

OVER HALF OF GERMANY IS CONQUERED

THIRTY-FIRST PRESIDENT OF NATION IS LAID TO REST



Solemnly and simply the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, thirty-first President of the United States, is buried in the rose garden in the ancestral estate at Hyde Park, N. Y. At the head of the flower banked grave is the Rev. W. George Anthony, rector of St. James Episcopal church. At the left of the grave over which the American flag is held by an

honor guard stands Mrs. Roosevelt, between her son, Brig. Gen. Elliott Roosevelt, and her son-in-law, Col. John Boettiger. Immediately behind are the four Roosevelt daughters-in-law. On the extreme left are President Harry S. Truman and his wife and daughter. (International Soundphoto.)

Truman Wants Big Five Meet

Generals Are Nominated By Truman For Promotion

President Outlines General Policy At First News Session

Washington, April 17.—(AP)—President Truman today nominated George South Patton, Jr., and Courtney Hicks Hodges to be full generals.

Patton commands the third army and Hodges the first army in the fighting in Nazi Germany. They are under the direction of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied commander-in-chief.

Washington, April 17.—(AP)—President Truman told a news conference today he will be very happy to meet the heads of the other big five Allied powers as soon as possible.

In his first conference with news-people since he succeeded Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mr. Truman said that he had not indicated any move toward a new meeting of the Allied leaders, but in response to a question he said he would be very happy to meet Prime Minister Churchill, Premier Stalin and President Chiang Kai-shek.

Long Distance Telephone Strike Seen As Possible

Truman Signs Lend-Lease; Praises Law

New York Walkout Might Be Extended Throughout Nation

Washington, April 17.—(AP)—President Truman signed the lend-lease extension bill today. In a statement, the President declared the measure a "mighty instrument of victory."

New York, April 17.—(AP)—The possibility of a nationwide work stoppage by long distance telephone operators which would tie up long lines communications was sounded today by Henry Mayer, attorney for the New York branch of the federation of long lines telephone workers.

LONDON JAMMED WITH V-E DAY EXPECTANTS

London, April 17.—(AP)—Thousands of visitors are pouring into London and jamming hotels, hospitals of being here for the celebration that will take place when "V-E" Day is proclaimed.

Cotton Firm At The Start

Table with 4 columns: Month, Pct. Close, Open, and another column. Rows include May, July, October, December, and March.

HITLER'S OWN ASTROLOGER SEIZED IN RUHR POCKET

New York, April 16.—(AP)—The British radio, in a broadcast heard by FCC monitors, said today that a Professor Krafft, identified as "Hitler's personal astrologer," was captured in the Ruhr pocket yesterday.

Konev Offensive Is Aimed At Juncture With The Americans

Clean Breakthrough By Russians Barely Averted By Germans

London, April 17.—(AP)—The Russians have torn open sectors of the German front east of Berlin, and Marshal Ivan Konev's first Ukrainian army has launched another powerful offensive across the Neisse in a drive to link up with the U. S. third army, the German high command announced today.

Earlier the Germans said Soviet airborne troops had landed less than 23 miles from the Reich capital. Transocean said a clean breakthrough by the Russians toward Berlin had been prevented. "At some points the front was torn open, but later these points were sealed off and some of them were narrowed," the propaganda agency said.

Saw FDR Stricken



The artist mentioned in news reports as being in "The Little House" at Warm Springs, Ga., when President Roosevelt was stricken has been identified as Mrs. Elizabeth Shostakoff, above, Russian-born portrait painter residing at Longest Valley, Long Island. She said that the President first showed signs of the attack just before lunch. (International.)

Take Saxony Rail Center Of Plauen

Berlin Now Being Squeezed By Armies From West And East

Paris, April 17.—(AP)—The third army captured the big Saxony rail center of Plauen today and moved within six miles of Czechoslovakia and a severance of Germany, more than half of which already has been conquered by the armies of General Eisenhower and Marshal Stalin.

The ninth army fought one of the hardest battles of the war on the flat Brandenburg plain five miles east of the Elbe to 52 miles of the beleaguered capital. The first army moved into the Berlin siege area in the Dessau area, 52 miles southwest of the capital. The Russians were reported 23 miles east of Berlin.

Leipzig was virtually encircled, but the 30,000 Nazi troops there were fighting skillfully and resolutely, subjecting the million civilians in the city to the tortures of Stalingrad. General Omar Bradley's headquarters estimated that the Allies in the west had overrun 53,000 square miles, and that the Russians had captured 38,000—a total of 101,000 square miles of Germany.

Supreme headquarters said 1,013 planes—a fourth of all aircraft the Luftwaffe is believed to have left—were destroyed yesterday. A spokesman for the U. S. eighth air force said, "The Luftwaffe has been knocked out."

The pace of General Eisenhower's offensive definitely was slowed, partly because of stretched supply lines and partly because of stout German resistance in besieged cities such as Leipzig, Bremen, Chemnitz, Magdeburg, Halle and Dessau.

On the southern flank, the Thunderbolt division of the seventh army fought in the streets of Nurnberg, second city in Bavaria, and the birthplace of the Nazi racial laws.

The 200,000th prisoner was taken from the Ruhr pocket. The eastern segment of the severed trap was wiped out yesterday and the western segment was being closed rapidly. The largest problem was the removal of prisoners, including four generals taken yesterday.

One important industrial prize captured was Merseburg, 30,000 on the approaches of Leipzig. Here was a vast synthetic oil plant, from which the Nazis once drew 50,000 tons a month.

Handfuls of miles behind the main front, General Jacques Leclerc's famous French second armored division captured Royan, and besieged Pointe de Grave in a mighty effort to cause 21,000 German troops and open the great Atlantic port of Bordeaux.

Quick Seizure Of Ie Island Is Attempted

Guam, April 17.—(AP)—American doughboys pressed today for quick conquest of Ie island, only three miles west of Okinawa so its three-runway airfield could be put into operation for stepped up bombing of the Japanese homeland.

Ie is 930 air miles from Tokyo, nicely within range of B-24 Liberator bombers. Until a few days ago, the Japanese had used Ie's strategic airfield for persistent but unsuccessful aerial attacks upon the Okinawa invasion forces. Then they crossed it with trenches to make strip unusable if captured.

Battle lines on southern Okinawa remained unchanged as the thunderous artillery duel continued. On northern Okinawa, Marines pressed their mop-up of enemy pockets of resistance, and other leathernecks moved closer to the island's northern tip.

Stock Range Still Strong

New York, April 17.—(AP)—The stock market today continued to post new highs for more than seven years, but many leaders acted a bit fatigued after their recent sharp climb. Lower-priced utilities were all over the ticker tape at the opening, with Commonwealth & Southern appearing in a single 75,000-share block unchanged at \$1. Dealings slowed after the initial burst of speed, but fractional advances predominated near midday.

Half German Air Reserve Knocked Out

1,013 Nazi Planes Destroyed Monday; April Toll Mounts

London, April 17.—(AP)—American bombers and fighters ripped into southern Germany again today as a final tabulation showed a total of 1,013 German planes were destroyed yesterday by Allied pilots during a record assault on Nazi airfields.

The new figures boosted the tally of enemy aircraft knocked out on the ground and in the air by Allied pilots in the last ten days to 2,480, which represents about half of the estimated reserve strength of the Luftwaffe at the time of the Rhine crossings.

In the first 16 days of April at least 3,121 German planes have been destroyed.

Approximately 1,000 American heavy bombers ripped Germany's railroads at Dresden and along the Czechoslovak frontier to the south today, while the destruction of the Luftwaffe was continued by fighter pilots who knocked out a total of 1,016 planes yesterday.

JAPS NO LONGER VOLUNTEER FOR 'SUICIDE' ASSIGNMENTS

Washington, April 16.—(AP)—An Army observer just back from Okinawa said today Japanese pilots no longer will volunteer for suicide flights and therefore whole squadrons are being designated by their commanders.

Lt. Col. Robert C. Williams of Spring Valley, N. Y., a ground force observer, told a news conference that one enemy pilot captured at Leyte talked freely after his rescue and capture. This pilot had "missed" his target either deliberately or unintentionally and crashed into the sea.

John Snyder Appointed As Loans Chief

Washington, April 17.—(AP)—President Truman today appointed John W. Snyder, of St. Louis, to be Federal loan administrator.

Now vice-president of the First National Bank of St. Louis, Snyder has been a close personal friend of the President for more than 25 years. He succeeded Fred M. Vinson, who was made director of war mobilization and conservation after James F. Byrnes gave up that post.

Berthing of Ships At End Of The War Planned By Navy

Washington, April 17.—(AP)—Preparations for peace, the House Appropriations Committee today recommended that the navy be given \$29,000,000 for postwar berthing of idle ships.

F. D. R.'S DEATH DELAYS NAMING OF N. C. JUDGE

Washington, April 17.—(AP)—The death of President Roosevelt is expected to delay appointment of a Federal judge for Eastern North Carolina.

President said he would have helped all he could as vice-president to get this legislation through the Senate.

When a reporter asked whether his endorsement includes the international bank fund, which is under fire by some Republicans in Congress, the President replied he was for the whole program.

Asked about legislation to extend the reciprocal agreement program, Mr. Truman said he had always been for that program. His vote in Congress, he added, would show that.

The President declined, however, to express an opinion on repeal of the Johnson act, which bans loans by private American citizens to defaulting foreign governments.

Kyushu Airfield Blasted From Air To Halt Jap Raid

Guam, April 17.—(AP)—Six separate groups of Superfortresses blasted enemy airfields on Kyushu island today with the avowed purpose of neutralizing southern Japanese bases which have been hurling suicide planes against American naval and land forces around Okinawa for a week.

It was the third day of American air raids on Kyushu airdromes, 225 miles north of Okinawa.

Carrier aircraft destroyed 109 Nipponese planes and damaged 50 in sorties over Kyushu Sunday and Monday, contributing a total of 1,674 Nipponese aircraft destroyed in a month around Kyushu and Ryuku islands. Many of them were downed in dogfights.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Scattered showers and thundershowers, not quite so warm today, followed by partly cloudy and slightly cooler tonight, showers on coast this evening, Wednesday partly cloudy and mild.

23 More Jap Ships Are Knocked Out Off China

Manila, April 17.—(AP)—Philippine-based armor knocked 23 ships out of Japan's sorely pressed merchant fleet Sunday and heavily pounded Formosa airdromes and port facilities at Dayao, on southwestern Mindanao, General Douglas MacArthur reported today.

The biggest bang was off the China coast between Shanghai and Saigon, where Yang liners sank or damaged two large freight transports and seven smaller vessels. Off Formosa they wrecked two large cargo ships

and four other vessels, including a destroyer escort.

Strong formations of Liberators bombed four airdromes on western Formosa.

Doughboys are cleaning out the Zamboanga peninsula on the southwest corner of Mindanao.

On northern Luzon, 33rd division infantrymen beat back several night counter attacks in their slow, three-way drive on Baguio, summer capital of the Philippines, and Japanese strength.