

RED ARMIES SEVEN MILES FROM BERLIN

Truman May Recall Nimitz, MacArthur To Washington Meet

President Moving Into Full Position In Allied Councils

Washington, April 20.—(AP) President Truman is moving cautiously into Franklin D. Roosevelt's seat on the council of the highest Allied military strategy.

Even before V-E day comes, Mr. Truman may be called upon to review the strategy for defeating Japan that undoubtedly was discussed at Yalta by his predecessor and Prime Minister Churchill.

In this connection, it would not be surprising to Washington observers if the new President summons Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and General Douglas MacArthur home for personal conferences before the final assault on Japan.

President Roosevelt arranged for Nimitz and MacArthur to share command of the On-to-Tokyo drive. There are no indications Mr. Truman plans to disturb this set-up.

Consequently, he may want to have the views of the field leaders as well as those of the Allied high command members here.

New Loan Head



JOHN W. SNYDER (above) of St. Louis, Mo., nominated by President Truman as Federal Loan Administrator, is the new President's first appointee. Former head of the Defense Plants Corp., Mr. Snyder is a banker and has been one of the President's intimate friends since the first World War. (International)

Acting Heads For Hospitals Are Elected

Raleigh, April 20.—(AP)—The newly-appointed State Hospitals Board of Control today elected Dr. Louis G. Beall as acting superintendent of the Morganton hospital and Dr. R. G. Blackwelder as acting superintendent of the Raleigh hospital.

Bailey, Hoey Offer Judge To President

Washington, April 20.—(AP)—North Carolina's two senators called on President Truman today to recommend a new Federal judge for the eastern district of the State, but declined to say whom they endorsed for the place.

Senator Bailey said he and Senator Hoey made a definite recommendation, but that he did not believe it would be "appropriate" to disclose the name of their choice.

The vacancy was created by the recent retirement of Judge Isaac M. Meekins.

2,000 Yank Planes Blast At Germans

London, April 20.—(AP)—More than 2,000 American war planes spread out over almost the length of occupied Germany today, bombing main line railways ahead of Allied armies from the outskirts of Berlin southward to Prague and Munich.

Cotton Trend Still Upward

New York, April 20.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened unchanged to ten cents a bale higher. Noon prices were 20 cents a bale higher to 15 lower.

Jurists From 44 Nations Frame World Court Plan

Washington, April 20.—(AP)—Jurists of 44 United Nations today completed plans for a world court and prepared to present them to the San Francisco conference next week.

has not sat since Holland was invaded. The new court would function along with a general assembly and a security council as part of the United Nations organization to be chartered at San Francisco.

British Are Within Mile Of Hamburg

Last Nazis Falling In Nuernberg

Yanks Cleaning Up Foe's Shrine City; Goebbels Sees End

Paris, April 20.—(AP)—British tanks thundered to within a mile of the Hamburg suburbs today while three American divisions were stamping out the last fanatical resistance of Nazis trapped in the walled heart of their shrine city of Nuernberg.

The seventh army penetrated the wall during the night and closed into the center of the city for the kill. American and French troops, moving in a wide circle around Stuttgart, another Nazi rallying point, captured Reutlingen, 18 miles to the south.

Third army elements inside Czechoslovakia, within three miles of Aach, were a bare 50 miles from surging Russian lines and gravely menacing the last important German arsenal in the Pilsen-Prague region, 65 to 87 miles distant.

"The decision is very near," said Hitler's propaganda chief, Paul Josef Goebbels, declaring that Germany was on the "razor's edge" of disaster.

For all practical purposes, organized German resistance on a well-defined front had ceased, and the war had become a battle of pockets. The main weight of General Eisenhower's north army command was hurled south against the national redoubt in the Bavarian Alps, and north against another redoubt enclosing the north German ports, Berlin and Denmark.

General Omar Bradley's American 12th army group was halted voluntarily on the line of the Elbe and Mulde rivers, but the south army group of General Jacob L. Devers was pushing forward in the south, and the 21st army group of Field Marshal Montgomery was besieging or imperiling all the North Sea ports.

OPA Devises Meat Subsidy

Washington, April 20.—(AP)—A revised OPA meat subsidy program designed to meet industry complaints of price "squeeze" was reported to the Senate food investigators today.

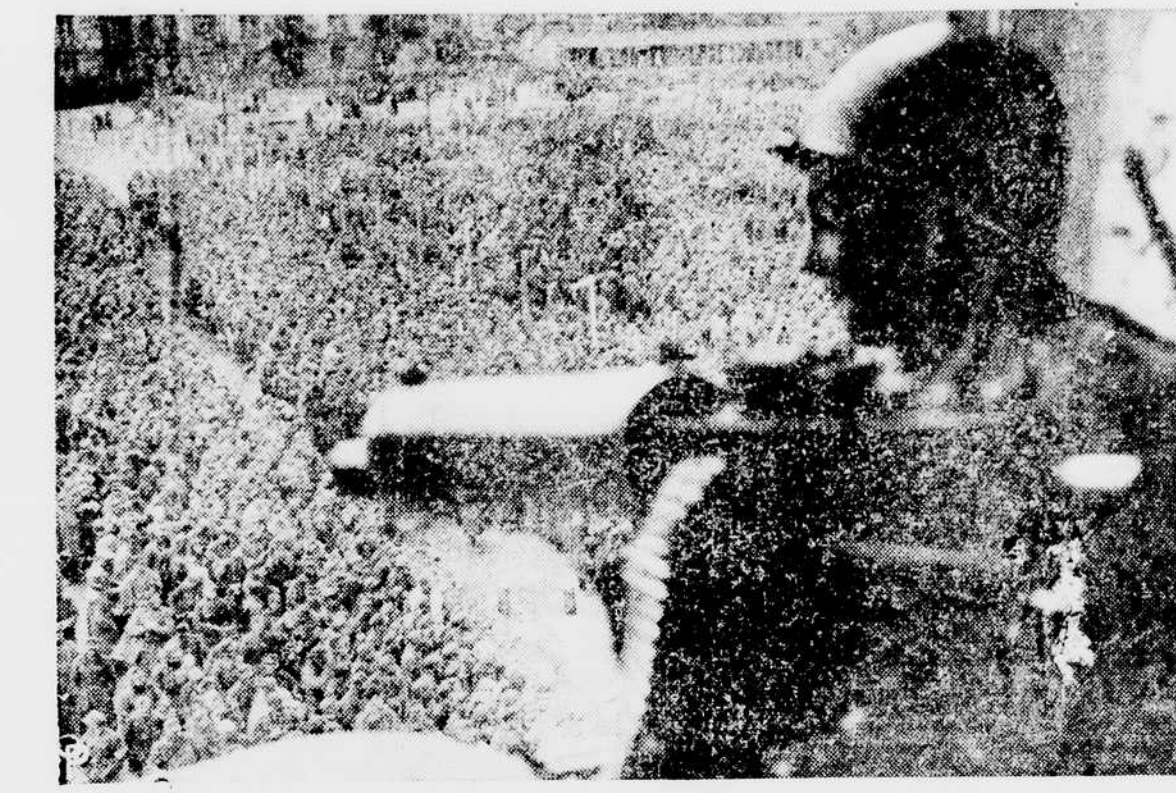
Informed quarters said the new OPA program would continue consumer prices at present levels, and accomplish the adjustments through subsidies. It may be announced this week-end.

Details of the program were not disclosed, but the general aims were set out in a letter from Wilbur LaRoe, general counsel for the National Independent Meat Packers Association, to Chairman Thomas, Oklahoma Democrat, of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Suspect Murder In The Death Of Wake County Man

Raleigh, April 20.—(AP)—Coroner Roy Banks said today there was an indication of murder in the death of Adam Reeves Rogers, 45, Wake county farmer whose partly submerged body was found by two youths yesterday in Roakey Branch, on the outskirts of Raleigh.

YANK MACHINE-GUNNER GUARDING NAZI CAPTIVES



THE OMINOUS SILHOUETTE of an American machine-gunner at his post in a former Nazi military academy in Germany covers a good number of the thousands of German captives in the drill square below. The academy, covering ten acres, houses 20,000 prisoners taken in Allied drives. (International)

Nazis Throw Final Units At Russians

Western Front Is Ignored In Effort To Check Soviets

London, April 20.—(AP)—A Berlin military spokesman said today that Russian spearheads have penetrated Hangelberg forest, seven miles east of Berlin.

The town of Hangelberg is in the center of the forest. The spokesman said this area, north of Furstenwalde, was one of the main zones of fighting.

London, April 20.—(AP)—The German high command announced today that the Russians had broken through to a depth of 17 miles in Berlin's north-eastern outer defenses and reached the Buelow area but seven miles from greater Berlin's limits.

Southeast of the capital, Marshal Ivan Konev's first Ukrainian army scored a similar success, pushing forward 16 miles from captured Cottbus on the Spree, and breaking into Palau, 43 miles from Berlin, and 59 miles from American first army siege lines at Wurtzen.

Further south, German broadcasts said, Konev's forces had rolled even deeper toward the American lines, reaching Hoyerswerda, 50 miles or less from a union with General Eisenhower's forces.

The smash to the Buelow area was from captured Wriesen. The Russians drove a wedge between Hangelberg and the north-northwest of the capital, and German broadcasts disclosed the wedge was now taking place in the main defense of Berlin.

The German's central reserves have now been thrown into the desperate battle, said the enemy radio accounts. The wedge at Buelow passed through Proetz, 13 1/2 miles northeast of Berlin, and menaced Wernsdorf, on its right, and Strausberg, on its left, as well as Bernau and Mittenwalde.

Virtually turning their backs on the American forces posed along the Elbe, 45 miles west of Berlin, the Germans said they were throwing remaining forces concentrated for a desperate emergency into the "shell of fire, steel and blood" raging along the outer defenses of eastern Berlin.

FORTRESSES OCCUPIED

London, April 20.—The Paris radio said last night that General De Gaulle had issued an order of the day announcing the fortresses of Royan and Point de Graves in the Gironde estuary area had been occupied and 2,000 prisoners taken. The French Army jumped off last week to break the German stronghold on the approaches to Bordeaux.

Powerful American Offensive Now Under Way On Okinawa

Guam, April 20.—(AP)—A powerful American offensive, supported by terrific naval and artillery shelling, was under way in full fury today against elaborate Japanese defenses across southern Okinawa.

Three U. S. divisions—possibly 55,000 troops—were hammering fiercely defended enemy positions along a four-mile front, just before the capital city of Naha.

Breaking a 13-day virtual deadlock in the south, Yanks of the seventh, 27th and 96th army divisions launched their all-out push early yesterday, and by noon had scored gains of 500 to 800 yards on both flanks. The advance was slowest in the center.

The north army's big push lifted the greatest American offensive since the Pacific war against the best defended Japanese line ever yet encountered.

On little Ie island, just off the west coast, 7th division infantrymen mopped up enemy pockets as U. S. artillery spotter planes landed on the air strip captured shortly after the bloody invasion.

Minions of the third amphibious corps fought northern Okinawa and the Motobu peninsula, but still were looking for scattered Japanese groups.

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Tekyo Area Bombed From Ease On Two

Guam, April 20.—(AP)—Japan's big Aichi aircraft, 20 miles north-west of Tokyo, was reported yesterday as B-29 Mustang fighter planes based on Iwo Jima, made their first attack on the capital area.

Eighty-four Japanese aircraft were destroyed or damaged as the planes, some of them flying under high tension wires, carried out a daring strafing attack.

Mustang pilots reported they went through heavy anti-aircraft fire and small arms fire setting to fire field, where 200 to 300 enemy fighters and bombers were lined up on the apron "like a pig's dream."

Japs Hurl 60,000 Troops Into Blows On U. S. Air Base

Chungking, April 20.—(AP)—The Japanese have hurled 60,000 troops, with 10,000 more in reserve, into their new three-pronged offensive in western Hunan, aimed at the United States 14th air force base at Chinking, a Chinese army spokesman estimated today.

Chinking is 250 miles from this wartime capital.

Stocks Stage New Recovery

New York, April 20.—(AP)—Modest recovery appeared in today's stock market, although many leaders were unable to shake off ominous signs. On the upside most of the time were U. S. Steel and Southern Pacific. Backward were DuPont and Goodyear.

Press Secretary



President Harry S. Truman has named J. Leonard Reinech (above) as his press and radio secretary. Reinech was the radio expert for the National Democratic Committee during the 1944 presidential campaign. (International)

Fresh Advances Made In Italy By American Forces

Rome, April 20.—(AP)—Eighty army troops, in an advance of three miles, have captured Porto Maggiore, 12 miles southeast of the Po valley city of Ferrara. Allied headquarters announced today.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Partly cloudy and west west portions. Fair in southeast and warmer today and tonight, Saturday, partly cloudy and mild. Light showers over north portion Saturday and in the northwest portion today.

Philippines Near Borneo Are Seized

Manila, April 20.—(AP)—American death-rays seized the 41st and 42nd islands of the Philippines today Wednesday. Capture of the Balabac, but then only 45 miles north of Borneo. Seizure of the other, tiny Cuyo in Manila bay, capped off a five-day drive of 300 to 400 Japanese troops.

Five other islands, Philippines, Guadalupe, Davao, Marikina and today's conquest.

Japanese could attack here only with bases in the Bataan sector of north Luzon, but were repulsed.

Doughboys of Mindanao advanced 22 miles on 1,000 new beachheads, moving within 50 miles of Davao, a major port on the Philippines.

Actual gains included a troop carrier, 1,200-ton transport, four landing craft, seven cargo vessels, and a transport plane from the Netherlands. East India in the Cebu coast, Ferrara was heavily bombed.

Halsey Would Kill Jap Officer For Each Yank

New York, April 20.—(AP)—Admiral William S. Halsey has called for the death of a Japanese officer "two ranks higher for every one of our men who was murdered" in the Pacific war.

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he line, ought to get his just deserts," said Halsey. "I believe that for every one of our men who was murdered, officially or otherwise, a Jap officer two ranks higher, should suffer the death penalty.

"Most of the Jap atrocity stories you hear about are not exaggerations. We have documented proof that some of our Marines on Guadalcanal were vivisected by the enemy—and I mean really vivisected. It is a horror that runs in the Solomon Islands where they subjected to 48 hours of continuous rape and then had their throats cut by the Japs. We also found definite signs of cannibalism on Guadalcanal, and on Leyte, among the Japs themselves."