



INVASION!

YANKS-BRITISH LAND IN EUROPE!!!

THE INVASION OF NORTH-WEST EUROPE HAS BEGUN. Since pre-dawn this morning, Allied shock-troops have been landing on a 95-mile front between Cherbourg and le Havre on the north coast of France. The greatest military operation in history -- the blow to free Europe from Nazism.-- has at last been struck.



A terse statement from the Nazi High Command, at 2pm today, announced:

"The long-expected and long-prepared invasion of the north coast of France started about midnight, after a heavy air bombardment of the coastal defenses

"Air-borne troops landed at several places between le Havre and Cherbourg, followed by landing craft, supported by light and heavy naval bombardment.

"Our defenses were not surprised. There was bitter fighting in the sectors attacked.

"The air-borne troops were engaged before landing. The paratroops were, for the most part, captured or killed.

"In spite of the fire from enemy naval units, our Channel defenses kept up their fire on the landing craft.

"The action is now in full progress"

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All day yesterday, U.S. bomber and fighter squadrons tore at the French coast. London reported that 500 Fortresses and Liberators bombed Boulogne and Calais during the morning.

At noon, very great forces of U.S. and British medium bombers hit specialized objectives all along the coast.

During the afternoon, continuous fighter sweeps were maintained all over the north of France, on dive-bombing and strafing missions.

Last night, in immediate prelude to the landings, R.A.F. Bomber Command struck with all its weight at the coast defenses.

Before dawn, U.S. and British paratroops, glider- and air-borne forces were dropped behind the German coastal

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N-S

German Radio, late this afternoon, reported a major naval battle off the coast of Belgium.

Nazi Communique of June 5: "Despite German offer to exclude Rome from the battle area, American armored formations penetrated to the center of the city in the morning of June 4. Bitter street fighting continued until the evening."

Nazi Communique of June 6: "American armored forces were repulsed at Tivoli, fourteen miles north-east of Rome.

North Compound, evening June 6: Our grand-father guardians packed their equipment and drove off in trucks.

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defenses.

Simultaneously, Rangers and Commandos waded ashore at several points between Cherbourg and le Havre.

Over their heads roared the drum-fire shelling from scores of Allied warships. Ahead of them, dive-bombers, attack-bombers and fighters scourged the Normandy beaches.

Close behind them came the shock-divisions of U.S., Canadian and British amphibious forces.

British troops were returning to France almost four years to a day of their expulsion from those same shores. American soldiers were fulfilling their President's promise to the enslaved peoples of Europe.

Allied supporting forces are now flooding across the Channel from south-England debarkation ports in invasion ships of every type. The German communique admitted that defensive shore-fire was not able to halt the reinforcement.

Nazi motorized divisions are driving towards the beach-head from their garrison and assembly areas at Lille, Abbeville and Paris. It is yet unknown if French patriot forces have gone into action.

Few details of the actual landing, the effectiveness of German defenses, or the scale of the operation are yet to hand.

It is not yet clear if the present invasion is the intended concentration point of the Second Front.

News bulletins over the German Radio this afternoon declared that very heavy casualties had been inflicted on the first waves of the attackers. Many gliders and transport planes were claimed shot down.

Allied air support is expected to surpass by far the maximum effort provided in Italy to our Fifteenth Army Group. Eighth Air Force Bomber Command is now able to put up more than 2,000 heavy bombers in a single attack.

Fighter Command is able to maintain 1,500 sorties daily. Ninth Air Force medium bomber and fighter strength is reliably estimated at 1,000 sorties daily.

Britain's R.A.F. will contribute 1,500 heavy bombers, with an average bomb-load of seven tons each, for night pulverization of German rear-areas. A thousand R.A.F. fighters have been readied for their share of the air support. An additional 500 medium bomber sorties can be provided by the R.A.F. Tactical Air Force.

RUMANIA QUILS! JOINS ALLIES !!!

POWWOW

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FRENCH PATRIOT FORCES TREW OFF THE MANTLE OF ALIEN OPPRESSION TODAY AND PARIS OF COURSE BECAME THE CAPITAL OF AN ALLIED FRANCE. AFTER MORE THAN FOUR YEARS OF GERMAN OCCUPATION THE GREAT FRENCH CITY WAS RETURNED TO ITS OWNERS -- AND THE JOB WAS DONE BY ITS OWNERS.

The battle which in 1940 has been fully redesigned, and French fighting men have seized their capital from the German Occupation Forces. This spectacular new followed after four days of heavy street battling throughout the city.

At the close of the battle was victorious. All Vichy officials and all German Occupation authorities and their troops have been arrested. French Interior Forces are in complete control of the entire city.

Orders have been issued by the Free French authorities over Paris Radio that a full-scale uprising is to begin immediately over the whole of France.

Announcing this historic news, an Allied spokesman declared today from London:

"Paris has suffered the humiliation of being occupied by the enemy for four years and two months and now -- by the patience and courage of the French people -- has regained its freedom."

THE SECOND OF NAZIDOM'S SATELLITE ALLIES, THE OIL - AND GRAIN - RICH NATION OF RUMANIA, HAS THROWN IN THE TOWEL AND JOINED FORCES WITH THE UNITED NATIONS.

A Royal Proclamation, read over Bucharest Radio early this morning, declared that all of Rumania's resources are to be placed at the disposal of Britain, the United States and Russia -- for use against Germany.

Following the example of Italy, which surrendered little over one year ago, Rumania has officially surrendered to the Allies and Nazi Germany has lost her most important Balkan ally.

Few details were yet available of the dramatic move which closely paralleled the defection of the Kaiser's allies in the final months of the last World War. Most important fact so far to emerge is that Germany's position in the whole of south eastern Europe is now seriously jeopardized.

Her hold on Hungary, Greece and Yugoslavia as well as her political control of Bulgaria are threatened as never before.

Her access to the last remaining oil stocks of Ploesti - frequently bombed by

American armored columns in central France kept pace with their French Allies by driving a 40-mile salient eastward from Etamps to the junction of the Seine and Yonne Rivers.

From here, said London, spearheads were advancing on Troyes; 85 miles south east of Paris and less than 150 miles from the German frontier.

The cross-Seine bridgehead was extended 15 miles northward to include the town of Pontoise and was deepened to nearly 15 miles eastward.

West of the river, Allied troops cleared nearly all of Normandy, capturing Lisieux and reaching the area of Louviers, 42 miles to the east and within a few miles of the Seine.

U.S. forces swept around the south of Paris to reach the River Marne, but up to last night no British or American units had yet entered the patriot-held capital.

In the first two and a half months of the Battle for France, announced General Eisenhower's communique, between three and four hundred thousand casualties have been inflicted on the Germans.

Up to the middle of this month, 250,000 casualties were known suffered by

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PARIS FALLS (cont)

German forces in north-western France. It is thus likely that the total of killed, wounded and captured in the Normandy trap was in the region of 75,000, remaining casualties having been inflicted on other sectors of the front.

FRENCH CAPTURE MARSEILLE

Mediterranean Hq., Aug. 23...Close on news of the fall of Paris, French Interior Headquarters dramatically announced today the capture of Marseille, second city and first port of France.

A week-long guerrilla battle has raged in and around the great southern French city and patriots have each day reported an increasing circular pressure.

This morning, before the city's capture was completed, Patriot Hq. announced that 475 Germans were killed and over 4,000 taken prisoner during yesterday alone.

Allied armored forces were meanwhile plunging northward through the Rhone River Valley. Mediterranean Hq. announced that one force has driven 119 miles north of the Rhone Estuary, emphasizing that this was not a flying column but a whole army advance.

This gain brought our units to within 30 miles of Lyons and abreast of Grenoble, both cities reportedly under control of French Interior Forces.

Seventeen thousand German prisoners have been taken during the first nine days of the invasion, added Gen. Wilson's communique, and steady progress continues along all other sectors of the rapidly deepening front.

A third invasion of France was reported today by Berlin Radio, locating the landing operations around St. Jean de Luz, only a few miles north of the Franco-Spanish frontier and on the Atlantic coast.

No Allied statement was made of the progress of intention of this force, but from the German announcement, the landing appeared on a relatively small scale. It is possibly an effort to prevent the Germans from effecting a wholesale withdrawal from the southwest of France without opposition or pressure.

SHORTER ITEMS FROM THE WORLD'S NEWS

Moscow - A further 40-mile stretch of the Vistula River's west bank has been cleared and Soviet bridgeheads considerably deepened and expanded. In Rumania yesterday (before that country's capitulation)

RUMANIA CAPITULATES (cont)

the 15th USAAF -- and to the rich grain fields of Rumania is now decisively ended.

Rumania's move may also greatly influence the conduct of Germany's remaining allies of Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland whose contribution to the Axis war effort has been steadily lowered during the past months.

From a military point of view, Nazi forces in Serbia, Croatia, Albania and Greece are now three-quarters isolated from their mother country.

Young King Michael has issued a radio appeal to "all true Rumanians" to stand by the throne and to throw out the Germans. Nothing is yet known of the fate of Premier-Dictator Antonescu and his Fascist Iron Guard.

Only yesterday, reported 15th USAAF Hq., 1,200 planes from Italian bases hit targets through-out Rumania.

SHORTER ITEMS FROM THE NEWS (cont)

the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Ukrainian Armies were hammering southward without opposition. Gains of up to 40 miles south of Jasy were announced and 400 localities were claimed freed of German and Rumanian troops. Soviet pressure continued both in the Warsaw and far northern sectors of the East Front.

London -British warships, patrolling the French Atlantic coast, yesterday sank eight German ships between Brest and Lorient.

Italy Hq.-Allied air units of the Balkan command today evacuated over 900 wounded patriots from Yugoslavia to Italy

Tokyo -The last 20th USAAF raid against the southern Jap island of Kiuichi was carried out by 60 bombers Sunday night, announced a Jap communique. Ten were claimed downed.

Washington -President Roosevelt has returned to Washington after a 15,000 mile tour of the north and south Pacific

Berlin -An interAllied Conference has opened in Washington, attended by representatives of Britain, Russia and the United States, to plan post-war international security.

Berlin -Fifteenth USAAF bombers hit Vienna and un-named targets in Silesia during Tuesday. Fifty-seven planes were claimed down, U.S. Bomber Hq. admitted that "heavier air opposition than usual was encountered".

Berlin -Lord Mayor Goerdeler, implicated in the attempt on Hitler's life has been caught. But, Gen. Lindemann, another of the plotters, is still loose.

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POWwow

ALLIES INSIDE GERMANY

.....AMERICAN TANKS PUNCHED A THIRTY-MILE BRILLYN THROUGH LUZEMBOURG YESTERDAY TO DRIVE FIVE MILES ONTO GERMAN SOIL. ALLIED FIGHTINGMEN WERE GEARED AGAIN TO TOP SPEED, AFTER A THREE-DAY PAUSE TO REINFORCE AND REORGANIZE, AND THE MARCH TO BERLIN WAS BEGUN.

GREAT DAY & NIGHT RAIDS AGAINST GERMANY

London, Sept. 12.....Powerful, round the clock air assaults were kept up during the past 72 hours across the whole breadth of the breached German fortress.

Sunday night, a RAF armada pumelled the industrial Rhine town of Darmstadt, while squadrons of Mosquitos harassed the Berlin area.

During Monday, the greatest force of RAF bombers ever launched in a daylight attack struck at three synthetic oil plants in the Ruhr.

Simultaneously, over 1,000 American Forts and Libs, supported by hundreds of fighters, pounded oil targets throughout the Reich.

Aerial opposition against the American force was stiff; 175 interceptors were shot down and 77 of our planes were missing.

Fifteenth Air Force heavies were out over Hungary and southern Germany at the same time, but met considerably lighter resistance.

RAF tactical bombers and fighter-bombers, and 9th USAAF aircraft, meanwhile screened the northwest German sky and low-level attacks were carried out up and down the Rhine and in the Ruhr.

Last night, strong RAF forces kept up the unprecedented air blows with attacks across the north and northeast of Germany. Targets for these raids have not yet been announced.

The strategic raids being carried out by heavy bomber forces into Germany do not decrease the tactical support given out ground troops along the Nazi frontier. Groups of U.S. and RAF bombers are almost continuously over the battle-area.

Locale of the break-through across the old German frontier was disclosed to be immediately northwest of Trier.

Allied front reporters wired the amazing news that "the Germans are fleeing before us....blowing up bridges and mining roads..."

Although our forces were so far only five miles inside the Reich, and had not yet reached the Siegfried Line, the report revealed a gain of 30 miles within 24 hours. For it was only yesterday that advanced U.S. spearheads rolled in to the capital of Luxembourg.

British 2nd Army forces achieved a no less important though hardly as historic gain yesterday smashing the German defenses along the Albert Canal in northern Belgium. By last night, British reconnaissance units had pushed "well into Holland", although the exact locality was not identified.

Simultaneously, patrols of the American 3rd Army joined up with Gen Patch's 7th Army south of Troyes. The Allied front through easternmost France and Belgium was now one continuous line, stretching from the Swiss frontier to above the Dutch-Belgian frontier.

French troops of the 7th Army have wiped out a pocket of Germans near Dijon and other units have cut the last road from the south into the Belfort Gap where the Germans are making a stand.

On the Channel coast, Canadian troops have expanded their bridgehead across the Ghent Canal and Polish troops effected a new crossing. Twelve thousand more prisoners were taken in this area yesterday.

American 3rd Army forces are heavily engaged with strong enemy forces along the Moselle front between Metz and Nancy and the position at this point is momentary.
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varily a stalemate.

United Kingdom troops gained high ground immediately north and overlooking the city of Le Havre where the German garrison was still holding out.

In Brest, the Breton port, street-to-street fighting was going on and Allied observers declared that this city's fall may be regarded as imminent.

The Channel ports of Boulogne, Calais and Dunkirk still resisted although all were individually isolated and their reduction was equally only a matter of time.

Ostende, reiterated London, was firmly in British hands, and the German claim to be evacuating a trapped army northward to the Scheldt estuary was therefore proved false. The increasing number of prisoners coming into British and Canadian hands was also a reliable clue that the German escape-route is being mapped-up was in progress.

German newspapers yesterday had no news of the new Allied offensive into Germany and Holland as it began only a short time before their publication.

But summaries of the situation immediately before the attacks opened indicate the enemy expected an imminent resumption of the full-scale offensive.

One Berlin newspaper declared, "the situation in the west is at present in a state of flux...it is not stagnant, but there is not yet a great enemy offensive. But it should be acknowledged that the present battles are leading up to a great Allied offensive...."

A London report was quoted in the German paper, declaring "the Germans were able to reorganize their defenses because the four Allied armies are too far distant from their supply bases..." Another reported, "the Germans have formed a new defense line along the Moselle, as a result of our supply difficulties, and are disputing every yard of ground. The Germans have brought up reinforcements and are offering heavy artillery fire." Another German report claimed that the air attacks against Le Havre had killed 1,300 French civilians but that only 16 Germans had lost their lives and 34 were wounded.

French patriot forces, said Berlin, sent an ultimatum to the fortress of La Rochelle (on the French Atlantic coast) but it was refused and fighting continues. This is evidently one of the few areas where the Germans were not able to evacuate in time to escape the junction of the 3rd and 7th Armies at Troyes.

Moscow, Sept. 12.....A Red Army reconnaissance force crossed the East Prussian frontier yesterday, carrying out an extensive patrol, then withdrew to the main Soviet lines only a few miles east of the border.

All other sectors of the East Front were quiet, although Berlin reported spasmodic Soviet attacks all along the line.

Tito's Guerrilla Army, marching east to meet the Soviets at the junction of the Serbian-Rumania frontier, cleared several more towns and villages in northern Serbia yesterday.

In the Rumanian province of Transylvania, Soviet forces cleared more roads on the way to Klausenberg in southern Hungary.

Berlin reported more terms of the Russo-Rumanian armistice today. The Rumanian Army is being disbanded and formed into labor battalions to reap the harvest and the Rumanian province of Moldavia is to become a Soviet republic.

Bulgaria's armistice terms were quoted by Berlin as (1) a complete occupation of the country by Russian troops, (2) all Bulgarian shipping to make port immediately, (3) all political and war prisoners to be released immediately, (4) all anti-Jewish laws to be annulled, and (5) a large war indemnity is to be paid to Russia.

SHORTER ITEMS FROM THE WORLD'S NEWS

Italy Hq. - The towns of Prato and Pistoia, northwest of Florence, have been captured by the 5th Army. Heavy fighting continues near Rimini.

Pacific Hq. - A U.S. naval and air task force attacked the Philippines last week, wiping out an entire Jap convoy of 52 vessels and destroying 63 Jap planes. Tokyo reported heavy air attacks against Mindanao, Palau and Yap Islands, claiming 32 planes destroyed. Tokyo also reported another B-29 raid against southern Manchuria, claiming 40 bombers for a loss of 6 fighters.

London - One RAF pilot chalked up a total of 60 "kills" against the German rocket-bombs (or "doodle-bugs" as known in London) and one night-fighter squadron accounted for 212 during the raids. Heaviest hit sections of London were Croydon, Lewisham and Beckenham.

Quebec - Attending the 2nd Quebec Conference, which will plan the destruction of Japan as the 100 planned Germany's end are nearly all the British and American staff chiefs with Churchill and F.D.R.



SIEGFRIED BREACHED

ALLIED SUPREMACY, SEPTEMBER 15.....

Yank fighting-men burst through the vaunted Siegfried Defense Line on the German frontier yesterday, shattering its chain of gun emplacements and encircling the city of Aachen, announced Gen. Eisenhower's Headquarters. Nazi's last perimeter defense has been breached. The road to the Rhine and Hitler's industry-packed Ruhr lies before our armies.

GREAT NEW LANDINGS IN PACIFIC

Pacific Hq., Sept. 15..... American amphibious forces struck westward towards the Philippines today with two great landings on Palau and Yap Islands. Latest battleships of the U. S. Navy covered and prepared the landings, disclosed a communique from the joint headquarters of General Douglas MacArthur and Admiral Chester Nimitz.

The Japs were reportedly taken completely by surprise and initial losses were described as very light. No planes or ships were lost during the first 12 hours of the landings.

Admiral Chester Nimitz' Marine forces went ashore on Palau and Yap Islands, 1,200 and 750 miles respectively from our latest landings on Guam Island.

Simultaneously, U. S. Army forces went ashore on Marot Island and Huala-Sara, both further west towards the Philippines.

A naval and air assault unparalleled in the Pacific to date heralded the new amphibious operations. Five hundred Jap planes were destroyed and 173 vessels sunk or badly damaged in the terrific air-sea hammering preceding the landings.

Included in naval squadrons supporting the operation, disclosed Washington were America's latest battleships of the Wisconsin Class (57,000 tons).

The new landings brought American troops to less than a thousand miles from Manila, scene of military disasters in the first days of the war. The Japanese hold on the Caroline Islands, including the naval base at Truk, is now completely encircled and our forces have jumped half-way to the Dutch East Indies.

American tank spearheads, under a sky dark with aerial artillery, punched thru the network of pill-boxes, traps and gun emplacements southeast of Aachen and nullified in a day the whole Nazi defense system on the western frontier.

Simultaneously, British and American divisions rumbled into Germany at a new point, capturing the Belgian city of Maasticht and crossing the border north of Aachen.

By nightfall, these forces were six miles inside the Reich and had linked up with U. S. units east of Aachen to encircle the city.

Allied Headquarters announced that our forces were on the outskirts of the city and London military observers declared its fall to be imminent.

The Gestapo has fled from this area, added front reports, and the Allied Military Government has already moved in and is in operation.

Along the Moselle front U. S. 3rd Army forces pushed forward to even out an inward bulge in our line. One column has driven 37 miles during the past two days from Neufchateau to capture Epinal in the Vosges Mountains.

Another force, using the bridge-head across the Moselle as a starting point, moved 16 miles southeast of Nancy to the area of Luneville where strength is being built up to cross the Meurthe River.

The gains on this sector lengthened the Allied front along the Moselle River to 150 miles, from immediately west of Trier to Epinal. Moreover, the German 19th Army was further threatened on its right flank by our southward driving columns.

In the northernmost Belgium, British and Army forces moved across the Scheldt

Canal towards the river estuary northeast of Antwerp, across which the Germans are still withdrawing into Holland.

Berlin's communique today admitted the loss of Maastricht and spoke of an Allied offensive between that city and Aachen.

"In this sector, the Canadian 1st, the British 2nd and American 1st Armies have begun their break-through offensive", added a radio commentator.

"South and southeast of Aachen", continued the German report, "the Allies succeeded in breaking through the out-post positions of the West Wall".

Very heavy fighting was claimed in progress in the Nancy area and around Belfort where the American 7th Army is pushing into the Burgundian Gap. But of this battle, Berlin declared that the 3rd and 9th U. S. Armies were fighting only to gain jumping-off positions for an offensive through Alsace into southwest Germany.

Brest, Boulogne and Cap Gris Nez were claimed still holding out, although it was conceded that only a few fortresses were left in Brest which has been burning for several days.

In contrast to the Allied report of "no hostility and no fear" exhibited by the Germans in Eupen yesterday, Berlin Radio claimed that "American troops who entered Eupen met only hate and disdain. The population", said the German report, "is hostile and shows no cooperation".

Where Berlin obtained such information is difficult to explain, since by German admission the town has been in U. S. hands since yesterday.

German propagandist dressed further florid descriptions of the terrible conditions existent in France since Allied occupation. Said one report: "In Paris there is a great night-life, plenty of Champagne -- but no condensed milk for the babies...."

SOVIETS MASS AT EDGE OF WARSAW

Moscow, Sept. 15..... While a steady artillery barrage across the broad Vistula River pounded German positions in Warsaw, Red Army divisions massed only one half mile from the city for a final offensive to clear it of the enemy.

Lublin Radio has broadcast to Polish patriots inside the capital, praising them for their martyrdom and telling them "help will arrive soon".

Russian divisions, following the capture of Praga, are separated from Warsaw only by the Half-mile stretch of the

Vistula River. Earlier last month, Red Army tanks actually crossed the river and drove into the city, but were thrown out after hard German counter-attacks.

Berlin's communique spoke of the battle for Warsaw, admitting the loss of Praga and describing increasing Soviet pressure on three sides of the Polish capital.

But the chief German interest today was focused on the front between Wroclaw and the East Prussian frontier where 40 Russian infantry divisions, heavily supported with artillery and dive-bombers, were engaged in an all-out offensive.

Strong Soviet attacks were also in progress between Sanok and Sandomierz, at the southern end of the central Polish line.

In Finland, declared a London report the Germans have attacked the Finns and attempted to seize an island in the Baltic. London believed that the Germans were trying to maintain their line in Finland and that heavier fighting would soon spread throughout the country.

In the Balkans, where Soviet and guerrilla forces are engaged in a joint offensive to clear Yugoslavia, 500 US heavies supported the operations with widespread attacks against enemy concentrations.

Athens airfield in Greece was heavily bombed and a large number of transport aircraft destroyed on the ground.

SHORTLY TAKEN FROM THE WORLD'S NEWS

London - A message from Gen. Eisenhower's Hq has been broadcast by the BBC to Denmark, calling on them to collect military information and to protect vital installations against German demolitions. "Hinder enemy movements..... the day of liberation is near", added the message.

London - Long-range flying bombs were again over southern England and London last night. A Ministry of Home Security communique disclosed today that through air bombardment, 107,000 houses have been destroyed in Britain and 170,000 damaged. Flying-bombs destroyed and damaged an additional million homes, although damage to many was slight.

Italy Hq. - Eighth Army pressure is increasing against Rimini, 1 1/2 miles to the north of our forward positions. Fifth Army divisions are meeting heavy resistance. Berlin spoke of a major Allied offensive in progress, with its focal point near Coriano and Pistola, north of Florence.

Berlin - The Allies intend to demand Germany's surrender after the Quebec conference, forecast Nazi writers.

PATTON DRIVING INTO SAXONY; ALLIES HOLD 100 MILE FRONT ON ELBE

London, Apr 13....Patton's armored columns were well beyond the Saale River today, driving thru Saxony toward Dresden. Further north, a 100 mile front was established on the Elbe. Allied forces ranged along a 150 mile front from Wittenberge to south of Zeitz are 90 to 125 miles from Soviet troops on the Oder and Neisse Rivers.

Armored units of Patton's 3rd advanced a total of 48 miles from the Jena area today into the industrial region of Saxony, contained in the triangle formed by Halle, Dresden and Plauen. The town of Zeitz, 13 miles southwest of Leipzig, was entered after a 20 mile advance. This spearhead then pushed 28 miles further east to reach and cross the Saale River northwest of Chemnitz and only 35 to 40 miles from Dresden. Jena, scene of Napoleon's defeat of the Prussians 150 years ago, was captured. Erfurt has been cleared. 1 column mopped up 150 towns and villages in 24 hours.

Further north, the Elbe River has been reached on a 100 mile front. Some units of the 9th gained the Elbe only 55 miles from Berlin. British columns, advancing 60 miles in 24 hours, reached Tangermunde on the west bank of the Elbe, 55 miles from the German capital and 30 north of Magdeburg. Tangermunde has been entered and by-passed. According to Berlin, 2 fast British spearheads driving from north of Brunswick reached Salzwedel and Wittenberge. Salzwedel is 25 miles southwest of Wittenberge. These towns were not mentioned by London.

1st Army units on Patton's north flank are just 7 miles from Leipzig in the area east of Merseburg, where Berlin reported that the Saale had been reached. Other elements are closing on Halle, northwest of Leipzig, in the advance from Eisleben. Yesterday Hodges' 1st took 25,000 POWs, mostly in the Ruhr, to make their total 80,000. The Ruhr city of Duisburg was captured. Berlin disclosed that a thrust on the southern flank of the industrial area had advanced 16 miles northwest from Olpe to Ludenschied. The pocket is only 20 miles wide between this city and Witten, on the Ruhr River.

In the south, Patch's 7th continues to gain ground toward Burenburg. French 1st Army troops are approaching Stuttgart.

Canadian forces in Holland have cleared 1/2 of Arnhem and are pushing forward across the plains from their Issel bridgeheads. Berlin revealed that Canadian units had forced a bridgehead across the River near Deventer, and admitted that Recco thrusts had reached the Orange Canal northeast of Meppel, 40 miles south of Emden.

British units pushing northward along the east bank of the Ems River were reported only 10 miles from the port of Emden. There are no details of the drive toward Hamburg from the Bremen area.

On the completion of the 1,000th bridge since "D"-day of the Rhine offensive, Montgomery declared today, "The German Army is completely and utterly finished. We have nearly 2,000,000 POWs, and will continue to cut off chunks of the Reich until the end."

GERMAN COMMUNIQUE 1400 Apr 14 -- In northwest part of front, fighting on Issel, Ems, Weser and lower Elbe. On Elbe southeast of Magdeburg, counter-attacks in progress against Allied bridgehead. In Ruhr, on Rhine and in the mountain areas, fighting increased in severity. Superior Allied forces repulsed. In central Bergland Allies thrusting north and southeast. Recco forces reached Saale at Halle, are moving forward on both sides of Zeitz. In Harz Mts, American assaults from west and south, entrance into mountains was frustrated. Fighting continues southeast of Thuringian Forest. Heavy defensive fighting at Saale River between Jena and Saalfeld (20 southwest Jena). South of there, weaker attacks against Frankenburg (unlocatable). In Main triangle at Bamberg, river crossed and city entered from east. In Steiger Forest, attacks from west repulsed at Gerolzhofen (11 mi. southeast Schweinfurt). Stronger attacks between Neustadt-on-Asch and Heilbronn, further advance hindered by German attacks in flanks and rear. In northern part of Black forest and in Rhine plains, attacks continue. Several kilometer gains south of Rastatt, which was lost.

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WEST FRONT (continued)

COMMENTARY 1400 Apr 14 -- New bridgeheads over Elbe and Saale, bridgehead established at Saale-Elbe junction, counter-attacks in progress. Further south, broad front established on Saale between Elbe and Weissenfels, crossings repulsed. Area south of Weissenfels now focal point of West Front battle. Naumburg in German hands, recce thrusts on both sides of the city and in area of Jena pushing east. Fighting at Regau (7 miles southsouthwest Leipzig), Zeitz and along autobahn further south. Heavy fighting further south at Adolstadt and Saalfeld.

EAST FRONT - London Apr 13 -- A Soviet Order of the Day announced that Vienna has been cleared. During the recent drive into Austria, 11 German tank divisions were routed, and 1400 tanks and self-propelled guns destroyed as well as 2250 field guns. 130,000 POWs were taken. A 2nd Order of the Day revealed that the Soviets have crossed the border into Moravia and captured Goding on the west bank of the March River. This town lies 35 miles southeast of Brunn, capital of Moravia Province.

GER COMM 1400 Apr 14 -- Fighting on both sides of upper Raab River. New Russian forces in action east of (?) and southeast of St. Polten (32 miles west Vienna). Vienna garrison resisting superior forces on west bank of Danube. Small Russian gains in March triangle. Several attacks between March and the source of the Nitra thrown back. Nothing new on remainder of front, except frontland peninsula, where 20 Russian divisions are attacking with strong artillery and air support, achieving several breakthroughs.

LONDON Apr 13 -- Messages of tribute and condolence on the death of Pres. Roosevelt have been reaching Washington from all the United Nations. Roosevelt was taken to the White House today and will be buried at Hyde Park on Sunday. Tomorrow was set aside by Pres. Truman as a day of mourning. Roosevelt was stricken yesterday at Warm Springs while being sketched by an artist. He was overcome with a severe headache, soon became unconscious, and died in a few hours.

Congress met today, voted condolences to the President's family, and adjourned. In his 1st official proclamation, Truman said, "I earnestly recommend that the people assemble in their places of worship to pray for him whose death we mourn." Churchill told the House of Commons, "It is not fitting to continue our work today. We can show our respect by adjourning." It is the 1st time Parliament has ever adjourned for a foreign statesman. Churchill and H. M. The King sent messages to the family, the country and the new President.

From Moscow came Stalin's message, "The Soviets greatly valued Pres. Roosevelt as the organizer of the fight for freedom." De Gaulle said, "In the eyes of ~~the~~ mankind, Roosevelt was the symbol of the United Nations fight for freedom." Gen. Eisenhower pledged unremitting action to finish the job.

Harry Truman is our 33rd President. The Vice-Presidency is vacant, but Stettinius as Sec'y of State is next in line. Truman conferred with Cabinet and military heads today as well as representatives of the United Nations. He will speak to a joint session of Congress tomorrow. Truman has stated, "I will make every effort to carry on as I believe the President would have done." The Cabinet is staying on. Truman announced that the San Francisco Conference would be held as scheduled.

AIR FRONT - London Apr 13 -- 8th USAAF heavies smashed at rail yards at Neumunster, north of Hamburg today. Berlin and Munich were hit 3 times during the day. There was no opposition from the Luftwaffe over the Ruhr pocket. 266 German planes were destroyed today, mostly on the ground.

LONDON - Apr 13 -- Bohol Island, north of Mindanao, was captured today. American subs have sunk 15 more Jap ships. B29s hit Tokio.

The 8th Army offensive in Italy, launched $\frac{1}{2}$ from the Adriatic to south of Bologna is meeting stiff resistance, although German units on the right flank south of Lake Comacchio seem to be partially disorganized. 5th Army troops on the Ligurian coast are continuing their advance toward Spezia.

POWOW

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WAR ENDS

Barth, May 8, 1945.... Today is "Victory in Europe" day. After five years and eight months of fighting the battle of Free Mankind, the United Nations have crushed and utterly defeated the Forces of Darkness represented by Nazism. Germany accepted Unconditional Surrender last night, and although official Allied announcements were delayed until today, the United Nations went wild with joy.

Truman and Churchill will broadcast this afternoon, and the King of England will speak this evening. In a congratulatory message to Eisenhower, the King said, "Many months ago you led the Allied Expeditionary Force across the English Channel, carrying with you the hopes and prayers of many peoples. All the world now knows that this force has accomplished its mission with a finality never achieved before..."

Czech Radio broadcast this morning that the Germans in Prague and the whole of Bohemia have surrendered unconditionally. The liberation of Norway was announced by members of the Norwegian Home Front. The Danish Parliament will hold its first session in over five years tomorrow.

The formal proclamation of V-E day did not come as a surprise, for the world knew the end was imminent as it watched the heads of the Nazi Hydra being lopped off, one by one. German Armies in Italy, Northern Germany, Denmark and Holland had surrendered unconditionally, and reports from the last resistance centers of Czechoslovakia and Norway pointed to a final collapse.

The race to surrender began with the mysterious death of Adolf Hitler and the fall of Berlin. Goebbels, Goering, and other Party men met obscure, violent deaths or disappeared completely.

Admiral Doenitz became ersatz-Fuhrer and established Headquarters in Copenhagen because Germany was no longer in German hands. But he couldn't pick up the pieces as fast as they fell, so he called in his U-Boats and told his Generals, who were doing it anyway, to surrender their Armies.

Meanwhile, it was open season on New Order satellites. Back in Italy, the Conqueror of Ethiopia, Il Duce, was lying beside his mistress for the last time -- on a stone slab in a Milan mortuary. Petain came to France to stand trial for High Treason. Laval squirmed in Spain, refusing to return to the France he betrayed. Quisling nervously warned Norwegians that his was the only legal government and promised to resist all attacks.

The momentous news which thrilled the outside world was taken in stride by Stalag Luft I, for Naziism's death throes were almost anti-climatic to the frenzied excitement of liberation by our Russian Brothers-in-Arms. Crowds were dancing in the streets of London and Paris, and America was mad with excitement, but life had picked up its pulse-boat for us again on April 30th when our seedy, disillusioned Volksturm guards fled for their lives toward the Allied lines.

But now, with other free men, we turn our thoughts toward the World that is to be, and to the San Francisco Conference from which its outline will emerge. We are thinking as well of the War against Japan, for that nation now stands alone, its Asiatic Fascism doomed to fall before the concerted might arrayed on the side of Freedom. Victory in Europe has released vast forces for this task.

We at Stalag Luft I are ready to play our part in the events foreshadowed by this day, ready to paddle out of Barth's stagnant backwater into the main stream. We came to Europe and learned to appreciate America. We fought and learned why we were fighting. In retrospect, we are proud of our share in bringing about this glorious occasion. Our planes brought the War home to the enemy. We were the Vanguard of Victory.