

# 1st Army Links Up With Reds



**COMRADES IN ARMS:** In these U.S. Signal Corps photos, first to reach London, the dramatic, historic juncture of U.S. and Soviet troops is shown. Left, Russian and 1st Army representatives, carrying their respective country's flags, advance together following their link-up. Maj. Gen. E. F. Reinhardt, CG of the 69th Division (arrow) chats with the Russian commander. Right, 1st Lt. William D. Robertson, of Los Angeles, the first American officially to greet Soviet troops, embraces Lt. Alexander Sylvasenko.

## THE STARS AND STRIPES

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in the European Theater of Operations  
SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1945

### 3rd Captures Regensburg, Enters Austria

Driving into Hitler's national redoubt on a wide front, American troops have entered Austria, captured Regensburg and advanced to within six miles of Augsburg and 25 miles of Munich, dispatches reported yesterday.

At 6:00 PM Thursday, 11th Armored Division tanks, spearheading Gen. Patton's 3rd Army thrust southeast toward a link-up with Soviet forces reported pushing along the Danube Valley from Vienna, crossed the frontier into Austria, sixth European country to be the scene of Allied operations under Gen. Eisenhower's command.

The entry was made at a point two miles south of the juncture of the German, Czech and Austrian borders, following a nine-mile advance which brought the Americans to within 85 miles of Marshal Tolbukhin's troops, last officially reported to be 55 miles from Austria's industrial city of Linz. Patton's troops are about 30 miles from Linz.

Virtually no ground opposition met the tanks on the way to Austria, but enemy planes were reported to have struck at the U.S. columns, whose guns beat off the attacks.

#### Sweeps Forward 12 Miles

Another 11th Armored unit entered Gegenbach, four miles south of the spot where Austria's frontier was crossed, after a 12-mile gain.

Regensburg, long a target for Allied planes because it housed great German plane plants and was a main rail junction, fell yesterday to 3rd Army forces, which now control 80 miles of the Danube from Ingolstadt to Deggendorf. Once known as Ratisbon and a battlefield in the Napoleonic wars, Regensburg was a stronghold on the road to Munich, in the center of the southern redoubt.

Infantrymen captured Ingolstadt, crossed the Danube there and pressed on southeast to within 40 miles from Munich.

Farther west and south, U.S. 7th Army troops were only 25 miles from Munich after what was described as an 18-mile breakthrough at one point. Augsburg, northwest of Munich, was six miles from some American units.

Augsburg is the site of a factory said to turn out about half of the Reich's U-boat Diesel engines.

French troops have split the German forces in the Black Forest pocket.

3rd Army troops, scooping up 14,300 prisoners, also captured a 15-coach private train said to be for use of Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, German commander in the West, or what used to be the Western Front.

9th Army forces on the Elbe River took 4,461 prisoners Thursday. The Americans didn't have to work to do it, either—the Germans, anxious to escape the Russians, streamed into the U.S. positions and gave themselves up.

British troops in Bremen were advancing for the first time against practically no opposition.

#### Nazi PWs for Belgian Mines

BRUSSELS, Apr. 27 (Reuter)—The Allied military authorities have agreed to hand over to the Belgian government a number of German prisoners of war to be used in Belgian coal mines, it was officially

### Just Like Us

## Reds Are Screwballs, Too

By a Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

**Gen. KONIEV'S UKRAINIAN ARMY**, Apr. 26 (delayed)—There was a mad scene of jubilation celebration on the east and west banks of the Elbe at Torgau today as infantrymen of Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' 1st Army swapped K-rations for vodka with soldiers of Marshal Koniev's 1st Ukrainian Army and congratulated each other, despite the language barrier, on the link-up which means the defeat of the German Army as a fighting unit.

Men of the 69th Inf. Div. sat on the banks of the Elbe in the warm sunshine today with no enemy in front or behind them and drank wine, cognac and vodka while they listened to their new Russian friends play accordions and sing Russian songs.

Russian soldiers, strong and young looking, built a little heavier and shorter than most Americans, inspected American equipment as Americans fired the Russian automatic rifle. When the day was over many a U.S. soldier walked back to his jeep in Russian boots, while the Russian soldier he traded with fought with the straps on his newly-acquired GI shoes.

The Russian uniform consists of high, fitted leather boots, not unlike those the German officer wears. His pants are like riding breeches of a light cotton material. His blouse is a tunic that buttons to the neck. His cap is an overseas cap spread farther apart at the top than the American one. Many Russian soldiers wear



**TOVARICH!** Wasting no time getting acquainted is Lt. H. Leo Pearlman, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who chats with a Russian WAC, soon after the historic U.S.-Soviet link-up near Torgau.

medals of various descriptions. They seem to wear the medals themselves and not ribbons.

If today was not an extraordinary day, (Continued on page 2)

## U.S. 5th Army Takes Genoa; Patriots Rule Liberated North

**ALLIED HQ, Italy**, Apr. 27—U.S. 5th Army troops tonight entered Genoa, important naval base and second largest Mediterranean port, while on the eastern flank of the Italian battlefield, both the 5th and British 8th Army crossed the Adige River, 25 miles north of the Po, at many points.

As town after town north of the advancing 15th Army Group fell to partisan forces, the Italian government announced that, by agreement with the Allied command, governing responsibility in those areas had been turned over to the Northern Italian Liberation Committee.

### Report Musso Arrested At Swiss Frontier

Benito Mussolini and two leading Fascist officials, Alessandro Pavolini and Roberto Farinacci, were arrested by customs guards at Nesso, on the Swiss-Italian frontier, according to a Milan broadcast quoting La Libertà, newspaper of the Milan National Liberation Committee.

Pavolini is secretary general of the present Fascist party, while Farinacci, a former Fascist party secretary, is Mussolini's delegate to the German military HQ in Italy.

mittes pending the arrival of Allied troops.

The presence of 5th Army troops at Genoa, 50 miles north of Spezia where they were last reported on the Ligurian coast, was announced in a special communique which said that "on the whole, resistance has been slight."

broadcasts by the Free Milan Radio which placed Allied troops as far north as the big industrial center of Brescia, midway between Milan and Verona. It was announced, however, that troops in the Po Valley in the center of the line "continued to make rapid progress" and had captured Piacenza, key crossing 35 miles southeast of Milan.

Milan Radio, demanding the unconditional surrender of all German troops in Italy, said the entire Italo-Swiss frontier from Como to Domodossola was in the hands of the patriots.

In a message to partisan groups in the north, Gen. Mark Clark, 15th Army Group commander, declared: "In a few more days, the Germans will be thrown out of your territory." Pointing out that it might be some time before Allied forces reached their areas, Clark called on the patriots to maintain law and order in their respective territories.

Fighters and fighter-bombers of the MAAF yesterday continued their attack on retreating enemy units north of the Po.

#### 8th Remains Idle

The 8th Air Force was inactive for the

## Historic Juncture At Torgau; Berlin Fight Still Rages

The long-awaited link-up between American and Soviet forces, which occurred in the area of Torgau, 30 miles northeast of Leipzig on the Elbe River, and severed the heart of Germany, was officially announced last night in a joint communique issued simultaneously in Washington, London and Moscow, and proclaimed to the world in special messages by President Truman, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin.

The communique said that "firm contact" had been established between Allied forces from the West and East at 4 PM on Apr. 26, and that commanders of the 69th Division of Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' 1st Army and the Soviet 58th Guards Division of Marshal Koniev's 1st Ukrainian Army had met to discuss the mutual exchange of Allied prisoners of war.

First contact between patrols took place at 4:40 PM on Apr. 25, the communique reported, when a first lieutenant and three men of an I and R platoon of the 69th Div. met forward elements of the Soviet troops.

Coincidental with the announcement of the historic juncture, which divides the whole of Germany into two great siege pockets, Gen. Omar N. Bradley, commander of the 12th Army Group, and Marshal Stalin, making a rare personal proclamation over Moscow Radio, issued Orders of the Day addressed to all troops under their commands. Stalin, as head of state, included American and British armies in his congratulatory Order.

In his message to the U.S. 1st, 3rd, 9th and 15th Armies, Bradley, hailing the

Statements by President Truman, Premier Churchill and Marshal Stalin on Page 2.

1,400-mile march of Soviet troops "from the ruins of Stalingrad and Sebastopol, across the devastated towns of the Ukraine" to the Elbe River, said, "their achievements, and they have given immortality to a people who would not be conquered, are made more meaningful by your own deeds."

Reviewing American successes from D-Day, across France and into Germany, Bradley told his men:

"In ten months you have advanced 940 miles from the invasion beaches. All this has been attained thanks to your courage, your spirit and initiative, and thanks to your comrades who died in order to (Continued on back page)

### House Unit Agrees To 18-Year-Old Ban

**WASHINGTON, Apr. 27 (ANS)**—The House Military Affairs Committee agreed today to the senate ban on sending 18-year-old draftees into combat without at least six months' training. The action was taken in an executive session but some members said the vote to concur with the amendment to legislation extending the Selective Service Act was unanimous.



Three important bastions surrounding Berlin—Potsdam, Spandau and Rathenow, 35 miles northwest of the capital—yesterday fell to the Red Army, now fighting in practically every

## Drive to West Takes Potsdam

Potsdam, Spandau and Rathenow—important German defense points west of Berlin—fell to the Red Army yesterday as Russian assault teams, now fighting in practically every part of Hitler's capital, concentrated their attacks against the inner core of Nazi resistance in the city's center.

The capture of these three cities, all described as "important road junctions and powerful bases of German defense in central Germany," was announced by Marshal Stalin in an Order of the Day addressed to Marshal Zhukov, commander of the 1st White Russian Army Group. These troops swung around Berlin from the north to link up with Marshal Koniev's forces and complete the encirclement of the Third Reich's capital.

Spandau and Potsdam are about five miles from the city, while Rathenow is approximately 35 miles northwest of the capital and 20 miles due east of Torgau, on the opposite side of the Elbe River, now held by the U.S. 9th Army.

In a later Order, Stalin also announced that Marshal Koniev's troops had captured Wittenberg, on the Elbe River 18 miles east of Dessau held by the American 1st Army.

Inside the city Zhukov's troops in the northwest sector, after breaking into the Moabit district on the fringe of the Tiergarten, tightened their vice around the vital area of the capital and leveled their guns against the Tiergarten, the Wilhelm-

(Continued on page 3)



## THE STARS AND STRIPES

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## THE B BAG



BLOW IT OUT HERE

NOTE: B-Bag is receiving many unsigned letters. We require your signature as evidence of good faith only. Your identity will not be revealed if you inform us you want your name withheld.—Ed.

## Secretary of Peace

Apr. 26, 1945

To the B-Bag:

We have a Secretary of War. Why don't we have a Secretary of Peace? How many billions are we spending on war per minute? How much did we ever spend on peace? Not one lousy red cent. Every nation since the beginning of time has bristled with "military schools," "war colleges"—but did you ever hear of a peace school?

We just don't believe peace is important. It's a part-time job for every Tom, Dick and Harry who has an extra pair of striped pants. Everyone says, "I hope they don't lose the peace—this time."

"They" are "us!" You and me. And all the rest of the guys and gals who are sweating this one out right now.

I'd like to see a Department of Peace with an equal place in the cabinet with the Secretary of War. I'd like to see bright young men and women sent to study nothing else but how to get and keep the peace—at a school run on exactly the same plan, budget and theory as Annapolis or West Point.

What do you think?—Pfc W. Carlton Davis, Eng.

## A Nation With Gall

To the B-Bag:

Do we come as conquerors? The German people have read our posters, but they still don't think so. They say we should come as "liberators."

"We have been waiting for you," they lie. "We are not to blame. It is the Nazi leaders who must be blamed, not us."

Analyze this. Were they waiting for us to come when they followed their leaders across Europe in their blitzes? Today, they absolve themselves of all responsibility for their crime against the world.

Now that their war of conquest, their butchery of innocent minorities, their horrible program for the domination of the world is being smashed, they whine for mercy.

It's almost impossible to imagine a nation with so much gall.—S/Sgt. Ed. Stone, Inf.

## Make Army Attractive

Apr. 26, 1945

To the B-Bag:

Let's make the post-war Army an attractive career to American youth by: (1) Keeping the pay scale at what it is, or higher, so the average soldier can at least support his family on his pay; (2) Having advancements on a competitive basis (same as the Navy); (3) Putting the Army on an equal standard with any other government or civil service job.

Professional soldiering should be a career for men to look forward to with pride, the same as any other job or profession.—Pvt. A. Brochin, Ord.

## Are You Kidding?

Apr. 26, 1945

To the B-Bag:

Things are getting warm. V-E Day is just around the corner. Now is the time for definite post-war planning. Here is a suggestion that I know will be greeted enthusiastically by a large number of GIs over here. An equally large number of GIs will be extremely vehement in condemnation.

I think the Army of Occupation should be composed of men who have been in the ETO two or more years. Those lads have been away so long now they have undoubtedly forgotten the ease and comforts of life in the U.S.A. So a few more years away shouldn't make any difference.

I've been over here only four months and I know what I'm missing.—Cpl. P. J. Steffen, AAA Bn.

## Re-educating Germany

Apr. 26, 1945

To the B-Bag:

B-Bag recently carried a letter from Dorothy Thompson suggesting that the American government employ German refugees and exiles in setting up administrative bureaus in occupied Germany. The suggestion was based upon the use that Russia has made of outstanding Germans.

If our purpose is to re-educate Germany, especially its youth, and attempt to inculcate in them democratic ideals, it would be best that we use people with democratic background—not people who by their very circumstances are essentially German in training, education and

## Hash Marks

Recent dispatches from the Battle of Berlin tell about a gigantic struggle in the subway. Sounds like the 5:15 rush.

Capt. Terry Nicholson reminds us that there is one song that guys in the ETO definitely don't like to hear—"Let's Take the Long Way Home."

Our spy on the home front sez the government could get some good ideas on synthetic rubber by testing his wife's pancakes.

Silly conversation in the Park. Joe: "Did that kiss I just gave you make you long for another?" Gal: "It sure did—but he's out of town."

Bob Hope sez he's tired of hearing that rumor about Hitler going crazy—the



comedian quips that's like saying Betty Grable is getting good looking.

Signs of the Times. Tired of saying, "No meat today," a butcher hung a cow's tail with a ribbon around it in his shop window with this note: "That's all that's left!"

Quip of the Week. Lt. H. A. recently warned a "smart" Joe: "Remember, I can get chicken—if you run a fowl of me."

One of G. K. Hoderfeld's favorite stories. The Oklahoma School of Accountancy recently ran a newspaper ad headed, "Short Course in Accounting for Women." A few days later the president of the school got a note saying, "There is NO accounting for women."

Note from JCB. A local theater just produced a double feature which reminds me of a GI's homecoming: "Together Again" and "Oh, What A Night."

"Let's not ask the sergeant to go out with us tonight," said a GI. "Why?" asked his pal. "Well, I've been out with him. There were three of us. I stood the first round of drinks. The other Joe was glad to stand a round. But when it was the sarge's turn, he just stood around."

Cautioning her eager-beaver boy friend, the young girl said, "You musn't, Bill,



you're an officer and a gentleman!" To which the eager lad replied, "But it's only a temporary appointment."

Who said that? Most femmes can beat the hell out of Santa Claus when it comes to filling stockings.

## PRIVATE BREGER



"I never lived on a farm, but I still think you are wrong about



**A REDOUBTABLE POSSE PROWLs HERE:** The land barrier posed by Hitler's southern redoubt to Allied armies driving south to Munich and Salzburg is graphically illustrated here. Note the compass points lower left. You see the terrain as doughboys fighting south will see it. Originally a chalet called Hans Wachenfeld, this has now become a mountain palace known among higher Nazis as "The Berg."

## "Last Desperate Hope of Hitler Extinguished"

These were the statements issued by Big 3 leaders upon announcement of the link-up in Germany of Allied forces from the East and West.

## President Truman

The Anglo-American Armies under the command of General Eisenhower have met the Soviet forces where they intended to meet, in the heart of Nazi Germany. The enemy has been cut in two.

This is not the hour of final victory in Europe, but the hour of a new dawn for which all the American people, all the British peoples and all the Soviet people have toiled and prayed so long.

The union of our arms in the heart of Germany has a meaning for the world which the world will not miss. It means, first, that the last faint, desperate hope of Hitler and his gangster Government

has been extinguished. The common front and the common cause of the Powers allied in this war against tyranny and inhumanity have been demonstrated in fact as they have long been demonstrated in determination. Nothing can divide or weaken the common purpose of our veteran Armies to pursue their victorious purpose to its final Allied triumph in Germany.

Second, the junction of our forces at this moment signifies to ourselves and to the world that the collaboration of our nations in the cause of peace and freedom is an effective collaboration which can surmount the greatest difficulties of the most extensive campaign in military history and succeed. Nations which can plan and fight together shoulder to shoulder in the face of such obstacles of distance and of language and of communications as we have overcome can live together and can work together in the common labor of the organization of the world for peace.

Finally, this great triumph of Allied arms and Allied strategy is such a tribute to the courage and determination of Franklin Roosevelt as no words could even speak, and that could be accomplished only by the persistence and the courage of the fighting soldiers and sailors of the Allied nations.

But, until our enemies are finally subdued in Europe and in the Pacific, there must be no relaxation of effort on the home front in support of our heroic soldiers and sailors as we all know there will be no pause on the battle fronts.

## Prime Minister Churchill

After long journeys, toils and victories across the land and oceans, across so many deadly battlefields, the Armies of the great Allies have traversed Germany and have joined hands together. Now their task will be the destruction of all remnants of German military resistance, the routing out of the Nazi power and the subjugation of Hitler's Reich. For these purposes ample forces are available and we meet in true and victorious comradeship and with inflexible resolve to fulfill our purpose and our duty. Let all march forward upon the foe.

## Marshal Stalin

In the name of the Soviet Government, I address you, commanders and men of the Red Army, and of the armies of our Allies.

The victorious armies of the Allied Powers waging a war of liberation in Europe have routed the German troops and linked up on the territory of Germany. Our task and our duty are to complete the destruction of the enemy,

to force him to lay down his arms and surrender unconditionally.

The Red Army will fulfil to the end this task and this duty to our people and to all freedom loving peoples.

I greet the valorous troops of our Allies who are now standing on the territory of Germany shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet troops and who are full of determination to carry out their duty to the end.

## Reds Screw Just Like Us

(Continued from page 1)

then Russian soldiers are the most carefree bunch of screwballs that ever came together in an army. They would be best described as exactly like Americans—only twice as much.

If you know what a German soldier is like, the Russian soldier seems to be his direct opposite. It is impossible to imagine a regimented, goose-stepping Russian. They sing and laugh and cut patterns with their tommy-guns against brick walls.

The road into Torgau was a strange scene. Russian laborers who had been working German farms were streaming down the highway to contact their Army which at last had come to liberate them. Across the road, going in the other direction, was another column of sullen, tired, frightened people. They were Germans fleeing from the Russian Army.

German soldiers made their way toward the American lines along with civilians. While some of them still carried guns, none offered to shoot, giving strength to the rumor that Germans in the area had been ordered not to fire another shot to the west, where the Americans were coming from.

When the caravans reached the river edge where Russian troops were mingling with Americans, the Russian soldiers went to talk and sing and make love with young Russian girls that had come in wagons. They formed in groups around accordions and sang Russian songs, all of which sounded like the Volga Boat Song to most Americans.

## AAF Band Musical To Be Shown at Scala

A two-reel film of the official AAF Band's recent tour in England, produced by the 3rd Combat Camera Unit, will be shown as part of the regular Scala Theater program in London for three days starting Sunday, Apr. 29.

## AFN RADIO PROGRAM

American Forces Network—With the AEF on the Road to Berlin

1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.  
218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.

Saturday, Apr. 28

1200—News: Duffie Bag  
1300—World News  
1310—American Sports  
1315—Great Music  
1330—Globe Theater  
1400—News: Army Radio Orchestra  
1430—Miss Parade  
1500—World News  
1510—Harry James  
1530—On the Record  
1630—Strike up the Band  
1700—News: Dance Band  
1730—Nat. Barn Dance  
1755—Mark up the Map  
1800—World News  
1810—Interlude in Blue

Sunday, Apr. 29

0800—News: C'mb't  
0820—Sunday Serenade  
0900—World News  
0910—Spotlight on Jan

1100—News: U.S.

1106—Morning After

(Char. McCarthy).

1135—Concert Hall

1200—News: Sammy

1230—Clear L'w'r D'ks

1300—World News

1310—American Sports

1315—WAC's Works

1330—Inf'mat'n. Please

1400—News: C'mb't

1415—Atlantic Spotlight

1445—Around Times Sq

1500—World News

1510—Grand Old Opry

1530—Fred. Martin

1600—News: U.S.

1615—Music Parade

1700—Raymond Scott

1715—AAF Special

1755—Mark up the Map

1800—World News

1815—Swingtime

1830—A. Kostelanetz

1900—News: Sports

1905—Jack Benny

1935—Intermezzo

2000—News: Mail Call

2030—Aldrich Family

2100—World News

2105—Your War Today

2115—American Album

2145—At Ease

2200—News: U.S. News

2205—Fiesta

2230—Guy Lombardo

2300—World News

2305—One Night Stand

2330—Suspense

0000—World News

Monday, Apr. 30

0800—News: C'mb't

0815—Personal Album

with Ginny Simms

0830—Music by Charlie

Barnet

0900—World News

0910—Spotlight on Harry

0925—James Melton

Show

1000—News: Morning

After (Mail Call)

1030—Strike up Band

1100—News: U.S. News



Off the Global Wire

# Sees Germany's Food Exhausted Within 60 Days

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27 (ANS)—German food stocks now being used to feed the people in captured Reich areas will be exhausted within two months, and "the pipeline that is going to feed them" from then on "is not apparent," Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy told a press conference yesterday on his return from Europe.

"The problem of food, fuel and cover plagues all of Europe," McCloy said. U.S. forces are using local food supplies to feed German civilians, drawing on Army supplies only in emergencies, he said. "The great question is going to be food and distribution," he said. "Frankly, I don't know how it's going to be obtained in light of the shortages. Certainly the policy will be to get as much as possible out of Germany."

Impressed by the "complete destruction that runs through Germany," McCloy said the immediate problem was to get the German people back to work so they can produce for their own needs. The Rhine, important in German economy, can carry no traffic because the permanent bridges are down and the river is spanned by military pontoons, he said.

## Pétain Imprisoned

PARIS, Apr. 27—Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain, who surrendered himself for trial on treason charges by the French High Court of Justice, was arrested on the Franco-Swiss border last night and was imprisoned today in Montrouge Fort, south of Paris.

The 89-year-old Vichy leader was put in a barely furnished room in the fort, which is a school for policemen. One report said his first request was for a picture of Gen. Charles de Gaulle to hang in the room. Gaping policemen borrowed one for the purpose.

Pétain will remain in the fort until his trial, opening of which, it was said, may be postponed for months. His wife chose to remain in the fort with him. The prison is heavily guarded.

Charges against him were read by French officials before Pétain crossed the border last night. Gen. Joseph Pierre Koenig, Military Governor of Paris, was present, but was reported to have refused to shake the hand Pétain extended in greeting. A 15-car convoy took Pétain, along with some of the officers who had fled with him to Germany, back to Paris.

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## Cushion Berlin's Fall

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, Apr. 27 (Reuter)—The expression "fall of Berlin" is not to be used in Argentina by government order, according to reports received here yesterday.

Argentine broadcasting stations have received instructions that news of the conquest of Berlin must be made in such a way as not to emphasize it, and use of the word "fall" is prohibited.

Police will take all necessary measures to deal with popular demonstrations, using arms if necessary.

In spite of these measures, the people are described as eagerly awaiting news of the conquest of the German capital and calling newspapers to ask the forbidden phrase: "Has Berlin fallen?"

## Favor Leopold Yield to Son

BRUSSELS, Apr. 27 (AP)—Many members of the Belgian Parliament were reported today to have advocated that King Leopold abdicate in favor of his son Prince Charles, with Prince Charles, Leopold's brother, continuing in his present role as Regent. Negotiations have been reported in progress for release of Leopold from German imprisonment.

## East Fronts -

(Continued from page 1)

strasse and Unter den Linden, where the heart of Nazi resistance was located.

The Soviet night communique announced that the Tempelhof airdrome had been captured.

Hitler, according to reports, had his headquarters inside this "Fortress Berlin," in a series of specially-prepared underground caverns stocked and fortified to withstand a siege of two weeks or even months.

The closest points Soviet spearheads have driven to the center of the city was to the southeast where the Russians have taken the Goerlitz railway station, a little over a mile from Unter den Linden.

In a second Order last night, Stalin announced that Marshal Rokossovsky's troops, driving across northern Germany for a possible junction with British and Canadian troops, had captured Prenzlau, 60 miles north of Berlin, and Angermünde, 37 miles northeast of the capital.

Angermünde is nine miles west of the Oder on the main line railway linking Berlin and Stettin. Prenzlau is the hub of five main railways.



**CONGRATS:** Cub Manager Charley Grimm grasps Bill Nicholson's hand as the hard-hitting Bruin outfielder turns third on his way home after circuiting against the Cards at Wrigley Field. Redbirds lost, 4-1.

## Sen. Chandler May Ask ODT To Restore All-Star Contest

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27—Senator Albert "Happy" Chandler, baseball's new high commissioner, intimated at his press conference yesterday that one of his first moves as the head of organized baseball may be to request the Office of Defense Transportation to restore the inter-league All-Star game which is usually played in July and was scheduled for Fenway Park in Boston this year.

Chandler told sports scribes that if V-E Day comes before July, cancellation of the All-Star game should at least be subject to review. "It all depends on the circumstances," he said.

Settling the status of Leslie J. O'Connor, secretary to the late Judge Landis throughout his 24 years as baseball czar, Chandler said he would remain indefinitely. As for moving the commissioner's office from Chicago to another city, there was no comment, although many baseball men think he will move it to Washington.

The new commissioner issued a direct statement to servicemen in all theaters, promising that "Baseball will carry on because you want it that way. Because of the great victory you are winning over our enemies we shall give you when you return the greatest era of sport in the history of the world. And you will contribute and play a part in it."

## Bob Feller Makes Debut With 2 Hits in 4 Innings

EVANSTON, Ill., Apr. 27—Chief Specialist Bob Feller made his bow as pitcher and coach of the Great Lakes Naval baseball team yesterday, fanning seven while allowing two hits in four innings as the sailors defeated Northwestern University, 12-2.

Northwestern scored its two runs off Johnny Gorsica in the third inning, and Feller went to work in the fourth, hurling four frames before turning the mound duties over to Johnny Mekeli, former Giant. Paced by Ken Keltner, former teammate of Feller on the Cleveland Indians, Great Lakes blasted out 14 hits.

## Minor League Results

International League			
Jersey City 7, Montreal 1	Newark 8, Buffalo 7	Other games postponed.	
W L Pct.	W L Pct.	W L Pct.	W L Pct.
Jersey City 6 0 1.000	Rochester 2 3 .400	Baltimore 4 1 .800	Syracuse 1 3 .250
Montreal 4 2 .667	Toronto 0 5 .000	Newark 4 2 .667	Buffalo 0 5 .000

  

American Association			
All games postponed.			
St. Paul 1 0 1.000	Minneapolis 2 4 .333	Indianapolis 4 2 .667	Columbus 1 2 .333
Louisville 4 2 .667	Kansas City 1 2 .333	Milwaukee 1 1 .500	Toledo 1 4 .200

### Help Wanted -AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, The Stars and Stripes, 20, Cavendish Sq., London, W1, or APO 413, U.S. Army. Telephone U.K. Base HQ, Ext. 2131.

When requesting an APO include last known unit, APO, ASN and home town of the person you want, as well as your complete address. This edition is only circulated in the United Kingdom to that names of men believed to be on the Continent should be sent to The Stars and Stripes, Help Wanted Dept., APO 887.

**APOs Wanted**

S/SGT. Cornelius AYON, Azusa, Cal.; Lt. Col. John A. BELL, MC 0-321556; Lt. Edward A. BLATTIN, Chicago; Pvt. Mary Adeline CRAIN; Miss Maxine COUCH, Guntersville, Ala.; Pvt. Timothy F. CURTIN, 11008870, Springfield, Mass.

S/SGT. Gaston L. DARGIS; Cpl. Ava Prevate HIRN, Rocky Mount, N.C.; Lloyd HERFEL-FINGER, Essington, Pa.; Lt. Elizabeth K. JENSEN, Perryburg, Ohio; James G. LAW, Wheeling, W.Va.; James William LANGFORD (B17 pilot); Sgt. William L. LEVET, Rocky River, Ohio.

**Personal**

WILL the S/Sgt. who inquired at Falmouth Library recently for a family named "Jose," contact this department as this information is now available.

**Found**

ALFRED PERRY, 31299410—Your identification bracelet has been found.

# Brownies Clip Tribe, 4-3, To End Losing Streak

NEW YORK, Apr. 27—The St. Louis Browns broke a five-game losing streak yesterday to nose out Cleveland, 4-3, in the first game of a scheduled double-header which saw the second battle postponed because of rain, while in other games the Athletics stopped the Yanks, 7-5, the Senators downed the Red Sox, 4-1, and the Giants blanked the Phils, 2-0.

## Memphis Seen Threat to Vols In So. Assoc.

ATLANTA, Ga., Apr. 27 (AP)—The Southern Association swings into its fourth war-time season under clear skies today with the Memphis Chicks labelled "most likely to succeed" in a poll of sports writers, but because of the presence of one Larry Gilbert on the bench of the Nashville Vols it is considered anybody's race by the fans—quite possibly Nashville's.

Ancient Larry's club has taken it on the chin, due to the fact that he had a very healthy crop of players on his hands when the war broke out, but he made the best of things to walk off with the league championship in '43, and last year, with a new face in practically every position, he repeated.

Now in his 22nd year in the Southern loop, Larry is the only manager in the circuit to have served 20 or more years. Gilbert-managed teams have won the most pennants—eight—and they've won four split-season playoffs without losing any. Larry's teams have twice won more than 100 games and he says he'll make it a third time this summer.

However, only four of 15 sports scribes who expressed themselves in a poll think Gilbert's club has the stuff for the '45 race. Eight writers named Memphis as the logical successor to the loop's high-chair and think that it will be more or less a four-team fight between the Chicks, Nashville, New Orleans and Atlanta.

The opening day's horseshoe menu lists Atlanta at Chattanooga, Nashville at Birmingham, Memphis at Little Rock and New Orleans at Mobile—the last three being night games.

All opening day pitchers are back from last year except Birmingham's John Hetki, who is just out of the Army, but, as is the case with every other circuit in the country, the Southern Association has been hit hard by Uncle Sam in the other departments.

## Ted Payseur Picked To Succeed Wilson

CHICAGO, Apr. 27—Theodore "Ted" Payseur, a member of Northwestern University's athletic staff since 1926, has been appointed athletic director of the Wild-cats.

Payseur's appointment fills the post vacated by Kenneth "Tug" Wilson, who resigned to become Big Ten athletic commissioner.

## Bad Legs Force Danning To Quit Baseball

NEW YORK, Apr. 27—Harry Danning, former New York Giant catcher now in the AAF stationed in California, has retired from baseball, the New York Daily News said yesterday. Danning has informed the Giants that he wants to be placed on the voluntarily retired list.

According to the News, Danning's legs are in bad condition and he was recommended for a physical discharge by the medics. But the War Department overruled the physicians, keeping in line with the dictum to keep professional athletes in the service.

## Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune

NO-NO-PUT MONEY AWAY. YOU NO HAVE TO PAY TO STAY HERE

YOU HAVE BAD LUCK, FALL OFF TRAIN. YOU WELCOME STAY HERE OVERNIGHT.

THANK YOU, LADY, THANK YOU.

THIS IS PAPA, AND THIS IS MY DAUGHTER, PAPRIKA.

MY NAME'S MEASLES. UHH?

HOW DO YOU DO MEESTER MEASLES.

I MIGHT WANT TO STAY HERE LONGER THAN OVERNIGHT. YOU SEE, I DON'T FEEL SO WELL. THAT FALL OFF THE TRAIN—BRUISED ME—BAD

## Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features

AT LAST!!—HE'LL REMOVE THE BLINDFOLD AND IF HE TRULY IS THE YOKUM PEASANT OFF GOES HIS HEAD!!

"GULP!!—HE'LL GET UP UP AN' STAY OFF—AS IF WALKIN' BLIND-FOLDED WERE TH' MOST NATURAL THING IN THE WORLD TO ME!!"

STRANGE—THESE AMERICANS! APPARENTLY IT'S THEIR CUSTOM TO STROLL BLINDFOLDED THROUGH THE STREETS

"CHUCKLE!! AS LONG AS AN' AS SAFE AS EF AN' WERE IN MAH MAHMAH'S HAND!!"

A LONELY WOODPECKER—FAR FROM A TREE—DECIDES TO SETTLE FOR A REASONABLE SUBSTITUTE.

## By Chester Gould

By Al Capp

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# Geneva Convention Stays Army Rule for Nazi PWs

WASHINGTON (ANS)—The Army's treatment of German prisoners of war in the U.S. is a "question of law, not a question of Army policy," Brig. Gen. R. W. Berry, deputy assistant chief of staff for personnel, told the House Military Affairs Committee as it opened a study of the war prisoner situation.

The Army "has no other choice," Berry said, than to adhere to the Geneva Convention, despite "plenty of instances" of German violations. Nor does the Army intend to make any changes, Berry said, when asked if the War Department might tighten up in the wake of Axis abuses of American prisoners.

**Army Has No Intention of Tightening Up** Re-stressing what War Department officials have said in the past, Berry declared that the handling of the estimated 2,000,000 German prisoners here and overseas was "firm."

The policy toward recalcitrant prisoners, he added, was "no work, no eat."

Berry admitted there were isolated cases of too lenient treatment and too many privileges for Nazi PWs. But, in general, he said, "there was no coddling."

The general said that if the U.S. deviated from the Geneva provisions the country might face difficulty in sending relief supplies to American prisoners in Germany since such supplies are handled through Convention procedure. He estimated that at least 70,000 Americans still were held prisoner in Germany and that 15,000 had been liberated to date by Allied armies.

Because of the recent collapse in Germany's administrative set-up and the lack of records, Berry said the Army didn't know how many American prisoners had been killed or had died in German hands.

Berry said there were fewer than 6,000 Japanese PWs and 18,000 Italian PWs in addition to 32,000 Italians in service units in the U.S. and 70,000 abroad.

## War Production Cut Begins

WASHINGTON (ANS)—Cutbacks in war production were started this month along with adjustments for the conversion of military procurement from a two- to a one-front war, the War Production Board announced, and at the same time revealed that March's munitions output had exceeded schedules for the first time.

The cutbacks began with a reduced turnout of ammunition, tanks and planes and "will accelerate from now on," Hiland G. Batcheller, WPB chief of operations, said. He cautioned, however, that \$48,000,000,000 worth of munitions still would have to be turned out in the first year after V-E Day.

"By the time fighting in Europe ends we may have taken so many successive bites out of the two-front war schedules there will be little change remaining to be made," Batcheller said.

Batcheller added that the U.S. had more than enough productive capacity to

meet the needs of the Pacific war and the "substantial" amount of new civilian production plus some help in rehabilitating Europe. Last month's critical programs showed an average increase of almost 17 per cent over the February report, he said.

**CAPITAL RAMBLINGS:** Rep. J. Parnell Thomas (R.-N.J.) told the Army that Americans would be "much put out when they hear you're bringing in 75,000 Germans (prisoners) a month when there isn't space enough to bring back American soldiers on rotation" ... Bess Truman, the nation's new First Lady, announced she would not hold any press conferences.

With a tripled staff of investigators, Price Administrator Chester A. Bowles opened a new offensive against the meat black market with the warning that heavy fines and jail sentences awaited operators who are caught.

## Hard Coal Miners Vote Strike

HAZLETON (ANS)—Pennsylvania's hard coal miners voted 6-1 to strike when their contract with the anthracite operators expires next Monday, the regional National Labor Board announced. It was the largest poll held in the State under the provisions of the Smith-Connally Act. A formal strike notice was given 30 days ago by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers.

**NEW YORK (ANS)**—William G. Chandler, Scripps-Howard executive, was elected president of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association. David W. Howe, publisher of The Burlington, Vt., Free Press, was elected vice-president.

**COLUMBUS, Ga. (ANS)**—Plans for the biggest polio hospital in the world at Warm Springs as a permanent memorial to the late President Roosevelt were proposed by Maynard R. Ashworth, of The Columbus Ledger and Enquirer. To start the ball rolling, Ashworth's paper contributed \$10,000.

## More Mummies In St. Louis

ST. LOUIS (ANS)—The mummy situation is growing worse around here. Two more unburied bodies of persons dead at least 25 years have been discovered during the last 24 hours—bringing to four the number of such cases in the area within a week.

One of the bodies was that of a Negro identified as "Jim Fields," who died 25 years ago. They found his remains propped up in the cob-webbed corner of a deserted building.

Located almost simultaneously was

the body of Bill Lee, a fisherman, who died in 1915. Since then his body had lain in an Alton, Ill., funeral home waiting for relatives to claim it.

The new disclosures came on the heels of the burial of a woman known only as "Maud" whose shrunken body had lain 40 years in a local funeral parlor and the finding of the body of Francis Schlatter in another funeral home. Schlatter, described as a chemist and lecturer, died in 1922.

## Bobby-Soxers Wear PW Signs

NEW YORK—The Army had a new bobby-sox craze with which to contend. The teen-agers now are dashing about with the letters PW plastered all over the backs of their clothing.

Their actions had reached such proportions in New York, Boston, Columbus, St. Louis and other cities that the Army has issued a stern warning, pointing out that people wearing clothing marked PW are liable to get shot if mistaken for escaped prisoners of war.

Officials doubt that the prank has any significance, calling it just one of the silly things the kids are doing these days.

## 1st Army Links Up With Reds

(Continued from page 1) achieve this. You have played a part in the liberation of four nations. ... The American people, who armed you, had great confidence in you. You have proved yourself worthy of this confidence and you will show yourself worthy in the battles to come.

Paying tribute to the armies of the Allied powers, Stalin said, "Our task and duty are to finish off the enemy and force him to lay down arms and surrender unconditionally."

"This task and this duty toward our people and toward all freedom-loving peoples the Red Army will fulfill to the end."

"I greet the gallant troops of our Allies now standing on German territory face to face with Soviet troops, filled with determination to perform their duty to the end."

Stalin said the link-up would be hailed with 24 artillery salvos from 324 guns, reserved only for victories of the first order.

For some days indications that the link-up was imminent or had taken place were variously hinted at in front-line dispatches. 1st Army troops had been reported listening on field radio receivers to Soviet commands and Russian-speaking American troops had been standing by in armored scout cars awaiting the signal to make the juncture.

The juncture at Torgau cuts Germany completely in half, with the ports and

naval bases to the north and Hitler's southern redoubt south of the line. Even as the announcement was made, Allies from the east and west were hurling their full force against the Nazi pockets of resistance formed by the link-up.

Torgau, whose capture was announced in Thursday night's Soviet communique, will become a historic name in the war. It has a fittingly historical background as the site of Frederick the Great's triumph over the Austrians in 1760. Its 15th century castle is now used as a barracks. With a pre-war population of 13,500, it manufactured gloves, glass and pottery.

The link-up came 106 days after the start of the Soviet offensive from the Vistula bridgeheads south of Warsaw which launched the Red Army on the shortest road to Berlin, and 51 days after the first Allied troops crossed the Rhine. On Jan. 14 the two Allied forces were about 700 miles apart—Red Army troops roughly 400 miles from Torgau, the Americans, near Trier, about 300 miles from it.

Reuter's military correspondent observed that the immediate problem which arises for the Allied commanders is mainly administrative—to prevent confusion arising from the coming together of so many friendly armies. For this purpose it is believed demarcation lines have been decided upon, but they are not hard and fast and need not be adhered to by armies actually engaged in battle or pursuit.



**DITTMAR SURRENDERS:** Lt. Gen. Kurt Dittmar, whose weekly radio "commentaries" handed down the Wehrmacht line to the German people, surrendered himself on Wednesday to the U.S. 30th Division rather than be taken by the Russians. Crossing the Elbe River ostensibly to intercede for civilian wounded, the High Command spokesman is shown walking between his son, Bernd, 15, carrying a white flag, and two U.S. Army officers. He was given a half-hour in which to decide whether to give himself up. With the Russians closing in, he decided quickly. Keystone Photo

## Japs Using Piloted Rockets; Yanks Wedge Okinawa Line

GUAM, Apr. 27 (ANS)—The Japs have been using pilot-guided rocket bombs in limited numbers against U.S. ships off Okinawa, where American troops are hammering a wedge into the secondary positions of the enemy-held southern sector, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Supreme Naval Chief in the Pacific, announced today.

Launched from the underside of bombers the suicide planes, each 16 feet long and with an explosive warhead in the nose, are not maneuverable and ships can dodge them by evasive action. The limited numbers used so far have given the Americans little opportunity for observing effectiveness of the enemy weapon, Nimitz said. Built of light metal and wood, the planes have a wingspread of 16 feet and the tail planes are eight feet wide.

Six bases on Kyushu, southernmost mainland island, whence the Japs launch air attacks against Okinawa, 325 miles away, were attacked today for the second successive day by 100 to 150 Superforts. No B29s were lost in yesterday's attacks on 21 targets on Kyushu and Shikoku, it was announced.

Lt. Frederick A. Dimit, 200-pound bombardier from Bartlesville, Okla., found one of his 500-pound bombs stuck in the shackle during yesterday's raid. He managed to lift the bomb free and drop it through the open bomb bay to the Jap mainland 14,000 feet below.

Infantry of the 96th Division pressed into the Jap Okinawa defenses, closely supported by warship shelling, and gained a 400-foot height dominating the outer rim of the thick belt of fortifications defending Naha, the island capital. The Japs withdrew under heavy artillery fire.

## Report Japs Leave Rangoon

CALCUTTA, Apr. 27 (AP)—Air observation indicates the Japanese are evacuating Rangoon by land and sea.

Allied reconnaissance planes report no new fortifications are being thrown up around the outskirts of the city. Pilots report anti-aircraft fire in the Rangoon area is only a fraction of what it used to be.

The pilots could find no large concentration of Japanese troops around the military installations near Rangoon. Coastal ships have been seen leaving Rangoon for Malaya.

## Streicher Cell Made 'Shrine' in Nuremberg

NUREMBERG, Apr. 27 (Reuter)—The cell in Nuremberg's city prison where the notorious anti-Jewish publisher Julius Streicher had been imprisoned before the Nazis came to power was converted into a "shrine" and no one was allowed to enter it—prior to the city's capture by the Americans.

## Preceded by a Snafu, Natcherly

## Link-Up Formalities Brief But Gay

By Andy Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

**TORGAU, ON THE ELBE RIVER,** Apr. 26 (Delayed by Censor)—The meeting between the Russian and American Armies reads like a comic opera which needed another rehearsal.

A week ago, when it became obvious that the 1st Army was going to meet the Russians, divisions which had moved on after clearing Leipzig were given a line beyond which they were not supposed to advance.

If G2 or G3 knew where the Russians were or what "the big picture" was, they didn't tell anyone. Division infantry officers had no idea where or when to expect the Russians—or exactly how contact would be made.

### Leads Patrol to River

Yesterday afternoon at 132 1/Lt. Albert L. Kotzebue, of Houston, Tex., led a 69th Div. patrol to the Elbe and met Russians.

At 69th Div. Hq. no one seemed to know whether Kotzebue was a hero or a heel. Had he fouled up higher headquarters' plans by meeting the Russians before the set time and at a wrong place? It was too late to do anything about it, so 1/Lt. William Robertson, of Los Angeles, went up to the Elbe and made arrangements for an official meeting of division commanders today.

With Robertson were Cpl. James McDonald, of Peabody, Mass., Pvt.

Frank Huff, of Washington, Va., and Pvt. Paul Staub, of New York.

The meeting place was on the east bank of the Elbe across from Torgau. All bridges had been blown and not rebuilt because the Russians had orders to wait on their side of the Elbe for the Americans, just as the Americans had orders to wait on their side of the Mulde for the Russians.

### Crosses in a Scull

When Maj. Gen. E. F. Reinhardt, CG of the 69th, got there, the only way he could cross was in one of three racing sculls, similar to those used in the Poughkeepsie Regatta. The Elbe is 175 yards wide here and it flows fast. The five-man shells ride at most three inches above the water and the oars were manned by happy Russian soldiers, who clutched an oar in each hand and a bottle between their knees.

Along the banks, Russian refugees, waiting to cross, sat idly in the sun. Girls were crowded around Russian soldiers, most of whom were playing accordions they had found in an accordion factory in Torgau. Older Russian women were washing their feet in the cool Elbe waters.

Downstream, three Yanks were watching a Russian soldier demonstrate his automatic rifle by firing bursts across the water. Lolling around half a dozen jeeps in the background, Americans and Russians were trading insignia, canned rations and drinks.

It was 4:20 when Reinhardt started

## Molotov Argues Chairmanship Of Conference

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 27—The United Nations world security conference moved into its third day today with the chief delegates of the Big Four meeting to thrash out a new and unexpected problem—the selection of a permanent chairman for the parley.

This latest difference broke out of the first meeting of the steering committee yesterday when Anthony Eden, Foreign Minister of Great Britain, proposed that Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr., as head of the host country's delegation, be named permanent chairman and chairman of the executive and steering committees.

Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov astonished the chief delegates by objecting and suggesting that four permanent chairmen, chosen from the U.S., British, Russian and Chinese delegations, be selected, with the chairmanship rotating throughout the conference.

Eden quickly effected a compromise by agreeing with rotation of chairmanship for the conference itself but nominating Stettinius for permanent chairman of the steering and executive committees. The measure was approved unanimously—with Molotov not voting—and after a conference between the four top representatives, Molotov again startled everyone by calling for adjournment because "no agreement had been reached on points under discussion." The meeting adjourned in a cloud of confusion and excited chatter.

The disagreement overshadowed the two other contentious issues blocking the start of the conference—the questions of Polish representation and of the multiple vote for the Soviet Union. The petition for votes for the Ukrainian and White Russian Republics were given to the steering committee, along with specific reasons, but the meeting closed with no action being taken on the request.

Molotov, chuckling and fencing with reporters at a press conference yesterday and showing little indication of worry over these early conflicts, told newsmen "we shall do all in our power to solve the Polish question without unnecessary delay and on the basis of the Yalta agreement."

"But it is not an easy question," he said, adding that "the present conference does not discuss the Polish government, but I am most anxious to have representation of the Polish government at San Francisco."

Above all the confusion and jockeying between the major powers hung the words of Eden, who last night hopefully told the delegates the work at hand could be accomplished within a month.

"If we work to the utmost of our strength," he said, "it may be possible to agree on a charter within four weeks from now."

## Report Berchtesgaden Casualties

NEW YORK, Apr. 27 (AP)—Wednesday's raid on the Berchtesgaden area killed about 500 persons, including leading Nazis, the Stockholm newspaper Tidningen reported today in a dispatch picked up by OWI.

## Terry and the Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



## By Milton Caniff