

NEW SURRENDER OFFER REPORTED ON WAY

Further Rift Looms For United Nations Conference Efforts

Issues Over Poland And Argentina Rise To Worry Delegates

(By The Associated Press.) Executive committee meets 9 a. m. PWT (12 noon EWT) to discuss inviting White Russian and Ukrainian representatives here.

San Francisco, April 30.—(AP)—British-American-Russian relations tetered on the rim of another crisis today, with the Polish issue again building up behind the scenes of the United Nations conference.

Efforts of Latin American nations to have an invitation issued for Argentina to join the conference appeared to be forcing the showdown this time. Some conference leaders were privately fearful of a deadlock.

San Francisco, April 30.—(AP)—British-American-Russian relations tetered on the rim of another crisis today, with the Polish issue again building up behind the scenes of the United Nations conference.

There was much talk of the issue being brought to a head at today's steering committee session, when a measure of big power unity was required only last Friday.

One plan which the Latin American states have virtually agreed on is to invite Argentina to join the conference as a charter member.

It remained an outside possibility that the Argentine question might be dropped to avert a revival of the argument with Russia.

In addition to the steering committee meeting of all 44 delegation chairmen and the 11-nation executive committee, the fifth plenary session of the full conference was summoned this afternoon to hear another round of oratory, with Britain's Anthony Eden as president under the rotation compromise worked out Friday.

London, April 30.—(AP)—A mercy cargo of more than 600 tons of food was dropped yesterday by RAF Lancaster bombers to Dutch civilians caught behind the German lines in the Netherlands.

After several days of negotiations, presumably through the International Red Cross, the Germans agreed to give safe passage to the planes.

New York, April 30.—(AP)—A spokesman for the United Mine Workers union said today that he believed a new contract between the union and anthracite operators would be reached before midnight.

The present contract, involving 72,000 miners and 190 companies, expires at midnight, and the negotiators are scheduled to meet at 2 p. m.

The spokesman said John L. Lewis U. M. W. president, would not sign a 30-day extension of the present contract if it was ordered by the labor board.

"We are ready to sign a new contract right now. It depends entirely on the operators," he declared.

New Highway Head



A. H. (SANDY) GRAHAM

A. H. Graham Is Chairman Of Highways

Five New Members Of Board Chosen; Hackney To Remain

Raleigh, April 30.—(AP)—A. H. (Sandy) Graham, of Hillsboro, former lieutenant governor, was appointed by Governor Cherry today as chairman of the State Highway and Public Works Commission for a four-year term.

The last full-time chairman, Ben Prince, of Hendersonville, was given a leave of absence by former Governor Broughton more than two years ago when Prince went into the army.

Five new commissioners also were appointed today: Merrill Evans, Ableskie, first district; Dr. Henry W. Jordan, of Cedar Falls, sixth district;

Ben E. Douglas, of Charlotte, seventh district; J. Raymond Smith, of Mount Airy, eighth district;

John A. Goode, of Asheville, tenth district. Reappointed were John Clark, of Greenville, second district; Dr. Guy V. Gooding, of Kerns, third district; John Hamby, of Wilson, fourth district; George W. Kane, of Roxboro, fifth district; and T. Max Watson, of Forest City, ninth district.

All will take office tomorrow for four years.

New Contract With Miners To Be Signed

600 Tons of Food Dropped To Dutch Behind Nazi Line

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Clearing and mild today, followed by fair and cool tonight. Tuesday, fair and warmer.

U. S. 9th Army Makes Contact With Soviets, Trapping Nazis

Munich All But Seized By U. S. 7th

32,000 Prisoners In Dachau Camp Freed; British At Hamburg

Paris, April 30.—(AP)—The American ninth army established another contact with the Russians three miles west of Wittenberg today, creating a new untenable German pocket between their diminishing northern and southern redoubts.

The new junction was east of Dessau at Apoldorf, 51 miles northwest of Reisa, in the Dresden-Leipzig area, where the two Russian and American first armies first met and cut Germany in two.

MUNICH IS FALLING TO AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY

Paris, April 30.—(AP)—Munich was falling today to the seventh army, and the Germans said General Patton's third army and the Russians were approaching the Austrian city of Linz for a link-up that would trap Czechoslovakia and cut the severed army into three parts.

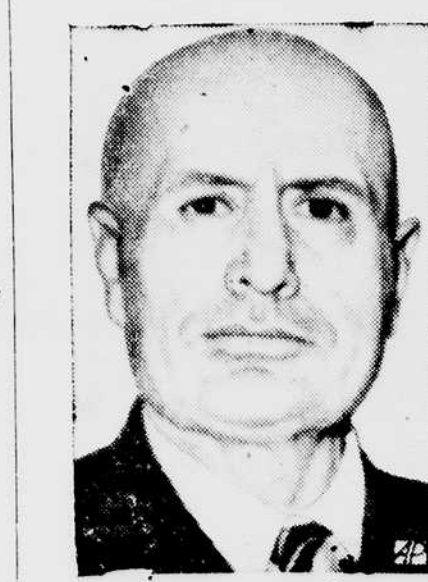
Indications at supreme headquarters were that hostilities in Europe would last—at the most—only a matter of days. High ranking Nazi survivors were reported seeking peace, while the western Allies drove south into the southern and northern redoubts, advancing almost at will in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

The notorious Dachau concentration camp near Munich was captured after 32,000 political and religious prisoners were freed. The third army crossed the Isar River and beat down the last 60 miles toward Salzburg and the 70 to 75 miles to Berchtesgaden, headquarters of the Alpine highway.

The British reached the lower Elbe river, and advanced within 20 miles east of Hamburg, greatest continental port, and second largest German city.

The Oslo radio, one of the last remaining outposts of the agonizing Reich, said Patton was approaching Linz on the Danube from the west and that Marshal Tolbukhin was driving on that city of 131,000 from the east. The armies established radio contact last week, but have been operating under partial security blackouts. Linz, a favorite haunt of Hitler, is on the last route from Czechoslovakia and its heavy industries into the redoubt.

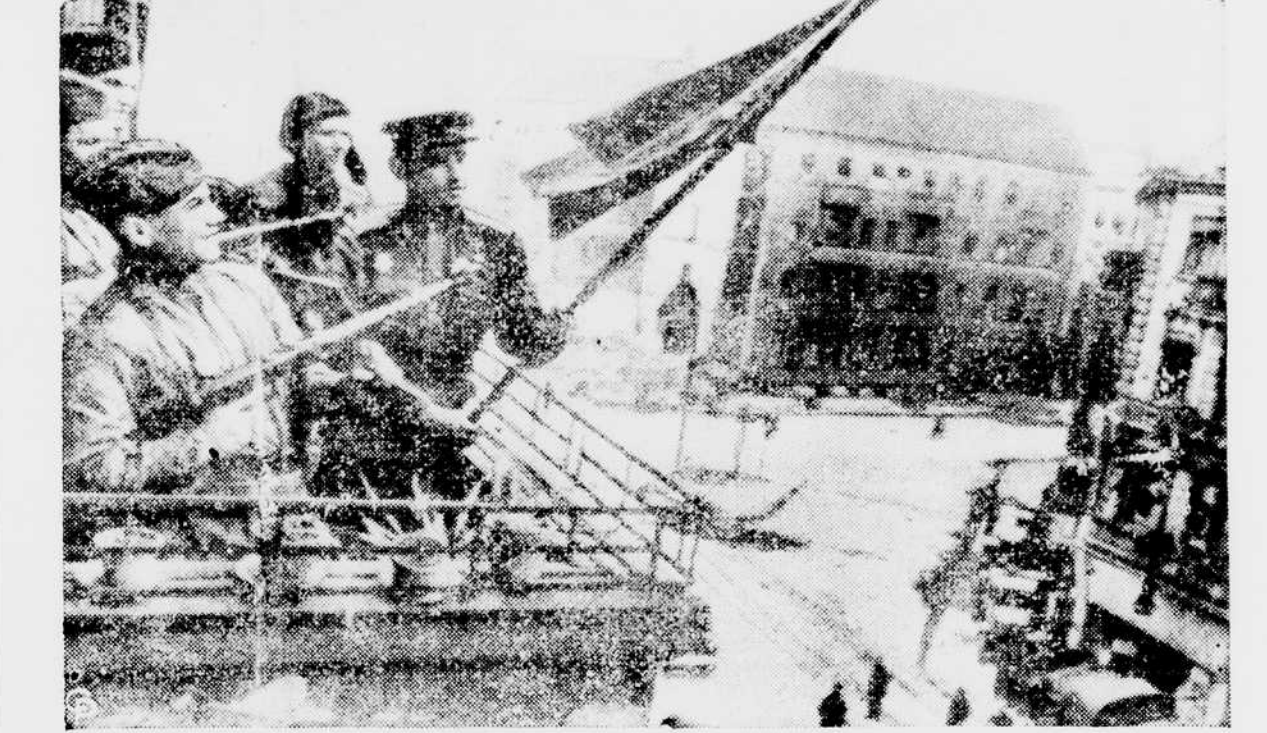
Mussolini Is Slain By Patriots



MUSSOLINI... EX-DICTATOR

Milan, Italy, April 30.—(AP)—Spat upon and cursed, the body of Benito Mussolini was the object today of the vengeful wrath of the Italian people, whom he had promised a place in the sun, but had led instead to defeat and misery.

THE RED FLAG IS RAISED IN THE NAZI CAPITAL



COMMANDER OF A RED ARMY TANK UNIT, Captain Fedor Lopatkin, lifts the Red Flag of Soviet Russia over a captured area in Berlin as some of his soldiers look on. In the background can be seen part of the buildings that were blasted in the bitter street fighting for the Nazi capital. (International Radiophoto)

Fall Of Berlin Is Imminent; Russians Seek May Day Prize

Tanks Smash Into Tiergarten Region; Nazis Admit Climax

London, April 30.—(AP)—Russian tanks have smashed into the Tiergarten, Berlin's central park, converted into an underground fortress, the Nazi-controlled Oslo radio said today.

The newspaper Pravda said the Russians were fighting in the ruins of Unter Den Linden, the spacious avenue in the heart of Berlin that terminates at the Tiergarten.

Earlier Moscow reports said the Russians were approaching the spacious park.

The Hamburg radio, chief Nazi transmitter still broadcasting in Germany, proclaimed that the hard battle for Berlin reached its climax today. Moscow dispatches said Marshals Gregory Zhukov and Ivan Konev, commanding Red armies in Berlin, were going all-out for a May Day victory and had thrown in maximum artillery and air power to reduce German resistance.

Suicidal attacks by the Red army finished the liquidation of an energetic enemy group, capturing 40,000, Moscow said.

Twenty-two miles north of Berlin near Wessendorf, Marshal Zhukov's

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Leftists Winning Solid Support In French Elections

Paris, April 30.—(AP)—France appeared today to be registering solid support for its leftist party on the basis of latest returns from the municipal elections.

The communists, socialists and new "resistance" groups, were increasing their strength, and even in the rural areas, traditionally conservative, the leftists maintained their lead.

Clark Proclaims End Of Campaign In Italy

Rome, April 30.—(AP)—General Mark Clark, 15th army group commander, announced today the virtual end of the long and bloody campaign in Italy.

Declaring that the German armies in Italy have "been virtually eliminated as a military force," he said that 25 enemy divisions have been torn to pieces in the 22-day old offensive of the U. S. fifth and British 8th armies.

He said the Germans "can no longer effectively resist our armies," but added that scattered fighting may continue.

Attack On Hospital Ship Spurs U. S. Fighting Men

Jap Bases Struck On Honshu, Kyushu By U. S. Bombers

Guam, April 30.—(AP)—American doughboys engaged over a Japanese pilot's aerial attack on a helpless naval hospital ship evacuating their wounded comrades, fought doggedly today for two airfields, their immediate objective on southern Okinawa.

The 13,000-ton vessel was readily identifiable as searchlights played on her gleaming white decks and superstructure. The Japanese pilot made several runs at her preliminary to his suicidal attack, reported AP Correspondent Vern Bengtson.

These other developments were reported in Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz' communique today.

Total American casualties on Okinawa and nearby islands were 11,413, including 1,847 killed, through Friday.

The Japanese sent about 200 aircraft in wave after wave against American forces on Okinawa from Saturday noon until 2:15 a. m. Sunday. They caused some damage to light units of the fleet, at a cost of 104 attacking planes shot down.

Mediator In New Meeting Of Himmler

Czechs On Way To Meet Allied Heads To Ask For Terms

London, April 30.—(AP)—A new surrender offer from Heinrich Himmler, presumably to all three major powers, was understood to be on its way today.

British cabinet ministers were ordered to stand by as swiftly moving developments pointed to Germany's collapse.

Prime Minister Churchill was reported preparing a statement for the Commons tomorrow—May Day—but there was no indication of what he might say.

INTERMEDIARY CONFERS FURTHER WITH HIMMLER

Malmö, Sweden, April 30.—(AP)—Free Danish press reports said Count Folke Bernadotte, reputed key intermediary, had conferred with Gustave Chief Heinrich Himmler today at Aabenraa, on the German-Danish border.

The report was circulated as two Swedish foreign office officials and a Swedish military attaché expert boarded a special plane at Malmö for Denmark shortly after their arrival by train from Stockholm.

In Stockholm the foreign office said it had the confirmation of reports that the delegation of Swedish officials might be en route to join Bernadotte in connection with a peace mission, it said the committee will attend to "humanitarian work," in which Bernadotte also is interested, in connection with refugees and internees.

The reported Himmler-Bernadotte conference was said to have been the second in two days. Himmler was said by the Free Danes to have talked with Bernadotte for three hours Sunday at Aabenraa, during which the Swedish chief was supposed to have turned over the Allies' rejection of Himmler's capitulation proposal.

CZECHS SEEKING MEETING WITH BRITISH AMERICANS

London, April 30.—(AP)—The Czechoslovak government reported today that a delegation led by puppet Premier Richard Benes of Bohemia and Moravia had left Prague in an effort to open negotiations with the British and Americans.

The report said the group, including a number of German and Czechoslovak industrialists, hoped to

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U. S. Forces Closing In Upon Davao

Manila, April 30.—(AP)—U. S. infantrymen drove on Davao city from the south and east today, supported by planes operating off a freshly-captured airfield just off the big Mindanao port city, one of the last Japanese strong points in the Philippines.

Swif American PT boats appeared in the Davao gulf for the first time Saturday and shelled Japanese positions.

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Liberated Americans Coming Home

Paris, April 30.—(AP)—Every American soldier liberated from a prison camp will go home as fast as the army can get him there, Supreme headquarters announced today.

In return for the German promise to leave the prisoners in camp in the path of the Allied advance, rather than take them along on forced marches, United States authorities agreed that all liberated military personnel would be prohibited from taking further part in the war.

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