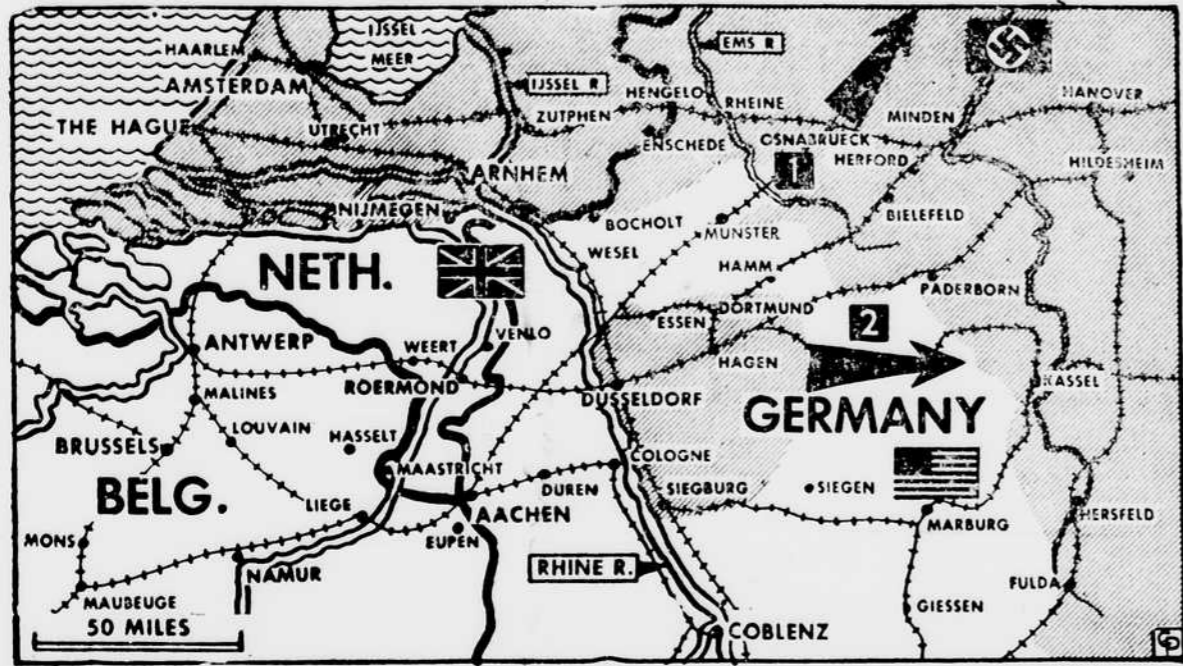


Moscow Denounces Jap Pact

U. S., BRITISH UNITS REACH WESER RIVER

NAZIS TRY BREAKING TRAP AS ALLIES PUSH NORTH



AS THE BRITISH FORCES WHEELED northward to knock out V-Domb bases and completely liberate Holland, Scotch and English troops were reported hammering at Osnabrueck (1) and heading for Bremen and the North Sea. At the same time some 150,000 crack German troops, trapped in the Ruhr, began their first coordinated attack to break through and escape corridor. They hit the 1st Army's 9th Division with both tanks and infantry seeking to smash a lane between Bielefeld and Siegen (2) but were repulsed. (International)

Third Army Speeds For Czech Front

Allies Approaching Hannover, Leipzig; Weser Is Crossed

Paris, April 5.—(AP)—Four American and British divisions smashed up to the Weser river to within 23 miles of Hannover today on a solid 49 mile front from north of Minden to the Pied Piper town of Hameln. Armored spearheads of the American third army, well out on the Napoleonic battlefields of the Thuringian plains, beat down the last 55 miles toward Samony, rail center of Plauen near Czechoslovakia, in a drive to bisect Germany and join the Russians. Leipzig was less than 70 miles ahead. The battlefields of Jena were almost in sight.

At Hameln the ninth army was within 153 miles of Berlin and 58 of the aircraft center of Brunswick. The third army was less than 40 from Berlin.

The British fought into the western outskirts of Minden, 90 miles southwest of Hamburg. They had made another breakthrough and swept 20 miles past Osnabrueck in a single day to reach the Weser, next to last river before Berlin. Only the Elbe lies between the Weser and Berlin.

A dispatch from British second army headquarters last night said the British eleventh armored division had crossed the Weser river north of Osnabrueck and advanced on beyond against light opposition. The same correspondent, however, wireless today that the eleventh armored division, which crossed the Weser-Emis canal yesterday after capturing three bridges intact, now was seven miles northwest of Minden. The Weser curves to the northeast at Minden. There was no continuation of the reported Weser river crossing.

The fourth army, sending four of its infantry divisions into a side campaign to crush in the northern side of the Ruhr, where up to 150,000 Nazis, and perhaps Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, are trapped, fought into Oest and battled the last defenders of Hamm. The last Germans were being beaten out of Wuerzburg and Heilbronn by the seventh army, which fought less than 34 miles from Nuernberg. The French fought beyond captured Karlsruhe to within 20 miles of Stuttgart.

The third army mopped up many bypassed pockets and cities left behind in its advances to within 50 miles of Czechoslovakia.

HUNGARY GERMAN FIGHT FOR FOOD



THE BATTLE HAS PASSED ON, but the exacting toll of war leaves its mark in this photo which shows hungry German civilians fighting for some of the scant food left behind by the rapidly-retreating Nazi army. Official U. S. Army Signal Corps Radiophoto. (International Soundphoto)

Cabinet Of Gen. Koiso In Tokyo Falls

Reverses From War Are Fatal; Russians Attack Jap Policy

London, April 5.—(AP)—Soviet Russia today denounced its neutrality pact with Japan, accusing Tokyo with helping Germany to make war on Russia.

The Moscow radio announced that Foreign Commissar Molotov had informed the Japanese ambassador that continuance of the pact was impossible, since Japan was fighting against Russia's allies, the United States and Great Britain.

"In such a situation, the pact of neutrality between Japan and the U. S. S. R. has lost its meaning," Molotov said.

The note was handed to Japanese Ambassador Sato at 3 p. m. today in the midst of a new Japanese cabinet crisis. The pact was signed in April, 1941, and whether Russia would denounce it before the opening of the world security conference at San Francisco April 25 had been a subject of speculation.

The Soviet note emphasized at the outset that "the pact of neutrality between the Soviet Union and Japan was concluded on April 13, 1941—that is, before the attack by Germany on the U. S. S. R., and before the outbreak of war between Japan on the one hand, and Great Britain and the United States on the other."

"Since that time, the situation has radically changed," the note said. "Germany attacked the U. S. S. R., and Japan—Germany's ally—helps the latter in her war against the U. S. S. R."

The treaty originally would have run until April, 1946. The denunciation becomes effective April 13, 12 days before the opening of the San Francisco conference.

The Moscow announcement said Japan's Ambassador Natsuke Sato had "promised to bring the declaration of the Soviet government to attention of the Japanese government."

There was no indication in the Moscow announcement of Russia's intention in future relations with Japan. However, Premier Marshal Stalin has previously described Japan as an "aggressive nation."

GENERAL KOISO'S CABINET FALLS; SUCCESSOR "MILD"

London, April 5.—(AP)—The Japanese government of General Koiso fell today in the midst of the empire's grave military crisis, and Emperor Hirohito called on Admiral Baron Kantaro Suzuki, 77-year-old president of the privy council, to form a new cabinet. Tokyo broadcasts announced.

Koiso and all his ministers stepped down, a communique said, "because of the gravity of the situation," a reference to the mounting fury of disasters during their eight months in office, which have reached the climax at the American invasion at Okinawa, on the doorsteps of the homeland.

The communique, broadcast by the Domei agency, said "a far more powerful administration will be formed, and the choice fell on the aged Suzuki after the emperor had consulted the elder statesmen of the empire."

Suzuki had been in semi-retirement for eight years prior to his

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Planes Hunt For Airmen In Swamp In East Carolina

Pope Field, Fort Bragg, April 5.—(AP)—Pope Field announced today that a search was being made for Private James W. Arnold, 29, who was reported to have fallen from a C-17 troop transport plane Tuesday while on a photographic training mission about five miles northeast of Elizabethtown, Ky.

Arnold was a photographer. Just how he fell from the plane was not clear, it was explained. The plane was based at Pope Field. The soldier's next of kin was listed as his wife, Mrs. Mildred Arnold, Nashville, Tenn.

Red Points Sold Freely In New York

Accusation Is Made By Senator Wheeler Before Food Probe

Washington, April 5.—(AP)—A report that red ration points are being sold freely in New York City for \$6 per thousand was relayed to Senate food investigators today by Senator Wheeler, Montana Democrat.

The Montana said he had received information to this effect, but did not give out its source. He told the agriculture committee he had turned the data over to OPA.

Earlier in the current hearing, Chairman Thomas, Oklahoma Democrat, said he had received reports that ninety percent of the meat sold in New York is black market. House food investigators already have announced plans for an on-the-scene investigation of similar reports.

Expressing belief that maldistribution is the biggest difficulty as far as meat is concerned, Wheeler declared:

"The reason housewives who try to live up to the rules are not getting meat is because of the tremendous black market."

When Senator Bushfield, South Dakota Republican, asked if Wheeler had any suggestions as to a remedy for black markets, the Montana said he was afraid there would be a shortage and people have plenty of money.

Carl H. Wilken, Sioux City, Iowa, agriculture economist, told the committee he questioned seriously whether there are 82,000,000 cattle in the United States, as has been reported by War Food Administration officials. Assuming the figure is correct, he added, it is "misleading."

Asserting about half are dairy cattle, he estimated there are no more than about 20,000,000 that can be marketed.

Yanks Seize Philippines Sugar Island

Manila, April 5.—(AP)—Masbate, sugar-rich little central Philippine island, was overrun Tuesday by elements of Major General Rapp Brush's 40th division and its capital quickly liberated, while Philippine-based bombers ravaged Japanese-occupied Hong Kong, across the China sea.

Both actions were announced today by General Douglas MacArthur, who declared Japan's lifeline to the East Indies was completely severed by a chain of American air bases stretching more than 1,000 miles from Luzon in the north to recently-invaded Tawi Tawi at the southern tip of the Sulu archipelago, only 30 miles from Borneo.

After seizing Bazbata city, dough-

Kandenberg Idea On Boundaries Is Likely To Prevail

Washington, April 5.—(AP)—Senator Vandenberg's proposal that a projected new peace-keeping league have power to review the boundary and similar decisions appeared headed today for official American approval.

The Michigan Republican and other members of this country's delegation at San Francisco begin daily sessions Sunday in search of a policy agreement on controversial questions likely to come before the Allied nations conference April 25.

Harrison Is Accused Of Higham Death

Raleigh, April 5.—(AP)—Police brought formal charges of murder today against Harry Harrison, 20, a distant cousin, in connection with the death of Mrs. John V. Higham, wealthy widow whose charred body was found early Easter Monday in her burned home.

Detective Sergeant W. G. Madgry said the charges were brought after a watch and expensive jewelry had been found in possession of the ex-Marine.

Harrison was being questioned at length today but police said he contended he was not connected with the death of Mrs. Higham, who was 71.

Young Harrison, a member of a prominent Scotland Neck family, was arrested yesterday driving north from Enfield, and charged specifically with the theft of a watch from a friend.

Madgry said the officers found an expensive wrist watch identified as belonging to Mrs. Higham on Harrison and several pieces of jewelry under the front seat of the car Harrison was driving.

Harrison was discharged from the Marine Corps several months ago and came to Raleigh to work with an insurance firm.

The cause of the woman's death has not been fully established. In addition to being severely burned, she had a fractured skull when the body was found.

Two metal fire tongs on which were strands of hair, and a broken metal candlestick were found in the room where the body was found.

Munich, Nuernberg Areas Blasted By American Planes

London, April 5.—(AP)—More than 1,200 Fortresses and Liberators attacked two large German ordnance depots, rail targets and airfields in the Munich and Nuernberg areas of south Germany today.

The two ordnance depots were at Ingolstadt, 40 miles northeast of Munich, and Grafenwoehr, 40 miles northeast of Nuernberg.

No Clean Cut Surrender Of Nazis Likely

End Will Be Through Allied Proclamation, Eisenhower Declares

Washington, April 5.—(AP)—General Dwight D. Eisenhower has informed President Roosevelt that a "clean cut military surrender" of the Nazis is improbable.

In a letter to the chief executive, released by the White House today, the supreme Allied commander in Europe foresaw extensive guerrilla warfare. He said he was hopeful of launching operations at the proper time that "should partially prevent a guerrilla control of any large area such as the southern mountain basin."

On the basis of past performances by German armed forces, Eisenhower said "it is likely that a V-E day will come about only by a proclamation on our part, rather than by any definite and decisive collapse or surrender of German resistance."

Such a proclamation, if it does come, the White House said, probably would be issued by Eisenhower himself.

Lewis Defiant Toward Whole Coal Industry

Washington, April 5.—(AP)—Solid Fuels Administrator Ickes said today he hoped to receive an order for government seizure of soft coal mines today.

Washington, April 5.—(AP)—John L. Lewis, undeterred by his deadlock with bituminous coal producers, left the same contract demands with anthracite operators today, plus some new postwar objections. They include a flat 25 percent wage increase for the hard coal miners.

In all, the mine leaders tossed 30 demands at the anthracite producers at the opening of negotiations in New York yesterday. He made 18 demands on the bituminous operators.

The New York sessions were recessed only until Tuesday to permit the operators to study the demands. One was for a ten cents a ton royalty for medical and "economic protection" a request that would add about \$5,500,000 to the \$60,000,000 the United Mine Workers would receive from a soft coal royalty.

While anti-entirement in soft coal mines declined yesterday, it still was widespread as Lewis returned to Washington to pick up the fast deteriorating negotiations with bituminous operators.

Few would predict that it still was possible to reach agreement on any of the soft coal demands, and many felt that today would be vital in that respect.

Canada Will Play Lesser Part In War

Ottawa, April 5.—(AP)—Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie-King, whose government was nearly overthrown last November when it adopted partial conscription for the war against Germany, embarked today on a campaign for reelection, with the announcement that Canada would send only volunteers to fight in the war against Japan.

Canada's fighting forces in the Pacific war will be numerically "very much less" than those employed in Europe, King told Parliament late yesterday. He said the Dominion's efforts after the defeat of Germany would "be of a considerable extent" to be turned to producing foodstuffs and war materials and to work of reconstruction, relief and rehabilitation.

After the European war is ended, all Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen will have the opportunity of coming home, then Canada will form her Pacific forces only from men electing to fight against Japan, King said, regrouping them and giving them specialized training.

Canada, meanwhile, will be "appropriately represented" in the Allied forces occupying Germany, King announced.

Russians Fighting Inside Vienna, With Fall Of Bratislava

London, April 5.—(AP)—The Russians have fought into "greater Vienna," the Germans reported today, and Moscow dispatches said Russian forces were pouring over the Danube between captured Bratislava and the Austrian capital to join in the assault.

The Russians were battling to encircle the capital of Austria, which Hitler incorporated into Germany in 1938. While some forces fought to draw lines to the northeast of the capital, others battled to cross the maze of rivers and railways and attack from the southwest.

Already, Moscow dispatches said, they had captured two secondary airfields, one a few miles east of Baden, and the Schwechat field, just south of Vienna, while a third, just southeast of the city, was under fire.

Great tank battles were being fought in the suburbs of the city.

Although one Moscow newspaper said high Nazis were evacuating the city, most Soviet advisers indicated the Germans were determined to fight in Vienna as they fought in Budapest.

Japs Retard Yank Drive Toward Okinawa Capital

Guam, April 5.—(AP)—The United States army units driving toward the Okinawa island capital of Naha have been slowed by stubborn Japanese resistance, while Marines on the north side of the American wedge worked forward from three to five miles virtually unopposed.

Heavy artillery and mortar fire from well organized Japanese units yesterday put the brakes on the 24th corps drive toward Naha. It had gains on the southwestern coast to 2,000 yards, and stopped the seventh division push on the southeast coast after an advance of only 500 yards.

The 24th corps units were within 3,000 yards of Machinato airstrip and four miles from Naha. The southwest drive reached the vicinity of Nakagusuku after overrunning several entrenchments and fortified points.

Marine third amphibious corps forces continued rapid expansion of their northern lines for distances of from three to five miles, then took a brief respite to avoid over-extension of communications and supplies.

Yank forces now control more than 80 square miles, or one-sixth of the island.

With the next few days the engineers expect to blast open the Morgantze floodway to relieve pressure on the lower Mississippi and divert the waters through the 1,000-square-mile Atchafalaya basin. The floodway has never been used.

Thousands Made Homeless Due To Louisiana Floods

New Orleans, La., April 5.—(AP)—A crest still several days away, the rampaging Red river, troublesome Mississippi tributary, has driven thousands of families from their homes in Louisiana.

While this situation taxed relief agencies, army engineers kept a 24-hour patrol on all main levees of the flooded Mississippi from Cairo, Ill., to the gulf.

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WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Considerable cloudiness, followed by clearing and colder this afternoon. Clear and cooler tonight, with slight frost in west and north central portions. Friday fair and warm in afternoon.

(Continued on Page Two.)