

WEATHER

Cloudy and mild with rain and scattered thundershowers Sunday beginning in west tonight and in extreme west portion this afternoon. Not so cool tonight.

The Shelby Daily Star

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

TELEPHONES 1100

- State Theater Today -

CHESTER MORRIS

VICTOR McLAGLEN

'Rough, Tough and Ready'

U. S. FORCES IN ITALY REACH SWISS FRONTIER

REDS CRASH INTO BERLIN'S INNER DEFENSE RING

THREE-FOURTHS OF CITY IS IN SOVIET HANDS

German Armies On Elbe Withdrawn To Relieve Capital

PUSH TOWARD PORTS

By Richard Kasishke

LONDON, April 28.—(P)—The German high command declared today that Soviet troops had crashed through Berlin's inner defense ring and were fighting on Alexanderplatz, site of Gestapo headquarters. Nazi planes were flying in reinforcements, food, and ammunition to the fanatical garrison, the German communique said.

German armies facing the Americans on the Elbe have been withdrawn in an attempt to relieve the capital, the war bulletin said. Earlier the Germans said a relief army was nearing Berlin from a Russian trap to the south-east.

A First armored division spearhead that seized the Ghetto airport near Bergamo in a 31-mile advance moved on the field so fast a German sergeant assigned to blow the installations was captured before he could touch off a fuse.

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GENERAL GAINS IN PHILIPPINES

Slight Advances On Three Luzon Fronts; Rapid Ones On Mindanao

MANILA, April 28.—(P)—Embattled Yanks inched forward Friday on three major Philippine fronts—Baguio, Balete and Central Luzon—and raced ahead against little opposition in a fourth sector, the approaches to Davao, on Mindanao island.

They smashed forward slightly against the continuing strong resistance from the Japanese defending Baguio, the Philippine summer capital.

The Yanks said they could see hundreds of civilians, who had been unable to get through the lines and out of danger, in the city.

Some of the skirmishes in that area were fought well up in the mountains, above the clouds, and soldiers were wearing field jackets for the first time in this phase of the Pacific war.

In another laborious gain, the 25th division attacking Thursday night won a height overlooking Balete Pass, the bottleneck to which the Nipponese have been clinging grimly as an avenue of escape from Central Luzon to the Cagayan valley on the northern part of the island.

Overcoming strong resistance, Yanks at Balete captured five enemy tanks intact and turned them on the enemy. They sealed many cave positions, one containing a 70 mm. gun.

Italian Patriots Battle Germans

LONDON, April 28.—(P)—A force of German soldiers estimated at 1,500 battled Italian patriots near Switzerland's southern frontier throughout the night in an attempt to cross into that neutral country, the Swiss radio announced today.

The Swiss government quickly evacuated residents of the border region when the fighting broke out near Chiasso, the broadcast said.

The German troops arrived in the frontier area early last night expecting to cross over and be interned, the announcement said.

The Italian patriots, however, ambushed them. An all-night battle ensued.



YANK AND RUSSIAN HANDS ACROSS THE ELBE—Infantrymen of the U. S. First Army (left) extend hands in greeting to Russian troops (right) on a broken bridge over the Elbe river as the soldiers of the two Allied Nations met at Torgau, Germany. The juncture cut the Reich in two and left Berlin, the capital, isolated from the Nazis' redoubt area in the Alps of Southern Germany.—(AP Wirephoto via Signal Corps Radio).

Juncture Armies Temporarily Out Of Jobs; Hard Fighting Still Ahead

PARIS, April 28.—(P)—The historic junction of American and Russian forces in Germany left at least three armies temporarily out of jobs today but there still was much fighting to be done before the war in Europe could be considered over.

Front line commanders believe organized warfare may wind up in a matter of weeks. But supreme headquarters, officially pessimistic, says it can last for several months.

The fighting in Germany now has been separated into northern and southern fronts.

In the north, Berlin is falling, but several Baltic ports remain to be overrun, as well as Denmark and Norway. In the south two major pockets are shaping up—one embracing the enemy's so-called Bavarian redoubt, the second in Czechoslovakia. A meeting of American and Russian troops in Austria, possibly in a few days, will make these pockets a fact.

Speculation was running through Allied military circles here as to whether the armies which met this week south of Berlin would be shifted to one of the remaining fighting areas.

OTHER JUNCTURES

The juncture brought face to face the U. S. First army and at least one army of Marshal Ivan S. Konev's First Ukrainian group. In the area north of the first meeting site the U. S. Ninth army is also at a standstill along the Elbe, waiting the imminent arrival of the Russian army.

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WHAT'S DOING

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.—U. S. O. center open to visiting service folk.

MONDAY

7:30 p.m.—State Guard drill at the armory.

WPB To Lift Some Of Controls On Industry Within Few Days

By STERLING F. GREEN

WASHINGTON, April 28.—(P)—To clear the decks for increased output of civilian goods, the War Production Board today prepared to lift about 65 of its 500 controls on industry within the next week or 10 days.

The orders will be revoked at the rate of perhaps 10 a day, WPB spokesmen said, to keep up with armament cutbacks already announced and others expected before V-E day.

This disclosure followed the nation-wide restoration last night of the "spot" plan for civilian goods

NATIONAL BABY WEEK OBSERVED

Twin Editions Of Daily Star Carry 425 Pictures Of Babies

This is "National Baby Week," observed throughout the nation to promote healthier, happier babies and The Daily Star publishes its annual "baby edition" today and Monday.

It is necessary to make a "twin edition," approximately half of the 425 baby pictures being published today and the other half Monday, in two twenty-page papers.

These have been fruitful years for babies and The Star's baby edition grows annually in popularity. Last year The Star printed 192 pictures in its "baby edition." No solicitation of pictures was made and this year the response has been almost beyond The Star's facilities to handle.

HAVEN'T SEEN DAD

Sixty-seven of the baby pictures being published are children of service men who have never seen their offspring. There are also three sets of twins.

Most of the credit for the Baby edition belongs to Miss Sara Newton, social editor, who handled the pictures, took the notes of names and parents, sent the pictures to

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BENITO MUSSOLINI

IL DUCE, OTHER FASCISTS TAKEN

Minister Of Interior In Fascist Government Also Captured

By The Associated Press

Guido Buffarini-Guidi, former secretary of state and minister of the interior in the Fascist government of Benito Mussolini, has been captured by Italian patriots at Fortezza while attempting to escape into Switzerland and will be brought before a people's court, a patriot-controlled radio station in North Italy said today. The broadcast was reported by the PCC.

Buffarini-Guidi also served for a time as home minister in the Fascist Republican government in

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Hitler Said Near Death In Berlin

STOCKHOLM, April 28.—(P)—The newspaper Svenska Dagbladet, quoting "reliable circles," said today that Hitler had suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and was near death inside Berlin.

"It is believed that an immediate announcement of Hitler's death would mean the mass capitulation of a great number of troops," the newspaper added.

NAZI SOLDIERS REVOLT TODAY IN MUNICH

Rebel Forces Win Control Of City's Radio Station For Time

QUICKLY PUT DOWN

LONDON, April 28.—(P)—German soldiers revolted today in Munich, birthplace of nazism and scene of another revolt in 1923—the Hitler beer cellar putsch.

Anti-nazi troops, attempting to seize the Bavarian government in the waning hours of Hitler's power actually won control of the city's radio station long enough to broadcast a call to German troops to lay down their arms.

Leaders of the attempted coup declared in their broadcast that Gen. Ritter von Epp, long a staunch Nazi and governor of Bavaria, had decided to break off the fight against the Allies as senseless.

Paul Giesler, Gauleiter of Munich, broadcasting personally after the revolt apparently was almost stifled, declared "a party of deserters who are still calling themselves soldiers, I am sorry to say, tried to arrest me and use me for their dirty business."

This "traitorous element" under a captain Wernecke "has been made harmless," Giesler said.

But indicating that the Nazi still had not fully regained control, Giesler exhorted Germans to "not let yourselves be disturbed during the next hours, days and weeks by misuse of broadcasts."

The insurrectionists broadcast their appeal earlier under the name of the "free Bavarian movement."

American troops driving on the Bavarian capital heard the anti-

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W. R. RUCKER KILLED TODAY

W. R. Rucker was killed this morning shortly before noon in Rutherford county when he fell from a scaffold at a church near Avondale where he had gone to do some work for the C. and S. Construction Co. of Shelby.

A brother, Jim Rucker, by profession but it is understood he was called in on this job to hurry it through and went to Avondale this morning. Details of the accident were not learned.

Mr. Rucker is about 48 years of age and lived with his family in an apartment at the Grover Beam home on West Sumner street. He is a native of Rutherford county and is survived by his father, his wife and four children: Mrs. Edwin Spangler, Phillip Rucker of Shelby, Sgt. Ralph Rucker, jr., who is stationed in the South Pacific and Miss Christine Rucker, a student at Western Carolina Teachers College, Cullowhee.

A brother, Jim Rucker, manager of the Cleveland Lumber Co., Shelby, also survives.

Mr. Rucker was a popular man with a host of friends, and member of the First Baptist church and Newton Bible Class.

The news of his sudden death was a shock to the family and host of friends.

Seventh Reaches Austria, Nears Munich

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

PARIS, April 28.—(P)—The American Seventh army closed today within 25 miles of Munich and broadcasts from that Nazi citadel said a revolt was seething in the city.

Augsburg, third city of Bavaria, fell to Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's troops. The Seventh army reached the Austrian frontier at Fussen, 55 miles over the towering Alps from the Brenner Pass after charging 45 miles into the western end of the German national redoubt.

Himmler Reported To Have Offered Surrender To Britain And U. S.

LONDON, April 28.—(P)—Heinrich Himmler was reported today to have offered unconditional surrender to Great Britain and the United States, but Prime Minister Churchill in a special statement declared that only unconditional surrender to all three Big Powers would be accepted by the Allies.

The Prime Minister neither confirmed nor denied reports that surrender had been offered to the two western Allies, but not to Russia.

Churchill declared: "It has been reported by Reuters that unconditional surrender was offered by Himmler to Britain and the United States only. Further that Britain and the United States have replied saying they will not accept any surrender except to all the Allies including Russia."

"No doubt at a time like this all kinds of reports of proposals for German surrender from various parts of the German Reich are rife, as these are in harmony with the enemy's desperate situation."

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CONFERENCE NOTES:

Little Nations Seek To Shift Balance

Executive Committee Expanded To 14 Members As Result Of "Underdog" Pressure

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28.—(P)—More closeknit themselves, the big four managing this United Nations conference today ran into a small nation challenge of a world organization by major allied war victors.

Spokesmen for Australia, Belgium and Bolivia urged more responsible roles for the world's smaller states. Their action signaled the long expected effort to shift the balance between the great and the small.

One immediate success of this pressure was expansion of the conference executive committee from 11 to 14 members. Now the small state group aims at increasing the membership on the world security council beyond the 11 proposed at Dumbarton Oaks.

Ats constituted by the 46-nation conference, the executive committee includes the Big-Three, China and France, which are to have permanent security council seats, and these other countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Iran, Mexico, Holland and Yugoslavia.

Restoration of harmony among the big powers brought the conference into its fourth day with prospects for success brightened by Russia's demonstrated willingness to compromise.

POLISH ISSUE

Some delegates even hoped for a reorganization of the Polish Warsaw government along lines acceptable to Britain and the United States. Whether it could be achieved in time for an invitation to be represented here was doubtful.

A session of the conference steering committee, which started out roughly enough, ended in a round of hand-

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Capture Of Airfields On Okinawa Near

GUAM, April 28.—(P)—Pursuing a retreating enemy in Southern Okinawa, Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge's 24th Corps Yanks today closed in on two airfields—Machinato and Yonabaru—whose capture appears imminent.

Abandoned stores in caves and on horses found with pack saddles indicate the Japanese are falling back to their second defense line in disorder.

A small force of Japanese planes attacked Okinawa forces. Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced in today's communique. One minesweeper knocked down three.

However the Japanese airforce has made no sizeable strike against U. S. forces at Okinawa for several days, their mainland staging bases in Southern Kyushu having been under steady bombing by Marianas-based Superforts, carrier planes and Iwo Jima-based fighters.

STRIKE AGAIN

Hitting in good weather, at medium altitude, from 100 to 150 Superforts again struck at Kyushu's main airfields today. It was the third raid in 48 hours and the

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GERMANS IN NORTHWESTERN ITALY CUT OFF

Other Units Drive Close To Bergamo; Almost At Tip Of Como

AMERICANS IN GENOA

ROME, April 28.—(P)—American troops, striking across the Po Valley and into the Alps, reached the Swiss border today and cut off all northwestern Italy from exits to Germany, the Milan National liberation radio reported today.

The Americans earlier had speared close to Gergamo, 125 miles southwest of the Brenner Pass and 30 miles from the border in a swift dash to outflank Milan, 26 miles to the southwest. This placed the Fifth Army almost at the southern tip of Lake Como.

Only one-quarter of the flaming, crumbling city remained in Nazi hands. Soviet troops were boring in block by block, and other divisions sped westward in a push to isolate the last Nazi Baltic ports.

Russian correspondents in Berlin declared trapped Germans were trying to escape in wholesale fashion. German officers could not halt the suicidal resistance because of Nazi SS overlords, the correspondents added.

These front dispatches said many Nazis were discarding uniforms for civilian clothes.

The broadcast German communique said the Russians had made new penetrations from the north in Charlottenburg, and from the south across Tempelhof airfield, with "fighting for the center of the city begun on Alexanderplatz and at Halesches Tor."

The Alexanderplatz runs through the heart of Berlin, and was a principal commercial center of the Reich capital.

ATTACK EASTWARD

Germans withdrawn from the Elbe front are attacking eastward toward surrounded Berlin, the bulletin added.

The enemy communique also declared Germans were "attacking toward the north" in the Elbe region.

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British Sweeping South In Burma

CALCUTTA, April 28.—(P)—British armor, sweeping southward in Burma a distance of 56 miles in 24 hours, has reached a point only 62 miles from Rangoon, the Southeast Asia command announced today.

Advancing along the Mandalay-Rangoon railway, the armored spearheads were closely followed by British and Indian infantry.

"Guerrilla forces operating on the flank and ahead of our troops are materially assisting the advance," a communique said.

Other forces driving along the east side of the Irrawaddy river are five miles from Allamyo, four miles northeast of Thayet-myo.

In the Taungup area along the west coast the 15th Indian corps captured two important features from the Japanese after an air strike.

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