

HANNOVER MENACED BY ALLIED ADVANCE

Soviet Units Reach Points on Austrian Frontier

Yanks' Big Guns Cross The Rhine



Heavyweight artillery for slugging Nazi strongpoints rumbles across the Rhine toward the east bank in support of Lt. Gen. Patton's Third Army...

Reds Near Vienna And Bratislava

German Communique Admits Withdrawal North From Danube

London, March 29.—(AP)—The Red army, lancing through the shattered defenses of Bratislava Gap in the Danube valley...

The big Stalin tanks and armored cars of the third Ukrainian army hammered at the defenses of Pannhagen, 39 miles southeast of Vienna...

Whether the units which fought their way to the frontier planned to remain or whether these were scouting groups feeling out the strength of the fortified zone is not known.

The German communique announced a withdrawal north of the Danube to the Nitra river, and a 25-mile advance by the Russians from the broken Iron River line.

This push in Slovakia, dovetailing with the assault before the great river of southeastern Europe...

There was no word of the coordinated offensive of Marshal Konev from Silesia toward Vienna and Prague from the north-east, but the Russians were heavily bombing cities in the Moravian gap in their approach from that direction.

The Russians reached the center of Danzig, left alone by the fall of the Polish port of Gdynia, and the Germans were giving up in large numbers in the city's main streets and squares.

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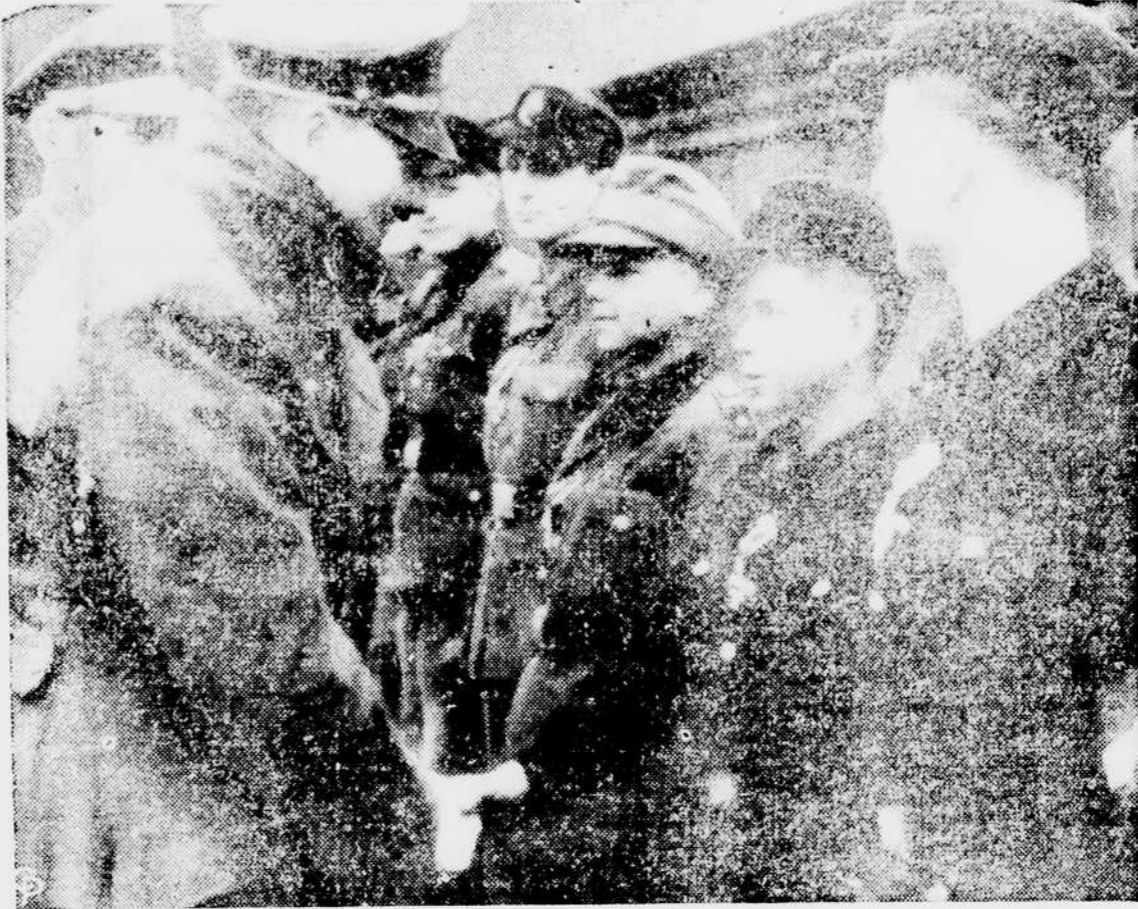
SPANISH ENVOY RESIGNS.

Bern, Switzerland, March 29.—(AP)—The Duke of Alba, Spanish ambassador to London, has resigned, Spanish circles reported tonight.

40 DIE IN FLOOD.

Rio De Janeiro, March 29.—(AP)—Up to 40 persons may have died in a flash flood Tuesday at Petropolis, Brazil's summer capital...

ADOLF REACHES THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL



AT A TIME WHEN COMPLETE NAZI COLLAPSE is indicated on every front, this most recent photo of Hitler, rallied from neutral Sweden...

Cities Fall As Our Men Press Gains

Security Blackout Hides Big Victory To West of Berlin

Paris, March 29.—(AP)—British and American troops, racing today through a wide break in German lines north of the Ruhr, were reported menacing Hannover, 112 miles from Berlin...

All of Frankfurt-on-the-Main, except the northern outskirts, was captured by the third army, whose advanced troops, operating with the first army...

The full extent of the advances in Westphalia was hidden by a security blackout, but an AP correspondent said Muenster, Gutersloh and Hannover all were threatened by the sweeping gains outflanking the Ruhr to the north...

The nearest first army approach to Berlin was at Ypsow, 85 miles beyond the Rhine and 255 from Russian lines in the east.

The seventh army, fighting 30 miles east of the Ruhr on a solid front with the third and first armies, virtually encircled the last defenders of Muenster by crossing the Neckar river near that strategic center.

At Amoenburg, Lt. Gen. Hodder's racing column was 95 miles southeast of Muenster and in position to cut around the whole outflanked Ruhr—essentially to German war economy—and trapped its defenders in conjunction with the 21st army group racing across the Westphalian plain.

Three Nazi Parachutists Killed Mayor

With the U. S. First Army, March 29.—(AP)—The assassination of Aachen's Allied-appointed mayor was carried out by three German parachutists in uniform, it was disclosed today.

Striking gangster-fashion Sunday night, they shot and killed the mayor, Franz Oppenhot, 41, and then escaped. Oppenhot was the first mayor to be appointed in a major occupied Germany city by the Allies.

Military investigators said they had been unable to determine an exact motive, but it was recalled that Hitler often has threatened retaliation against an German co-operating with the Allies if there were some who believed they might be the first manifestation of that threat.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy and unseasonably warm tonight and Friday; few scattered thundershowers in mountains Friday afternoon.

Price Control Extension Is Passed By Committee

Continuation For One Year Approved By Senators' Vote

Washington, March 29.—(AP)—Extension of the price control act for one year without change was approved today by the Senate Banking Committee.

The decision was reached after OPA directors assured the committee they would try by administrative means to adjust policy practices against which some business groups have complained.

Chairman Warner, New York Democrat, told reporters he thought the committee action was now "all set," but that it could, of course, change its mind and recommend amendments before filing its report.

In approving an extension of the act without change, the committee not only turned down amendments asked by industry groups...

The OPA chief had recommended that he be empowered to place ceilings on movie tickets and barber and beauty shop charges.

On this latter proposal, the committee sentiment was described as being that any action taken should be handled as separate legislation rather than included in the price control law.

Casualties Hit 372,862 In New List

Washington, March 29.—(AP)—American combat casualties reported since Pearl Harbor reached the 900,000 mark today, with the army setting its losses at 780,943.

The latest navy report added 92,819 to the army toll, making the aggregate 372,862.

The latest navy report added 92,819 to the army toll, making the aggregate 372,862. This was an increase of 13,275 from the preceding week's report.

Secretary of War Stimson said the army's total was based on a compilation of individual names received here through March 21, and reflected actual battlefield developments through the end of February and the beginning of March.

Success Near Is Churchill's Opinion Now

London, March 29.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill asserted today that the "hour of success" was near.

His prediction came in a letter endorsing a Liberal candidate for Commons in a special election to fill a vacancy.

"The endurance of the British people and the steadfast devotion of the fighting services have at last brought us near the hour of success," he wrote.

Cotton Sags After Start

New York, March 29.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened five to 15 cents a bale higher. Noon prices were unchanged to 15 cents a bale lower.

Table with columns: Month, P.V., Close, Open. Rows: May, July, October, March.

Perkins Asks Extension For Soft Coal Contract

Washington, March 29.—(AP)—Seeking a 30-day extension of the present contract, Secretary of Labor Perkins appeared today before soft coal wage negotiators in the wake of an overwhelming miners' vote to strike.

"I certainly am going to try for an extension of the contract," she told newsmen as she entered the conference.

Meanwhile, presidential press secretary Jonathan Daniels, replying to a question whether President Roosevelt is getting ready to step into the coal situation, said that yesterday's strike vote has to be reported to the President and he did not think that had happened yet.

Miss Perkins' appearance was her second before the operators and United Mine Workers representatives.

Two days ago she expressed optimism that a new contract could be written before the Saturday night expiration of the present agreement.

Still awaited was John L. Lewis' reply to a proposal of Solid Fuels Administrator Ickes that the contract be extended thirty days and any wage adjustments be made retroactive.

The operators have rejected the Ickes proposal in the form it was presented.

The better than eight to one margin by which the miners voted to strike at Lewis' call does not necessarily mean the U. M. W. leader will call a strike when the contract expires Saturday midnight.

Washington, March 29.—(AP)—Major General Lucius D. Clay, who has been with the Office of War Mobilization and Reconstruction, was designated today to take charge of civil affairs in Germany when that country is occupied.

President Roosevelt made the announcement.

The appointment, the White House said, was by General George C. Marshall, chief of staff.

Japs Report U. S. Landings With Bombings of Okinawa

Front Line Barber



THIS BARBER SHOP is located on the doorstep of a shell-battered house less than a mile from the Seventh Army front.

Nimitz Says Losses By Enemy Are Heavy; Japs List Our Loss

Guam, March 29.—(AP)—Okinawa underwent its sixth day of bombardment by the United States Fleet's largest fleet as hundreds of carrier aircraft knifed into its remaining strongholds.

Radio Tokyo held to its report that Yank troops had landed on the Ryukyu islands, asserting a fleet of "twenty to thirty transports" was attempting to supply American invasion forces on the islands.

Clung preliminary reports of damage inflicted on the enemy, Nimitz communique said 33 aircraft were destroyed, 19 ships crippled, including three destroyers, or destroyer escorts, damaged, five cargo ships, damaged and many small craft wrecked.

Nimitz acknowledged "some heavy" losses suffered during enemy air attacks, including "serious damage" to one destroyer, one "carrier" and another ship, and "minor damage to several others."

In further unsubstantiated claims, Japanese Imperial headquarters boasted of sinking or damaging "thirty warships, cruisers, destroyers and transports" between Monday and Wednesday by surface craft and planes.

The fleet's assault on the Ryukyus by air and sea is probably the heaviest in the Pacific, and Imperial Japanese headquarters implied in today's communique the attack is continuing into the seventh day.

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Stocks Slow In Forenoon

New York, March 29.—(AP)—Selected stocks continued in the recovery ranks today, although many market leaders found the going a bit difficult.

At 1945 peaks was American Air Lines, ahead were U. S. Steel, Woodworth and United Air Lines, Laggards were Pennsylvania, Goodrich and Montgomery Ward.

U.S. Captives Saves Selves From Planes

Football Formation 'PW' Veers Pilots From Open Fields

By DON WHITEHEAD.

With the First Army, March 29.—(AP)—Escaping from American and British captives being liberated from a German prisoner of war camp at Limberg, west of the Rhine, a group of 120 United States prisoners, through a human aircraft maneuver, pulled off a capture-halfs liberation of their own selves.

With both armored division tanks firing toward the ancient cathedral city, the Germans tried to cram some 2,000 of the Allied prisoners into box cars for a rush to the east.

The Nazi guards took 500 prisoners on the spot, spilled into the fields nearby and, as the American planes dived for the kill, hastily formed lines spelling out the letters PW for prisoners of war.

When the main division moved up, they discovered the Germans were packing extra box cars and evacuating them from the hospitals in the path of the first army.

Officers said the Germans apparently had no hospital trains available to move the casualties, many of whom are in serious condition from lack of proper medical treatment and malnutrition.

At Wetzel, northeast of Limberg, the ninth infantry found 277 American prisoners who were locked in box cars on a railway siding. They immediately lifted them from the cars and took them to evacuation hospitals for treatment.

Some of the prisoners at Limberg's Stalag 12 escaped before the Germans tried the evacuation move. These also were suffering from malnutrition and improper medical care.