

**MUNICH BATTLE  
IN FULL SWING**

**70,000 U. S. Troops Fighting at Edge of Nazi Party's Birthplace**

**ANOTHER JUNCTION MADE**

**BY AUSTIN BEALMEAR**

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

A hard battle was in progress in the south for Munich, birthplace of the Nazi party and largest German city yet entered by the Americans.

The new junction was east of Dessau at Apollendorf, 51 miles northwest of Reisa in the Dresden-Leipzig area where the Russians and American First Army first met and cut Germany in two. American forces were released for other duties by the new meeting.

**Junction Imminent**

The Germans said another junction was imminent between the American Third Army and the Russians, both of which were advancing on Linz in Austria from west and east. A meeting in that Austrian city would lop off all the unconquered Bohemian and Moravian sections of Czechoslovakia and cut the enemy into three pockets.

Five divisions of the American Seventh Army, probably 70,000 men in all, were engaged in a stiff battle in the fringes of Munich where Hitler staged his abortive putsch in a beer hall back in 1923.

The Nazis resisted with a curtain of steel, hurled from batteries of antiaircraft, leveled as field artillery. The 42nd, 45th, Third, Fourth, and 20th Armored Divisions bored into the Bavarian capital from the north and west despite the murderous fire.

**Contact Established**

The Seventh Army moved within 13 miles of Innsbruck, 33 of the Brenner Pass, and about 125 of the Allied armies in Italy—where German military power was declared broken.

Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's Ninth Army established contact with a Russian patrol at 7:30 a. m. battlefront time, at Apollendorf, three miles west of Wittenberg. The Americans were of the 125th Cavalry and were led by Capt. Adolf C. Floehn, Battle Creek, Mich.

The patrol immediately started making arrangements for Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon of the Thunderbolt (83rd) Division to meet the Russian commander. The 83rd was last reported in the Elbe bridgehead where Zerst was captured yesterday. The Ninth Army had been waiting impatiently on the Elbe for two weeks, while the Russians proceeded with the grim task of reducing Berlin, 45 to 50 miles west.

The junction released American forces for other duties. AP  
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