almost entirely of dead.

LIONS READY FOR LADIES NIGHT

Preparations are about complete for the Lions Ladies night which will be held Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock at the Charles hotel with Bob Patton, humorist and after-dinner speaker of Morganton as principal attraction. Athos Rostan will be the toastmaster and President R. J. Rucker of the Lions club will open the meeting. The speaker will be introduced by R. H. Cooke, who is in charge of the program.

There will be no meeting of the Lions club tonight the time for a regularly scheduled meeting. FRUIT CROPS HURT ROXBORO, April 10.—(P)—Virtual destruction of the entire fruit crops in Person county is reported by County Agent H. K. Sanders due to the frost in this section last week.

Vienna's Fall Imminent; Reds Beyond City Head For Munich And Prague

LONDON, April 10.—(P)—Russian forces beyond Vienna headed today for Munich and Prague and a link-up with the allies in the west as Soviet storm units within the Austrian capital battled the Germans for the last few blocks of the city.

Moscow radio said "the fall of Vienna is imminent." Far to the north other Russian troops along the Baltic coast had captured the East Prussian capital of Koenigsberg after a massive 33-hour barrage had softened three lines of fortifications surrounding that cradle of Prussian militarism. The seizure of Koenigsberg was hailed in the Russian press as one of the great victories of the war, comparable to the breaching of the Siegfried Line in the west.

A Moscow dispatch said Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian army "was making startling progress" in its drive west of Vienna toward Linz and Munich. The army's exact position was not given, however, since the Germans in many sectors were unaware of the scope of the Russian advance.

Below Vienna another wing of Tolbukhin's army had thrust within 133 miles of Adolf Hitler's mountain retreat at Berchtesgaden. Moscow dispatches reported that Tolbukhin's forces had crossed the Danube immediately northwest of Vienna near Nuzdorf and were believed to have gotten across some 12 miles farther up stream in the vicinity of Tullin. Neither crossing

When 2 Fronts Join It Will Be V-E Day

Officials Expected To 'Declare' Organized Warfare At An End When East, West Forces Meet

HAMELIN, April 10.—(P)—A juncture between British-American and Russian forces may well be the time chosen by the three powers to declare all organized warfare with Germany at an end.

Such a declaration would give German soldiers one of two choices—they could either surrender and be treated as prisoners of war or continue fighting and be hunted down as franc tireurs or guerrillas, having no legal military status. Judging by the morale of the German troops captured in the past two weeks there is little doubt what the German soldier's choice would be. Those still willing to die for the fuhrer are few and far between.

The western front is that in name only. There is no real German front left. The resistance now being encountered by the American forces, except in the Ruhr pocket, is unorganized and little more than strong guerrilla opposition. For example, the Ninth Army spearheads driving east toward Berlin since bypassing the Ruhr have not encountered a single organized German division. They have been met only by convalescents, anti-aircraft crews and some several hundred odd units ordinarily found only in rear areas.

FEW DEFENSES. Military men feel the Germans are incapable of erecting any battle front in the west, except perhaps for a short stand along the Elbe and immediately before Berlin itself. In the words of one operations officer, the situation in the west is now "more of a political than a strategic problem." Front line fighting men feel that one or two armored divisions or infantry combined can set out for any place in Germany now and reach it within a reasonable time.

Most military men believe the joint chiefs of staffs in Washington will fix some definite line in Germany to which either the Russians or the western front allies will advance and then halt, waiting for the forces opposite to move up and join

Nazi Murder Factory Discovered By Yanks

LIMBURG, GERMANY, April 10.—(P)—American troops have discovered a German "murder factory," rivaling any house of horror dreamed up by fiction writers, where it is estimated 20,000 persons viewed by the Nazis as "undesirables," were systematically slain. Located in an insane asylum near Limburg, the terror-filled establishment was under direction of a tall, scar-faced 70-year-old Nazi surgeon, assisted by a husky 45-year-old chief woman's nurse and middle-aged chief warden, Allied officers said. On the



T/4 RAY ALLEN WINS FRENCH MEDAL

Croix De Guerre Awarded Roy Allen By French Government

Technician Fourth Grade Ray L. Allen, husband of Mrs. Ray L. Allen of 211 East Sumter St., was recently awarded the Croix de Guerre for meritorious service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. The award was presented to him by a French officer in the presence of General Patton and other high ranking Allied officers.

The croix de guerre is one of the highest ranking awards given by the French government for valor in action, being comparable in rank to the Distinguished Service Cross, second highest war medal awarded by the U. S. government.

The croix de guerre was won by Dr. T. B. Gold during the first World War, but Sgt. Ray Allen is thought to be the first Shelby or Cleveland county service man to have won it in the present conflict.

Sgt. Allen entered service in December, 1942, and after completing his training in the United States, sailed for an overseas station in the European theater of operation. He was wounded on July 20, 1944, but the wound was slight and he has completely recovered and returned to duty. Prior to entering service Sgt. Allen was employed by the Moore and Stewart Supply Company in Shelby.

Chinese Resisting Japs In Laohokow

CHUNGKING, April 10.—(P)—The Chinese high command acknowledged today that Japanese forces had entered Laohokow, former site of an advanced U. S. air base 200 miles northwest of Hankow, but said the garrison still was battling stubbornly within the city. Four hundred of the invader were slain, the announcement said. The Chinese reported their counterattacking forces in northwestern Honan province had fought into the town of Changsulchen, 70 miles from the Shensi border.

NAVY BOMBERS HIT 15-SHIP JAP CONVOY

Destroyer And Large Freighter, Sunk, Other Vessels Damaged

ATTACKED SATURDAY

MANILA, April 10.—(P)—Four navy Liberator bombers attacked a 15-ship Japanese convoy Saturday, sinking a destroyer and a large freighter and seriously damaging another destroyer before the rest of the convoy could flee toward Swatow on the China coast, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

Other Philippines-based bombers raised the day's bag to 10 ships sunk as they ranged enemy shipping lanes at will from the Netherlands East Indies to Formosa. Ground troops on Luzon Island, meanwhile, continued pressure on trapped Nipponese forces but progress was generally slow because of the difficult terrain.

The far-ranging bombers struck at military installations and fuel and munitions dumps with heavy bomb loads in a succession of raids. Two Liberators exploded a huge ammunition dump at Keelung, Formosa. More than 75 other planes hit targets on the China sea coast and the Formosa west coast with a total of 171 tons of bombs. Farther south, Thirteenth Air Force heavies and mediums ranged over Borneo, wrecking four barges

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Cherryville Woman Recovers Missing Child

NEWARK, N. J., April 10.—(P)—The only child of Mrs. Blythe Ingle, 20, of Cherryville, N. C., widow of a soldier who had never seen their 16-month-old girl, was returned to her mother early today after a six-hour police search. Police arrested Mary Florence Russ, 21, on a charge of attempted kidnapping. Miss Russ appeared with the baby, who had been missing from the Pennsylvania railroad station since 3 a. m., today, at the Travelers' Aid Society desk at 9 a. m., and was taken to police headquarters.

She told police she was employed in a war plant. No explanation of the alleged attempted kidnapping was available from police. Mrs. Ingle told police the child, Ruth, had fallen asleep while she and the child were waiting to catch a bus to return to the home of her sister, Mrs. Palmer Black, of Clifton. They had been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Absher, in North Carolina. She said she left Ruth on a couch in the women's lounge to step into the washroom, and that when she came back a woman was playing with the baby.

A while later, Mrs. Ingle said, she was persuaded by another woman to go to an all-night coffee stand across the street. She left Ruth in the care of the woman who had played with her. When she came back, Mrs. Ingle said the child, her suitcase, and purse were missing.

Yanks At Point Only 120 Miles From Berlin

PARIS, April 10.—(P)—Ninth Army tanks and infantry crashed into the burning Prussian stronghold of Hannover late today and reached a point to the east of the super-highway 120 miles from Berlin.

North of Hannover, British tanks and infantry cut a 20-mile gash in paper-thin German defenses and started a race for Hamburg, Germany's leading port and second largest city. Hamburg was 60 miles away in that sector, but only 50 miles distant in the area of besieged Bremen.

The American First Army burst out onto the Thuringian plain alongside the Third Army, advancing three miles east of Northheim to a point 128 miles southwest of Berlin. Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' troops advanced almost to the foothills of the Harz mountains.

Supreme headquarters raised its estimate of Germans trapped in Holland to "well over 100,000," suggesting that the number may be nearer estimates of Field Marshal Montgomery's headquarters, which said 150,000 to 200,000 Germans were sealed in yesterday behind cut railroads and flooded polders.

The Canadian First Army marched to within 15 miles of the North Sea and 25 of the Dollart Bay U-boat base of Emden in the thrusts to seal off the landward routes to the Netherlands.

The Ruhr pocket shrunk to less than 2,000 square miles under attacks from the north, east and south by the First and Ninth armies. Gelsenkirchen, a flattened city of 313,000, fell without a shot. Essen, sixth largest city of Germany, was toppling in street fighting, and its great Grupp works were captured.

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No War Criminals To Hide Out In Eire

Churchill Implies He Will See To It Ireland Will Offer No Sanctuary

LONDON, April 10.—(P)—Prime Minister Churchill implied today that he would see to it that no war criminals found sanctuary in neutral Eire.

The question arose in common when Dr. James Little, a Presbyterian minister from Belfast, asked the prime minister whether he would "take steps to make sure that no war criminals find sanctuary in any country embraced within the British commonwealth of nations." The written reply from Churchill was: "Yes sir."

Eire, whose leaders have challenged the contention that southern Ireland is part of the British commonwealth, has evaded giving the Allies flat assurances that Axis war criminals would be banned. The Eire government, however, has served notice that anyone who jeopardized the country's neutrality or was undesirable would not be admitted.

JAPS RESISTING ON OKINAWA

GUAM, April 10.—(P)—Well-armed Japanese defenders of Southern Okinawa, hurling bayonet-wielding squads at the Americans in futile counterattacks gave ground slowly today amidst the heaviest artillery duel of the Pacific war. Infantrymen of Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge's 24th U. S. army corps were limited to small local gains against savage resistance along a battle line within four miles of the capital city of Naha, but to the north Maj. Gen. Roy S. Geiger's Third Marine Amphibious corps swept ahead virtually unchecked. The Marines, scoring gains up to 4,000 yards, but off the big Motobu Peninsula and, fanning westward, occupied about half of it yesterday. They overran the western short of Katema Ko, onetime site of Japanese submarine pens.

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GOETTINGEN, Germany, April 10.—(P)—British imperial prisoners newly freed from two German camps said today American soldiers captured in Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's ill-fated Ardennes offensive had been starved and mistreated by the Nazis. A South African gun sergeant captured at Tobruk in June, 1942, said the treatment of British prisoners had not been too bad until last December. "When the Germans really got scared."

Among 2,000 empire troops freed at Goettingen and Duderstadt, he said their Red Cross parcels failed to arrive then and food fell off to watery soup, bread and one-inch squares of sausage. "But we learned what bad treatment was."

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U. S. PRISONERS TREATED BADLY

WHAT'S DOING TODAY 7:30 p.m.—C. A. P. members meet at armory. 7:30 p.m.—Regular meeting of Shelby chapter 110 Order of Eastern Star at Masonic Temple. 9:00 p.m.—Masonic Fellowship club meets at Masonic Temple. WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.—Sunday school officers and teachers of First Baptist church meet. 7:30 p.m.—Prayer meeting at Presbyterian church. 7:45 p.m.—Mid-week prayer and praise service at First Baptist church. 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.—Revival services at Central Methodist church.

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