

Yanks Drive For Brenner Pass

Russians Seek May Day Death Blow To Berlin

Conference Unity Threatened By Struggles For Leadership

Hitler Is Reported As Dead

London, May 1.—(AP)—The Hamburg radio announced tonight that Adolf Hitler was killed this afternoon in his command post at the Reichs Chancellery in Berlin.

The German dictator fought up to his last breath against bolshevism, the announcement said.

Admiral Karl Doenitz, commander of the German navy, has succeeded Hitler, the broadcast said.

The radio broadcast a statement from Doenitz, in which he said, "My first task will be to save Germany from the advancing bolsheviks. Only for this do we continue to fight."

"Give me your confidence," Doenitz appealed to the German people, "Keep calm and be disciplined. Only in that way will we be able to stave off defeat."

The announcement said Hitler had appointed Doenitz April 30 (yesterday) as his successor.

The broadcast came approximately an hour after the Hamburg radio had told its listeners that it would shortly have a grave and important announcement.

No mention was made of Heinrich Himmler, Gestapo chief who has been dickered in an attempt to surrender what remained of Germany to Britain and the United States, but was turned down because he did not include Russia in his offer.

"German men and women, soldiers of the German army, our father, Adolf Hitler, has fallen," Doenitz announced dramatically. "With deepest sorrow and reverence, the German people bows."

"He had recognized the horrible dangers of bolshevism very early and devoted his existence to the fight against it. At the end of his struggle and of his straight and unerring road, he dies a hero's death in the capital of the German Reich."

"His life was entirely given to the service of Germans. His struggle against the bolshevist storm floods was, furthermore, not only for Europe, but for the entire civilized world. The fuhrer has appointed me to be his successor. Fully conscious of the responsibility, I take over the leadership of the German people in this fateful hour."

"My first task will be to save the German people from the advance of the bolshevist enemy," Doenitz continued. "For this aim only, the military struggle continues. For as long and as far as the reaching of this aim will be impeded by the Anglo-Americans, we shall continue to defend ourselves against them, and fight them."

"The Anglo-Americans do not continue the war for their own people but solely for the spreading of bolshevism in Europe. What the German people have achieved fighting this war, and what they have suffered at the home front is a historic union."

Doenitz also addressed an order of the day to the German army.

In addressing the people, Doenitz said: "In the coming times of distress, I shall aim to give the brave German women, men and children bearable living conditions to the limit of my powers. For all that I shall need your assistance."

"Give me your confidence, because your road is my road, too. Maintain order and discipline in town and country. Let every one do his duty at his post. Only thus shall we be able to mitigate the suffering which the coming times will bring to each one of us. Only thus will we be able to avoid collapse."

"If we do what is in our power to do, the Almighty will not abandon us after so much suffering and so many sacrifices."

Speculation Is Soviets Will Stick

Molotov Loses Again On Argentine Polish Debates At Meeting

(By The Associated Press.) Executive committee meets 10:30 a. m. PWT. Full conference meets 3:30 p. m. PWT. Secretary Stettinius presiding.

San Francisco, May 1.—(AP)—The sting of a whiplash fight over Argentina and Poland drove the United Nations toward a new controversy today over who should control the critical commissions and committees of the world security conference.

This organizational problem normally might have gone with unity and good feelings on all sides. It appeared likely, however, to intensify the struggle for leadership between the United States and Russia, which yesterday cost the Soviet Union a defeat on both Argentina and Poland.

Delegates generally seemed to feel that Russia would not pull out of the conference for this or similar reasons, despite constant speculation on her future course. The Russians, it was learned, are still discussing conference plans of the weeks ahead, but pessimism about the prospects for unity among the big powers was at a new low.

There was speculation by some delegates that several of the foreign secretaries heading their delegations may go home around the 10th to the 15th of this month, when the real conference work should be well under way and may be left to lesser officials.

The situation was spotlighted yesterday. Foreign Commissioner Molotov at a public session of the full conference demanded a delay in inviting Argentina. Secretary Stettinius later insisted on immediate and favorable action on the Argentine bid. Stettinius won for the United States on two counts: The conference voted 28 to 7 against delaying action on inviting Argentina, and 31 to 4 that the invitation be extended immediately.

On the first question, Norway, New Zealand, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Greece voted with Russia for postponement. On the second, only Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Greece voted with Russia against extending the invitation.

To some delegates, gloomy over the outlook for regaining the short-lived harmony here, it appeared that the first outlines of international blocs were clearly discernible.

After the executive and steering committee overrode Molotov's objections to inviting Argentina without

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Perkins Terms Rejected By Hard Coal Operators

New York, May 1.—(AP)—Anthracite coal operators, declaring that John L. Lewis had attempted to shift from the union to the operators "blame for the hard coal strike," today issued a statement rejecting proposals by Secretary of Labor Perkins for settlement of the industry's wage dispute.

As operators and miners resumed their negotiations at 10:10 a. m., EWT, Major William Inglis, chairman of the operators' negotiating committee, issued the statement, which said:

"The proposal by Secretary Perkins would require an increase in the price of each ton of house-heating sizes of anthracite of more than one dollar. Naturally, we cannot

Executed with Duce



The firing squad which snuffed out the life of ex-dictator Mussolini also took the life of Claretta Petacci (above), his mistress since 1939. They were condemned as traitors and war criminals by a people's tribunal after they were trapped in a cottage in Dongo, near Milan, Italy. (International)

Borneo Invaded

Manila, May 1.—(AP)—An Allied invasion of oil-rich Borneo, first reported by radio Tokyo today, was practically confirmed tonight by official Australian sources.

The Japanese said Allied amphibious assault forces hit near Tarakan, great oil shipping port, off the northeast coast of Borneo, and that the Nipponese garrison was putting up a heavy fight.

A Canberra, Joseph B. Chifley, Australian treasury minister, told the House that a "Far Eastern division" of Australian troops, veterans of Middle East warfare, was in action on Borneo.

No official announcement of the reported invasion has come from General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters.

Sweden Hears Bernadotte Got No Offer

New York, May 1.—(AP)—The Stockholm radio said the Swedish foreign office announced today that Dr. Bernadotte "did not bring any new message to hand to the Allies through the ministry." The broadcast was reported by the Federal Communications Commission.

Danish underground sources in Sweden reported German troops at

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PAENNSYLVANIA HARD COAL PRODUCTION IS STOPPED

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., May 1.—(AP)—Pennsylvania's anthracite production was at a virtual standstill today as reports disclosed few, if any, of 72,000 hard coal miners at work.

Approximately 45,000 men in district one, United Mine Workers of America, failed to report; Hazleton reported about 15,000 men away from jobs in district seven, while more than 10,000 miners were idle in district nine.

Nazis Admit Battle Lost For Capital

Last Assault Is On, Marshal Stalin Says In Order Of The Day

London, May 1.—(AP)—Victory flushed Soviet troops made a supreme bid to deal the death blow to flanking Berlin on this May Day, in the words of Marshal Stalin, it was the "final assault."

A Red victory banner floated over the smoking ruins of the Reichstag, where Hitler rose to power from the ashes of the Reichstag fire of 1933. Heinrich Himmler's ministry of the interior was in Russian hands. Red army troops laid siege to the fuhrer's underground fortress in the Tiergarten. The Russians were at the Brandenburg gate, Berlin's triumphal arch, and across the Spree river from Berlin's cathedral.

Disbanding German remnants were compressed in the center of the blazing inferno that is Berlin, stubbornly keeping street crossings under a murderous crossfire, killing in the process the civilian population of the city, a supplementary Moscow communique declared.

As a German broadcast conceded that the eleven-day battle for the gutted capital was as good as lost, Marshal Stalin, in a special order of the day, said the Russian people were celebrating May Day "under conditions of the victorious termination of the great patriotic war."

His triumphant announcement, declaring the Soviet troops had "snuffed out the banner of victory over Berlin," said the Germans had lost 1,000,000 men killed and 200,000 captured on the eastern front in the last three or four months. He said the Nazis also lost 6,000 planes, 12,000 tanks and 23,000 cannon.

The last assault is on, the Russian leader said, as Soviet troops began ripping Nazi defenders of the capital into two isolated pockets, each less than nine miles square.

Other victories were being scored far to the south. The fourth Ukrainian army of General Yermolenko seized Morozshko-Ostrava, vital war center known as the "Pilsborough of Czechoslovakia." Cavalry of the second Ukrainian army plunged through the Morava river valley toward a junction that would rally to the German salient in eastern Moravia.

North of Berlin, Marshal Rokossovsky's second White Russian army and elements of Marshal Zhukov's first White Russian army sped across the German plain on a 100-mile front, shattered the enemy lines on the Stralsund-Berlin railroad and captured Grossswald and Weidag, cutting the last rail and highway connections to the island of Ustom, upon which are located the important Baltic naval base of Swinemunde and Tschernomunde, south of the V-bomb experimental station.

Bohemia Seeking Allied Occupation Without Struggle

New York, May 1.—(AP)—The Allied-controlled Luxembourg radio said today the puppet Czech government of Emil Hacha, president of the German-created protectorate of Bohemia-Moravia, was "trying to negotiate with the United States army for the occupation of Bohemia without a fight."

The broadcast said negotiations were being carried on by Richard Biener, Hacha's minister of the interior, acting under instructions of Dr. Karl Herman Frank, Reich protector for the area.

The Federal Communications Commission reported the broadcast.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Fair and slightly warmer today, followed by fair and cool again tonight. Wednesday increasing cloudiness and warmer.

NAZIS AT POWER PEAK AND TODAY



AT PEAK OF POWER GERMANY HELD THOUSANDS OF MILES OF TERRITORY



NAZI HOLDINGS IN EUROPE have been chopped away to almost nothing since Germany reached the peak of her power in 1942. The map at top (black area) shows how Hitler's hordes sprawled over Europe and part of Africa at that time. Allied victories have succeeded in driving back the German armies until little remains of the once-mighty Nazi empire. Black area on bottom map shows what is left. (International)

Peace By Saturday Hinted By Churchill

London, May 1.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill hinted today that the announcement of peace in Europe might come before Saturday, but told a packed House of Commons that he had no statement at this time.

He answered questions in the House as Swedish Count Folke Bernadotte conferred in Stockholm with Erik Bohman, under secretary of state in the Swedish Foreign Office, after a quick flight from Copenhagen.

Bernadotte refused to tell newsmen whether he had brought a new message from Heinrich Himmler. There were no signs that the Swedish Red Cross official had made a contact with Allied representatives in Stockholm, but such contact most likely would be established through the Swedish Foreign Office.

Island Near Davao City Is Occupied

Manila, May 1.—(AP)—Capture by guerrillas of Talikud Island, nine miles off Davao city, was reported today by General Douglas MacArthur, but infantrymen driving rapidly toward that big Mindanao port were bothered more by baby trap trails than by the Japanese.

Talikud, five miles long, is strategically located amid shipping lanes deep inside the harbor.

Twenty-fourth's dashboards under Major General Basore Woodruff were within 17 miles of Davao city by Sunday and moving swiftly toward the city limits, only three miles ahead.

Encountering only disorganized resistance, although they expect a stiff fight at Davao, the Yanks overran an elaborate system of anti-aircraft positions and intact coastal guns, obviously geared to repel an assault on Davao golf proper.

Instead the 24th had come over from their beachhead in Moro gulf. The 31st division is driving north in central Mindanao. On Luzon, meantime, the 37th di-

Third Army In 58 Miles Of Hideout

Eisenhower Praises Capture Of Munich; Peace Still Talked

Paris, May 1.—(AP)—The third army crashed southward to within 58 miles of Berchtesgaden today as Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch sent his seventh army from captured Munich against Imbruck and the Brenner Pass.

The third army entered Grisebach in its closest approach to Hitler's roost in the Alpine redoubt. The town near the Austrian border is 16 miles from Hitler's birthplace at Braunau, and 47 from Salzburg, eastern rampart of the final Nazi hideaway.

Patch's eleventh armored division crossed the Austrian border in force at Gochappel, 27 miles northwest of Linz—a city which the Germans said was being approached by the Russians from west of Vienna. A meeting would have in Czechoslovakia and trap all the Germans in Bohemia and Moravia.

Reports persisted at supreme headquarters that the Germans might be expected at any moment to accept the United Nations demand for unconditional surrender.

The British in the north captured Schwarzenbek and reached Salms, 10 miles due east of Hamburg and 24 miles south of Lubeck on the eastern base of the Danish peninsula. The U. S. 62nd airborne division had a three-mile-deep bridgehead over the Elbe just upriver from the Danish.

General Eisenhower hailed the capture of Munich, largest German city yet to fall, in a terse order of the day.

To every member of the Allied Expeditionary Force: The whole AEF congratulates the seventh army on the seizure of Munich, the cradle of the Nazi beast!

His appellation of "beast" possibly arose from first disclosures of horrors at the nearby Dachau prison camp, freed just before Munich fell. Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch, boss of Guadalcanal, was the commander of Munich, third city of Germany, with 12,000 residents. A few snipers were being sniped up and occasionally stray shells fell in the city.

U. S. Units At Old Capital Of Okinawa

Guam, May 1.—(AP)—Tanks of the 96th infantry division today were within 500 yards of Shuri, Okinawa's former capital and second largest city.

They dropped 75 to 80 rounds into buildings on the outskirts, and first direct fire on Shuri, said AP Correspondent Vern Haglund.

Daughters of Major General George W. Goetz's 27th infantry division captured Marchino airfield on the west coast, but were forced to call upon medium tanks to wipe heavy Japanese opposition from cave positions on their left flank.

Capture of a fifth airfield, Yonabaru, on the east coast, seemed imminent. Major General Arnold's seventh infantry division reached the northern edge of that field and heights overlooking it—but still faced the problem of seizing other hills from which the enemy could pour gunfire out the runways. The enemy counter-attacked at several points yesterday, but without success. American advances averaged 500 yards. The 96th division killed 230 Japanese in one infiltration, 200 in another.

SHARP CUTBACK OF PLANES IS PLANNED

Washington, May 1.—(AP)—A "one front" airplane production schedule, which may cut monthly output of planes by 2,000 by the end of this year, has been drafted by the army air forces. About 7,000 craft are now being turned out each month.