

THE RED ARMY WHEELS INTO BATTERED BERLIN: With infantrymen, armed with their famed tommy guns, perched on tanks, the Red Army charges into the charred, smoking Third Reich capital. This first picture of the Soviets in Berlin was radioed from Moscow yesterday.

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THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations
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3 Armies Closing in on Munich

British Fight Outside Bremen And Hamburg

U.S. 3rd Army forces, easternmost of the three armies now assailing the Nazis' redoubt in the mountains of southern Germany, closed on the Danube yesterday at a point in the area of Regensburg, 70 miles northeast of Munich, while to the northwest and west troops of the U.S. 7th and the French 1st Armies captured the Danube communications center of Ulm and reached points within 50 miles of Munich. The combined drives began to assume the shape of a great pincers around the city, greatest of southern Germany.

News of the expected American-Soviet link-up along the central German front

Prisoner Toll in West More Than a Million

SHAFF, Apr. 24 (Reuter)—The Allied armies have taken more than 1,000,000 prisoners on the Western Front since Apr. 1.

Up to Apr. 22 the official total was 992,578, and an incomplete count gave more than 20,000 yesterday.

still was awaited. A dispatch from U.S. 1st Army HQ said Red Army tanks were reported only a short distance away from American troops in the Wurzen area, 15 miles northeast of Leipzig.

From SHAFF, Reuter reported that news of the American-Soviet juncture, when it is announced, should reveal the crushing of the central German grouping, since it was likely that the meeting of the forces would be an actual welding along a wide front. Latest reported positions of the Red Army put troops along a 30-mile stretch of the eastern bank of the Elbe River northwest of Dresden. The Americans are lined in force along the western bank of the Mulde River, which branches from the Elbe at Dessau, captured by the 1st Army.

Other Soviet spearheads were said to be heading for a juncture with the U.S. 9th Army's bridgehead over the Elbe southwest of Berlin.

The battle for Germany proper was now raging in three zones: in the redoubt area in the south; in the so-called "northern redoubt" under attack by British forces, who are in the suburbs of both Hamburg and Bremen and are

For Its Final Furling

Swastika Shows at Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 24 (UP)—Believe it or not, the swastika flag has turned up here for the United Nations Conference, and it nearly got hung on the hotel housing the U.S. delegation.

The hotel had ordered a dozen flags apiece of all United Nations. When they were unpacked and unfurled, there, among the others, was the swastika.

But that, and the fact that there is still no solution of the Polish problem, are the only untoward events of the day before the conference. Elsewhere, everything is sweetness and light.

Special Peace Conference editions of New York newspapers are being published in the city. The shop windows are full of Peace Conference picture postcards,



Keystone Photo

PRELUDE: Waiting dramatically for the dramatic linkup between U.S. and Soviet forces, Lt. Theo Prisajunic, Red Army liaison officer with the 9th Army, maintains radio contact with Red troops crashing through from the east. Lt. Prisajunic, shown with an officer and two enlisted men of the 9th, said he could hear fire orders given to Soviet tank gunners.

Polish Recognition Talks Carried to San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 24 (UP)—The United Nations conference, which opens tomorrow, emerged today as a proving ground for post-war Big Three collaboration with the transfer to San Francisco of discussions on Russia's demands that the Soviet-sponsored Polish government be represented here.

GIs Over 42 Can Get Discharge on Request

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (AP)—The War Department announced today that privates and non-commissioned officers 42 years of age or over will be discharged from the Army at their own request. The ruling will not apply, however, to any soldier who is undergoing disciplinary action or who is in need of further medical or surgical treatment.

Soldiers overseas who apply and are eligible for discharge will be returned to the U.S. for release at the "earliest practicable date."

and there are flags everywhere. The British delegation is staying at the famous Mark Hopkins Hotel and will get steaks for dinner twice a week.

The Russians are taking no chances of any food shortage in the United States, having their own firsthand ideas on what a food shortage really means, and, not wishing to embarrass their hosts, have brought their own supply with them. The menu in their hotel had 119 items on it last night.

The State Department, arranging to show the delegates the factories, vineyards, shipyards and aircraft plants in California, asked the delegates what they would like to see most.

The overwhelming vote was "Hollywood."

Edward R. Stettinius Jr., Anthony Eden and Vyacheslav M. Molotov, American, British and Soviet foreign affairs chiefs respectively, left Washington by plane for San Francisco today to carry on their talks and plunge simultaneously into the world security conference of 46 nations.

The U.S. and Britain are understood to have offered proposals to Russia on settlement of the Polish question and word from the Kremlin, is anxiously awaited here, where the problem dominates the pre-convention scene almost to the exclusion of all other issues.

The first business on the conference agenda, overshadowed by the Big Three crisis, is a meeting of the chief delegates of the countries to adopt the procedure outlined tentatively by the State Department. President Truman will formally open the conference in the afternoon with a brief radio address from Washington.

The conference will then break into a number of commissions and sub-committees to work on the final terms of the world constitution machinery started at Dumbarton Oaks last fall.

Congressional Medal Initiated for FDR

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (Reuter)—The House Judiciary Committee approved legislation today authorizing the posthumous presentation of the Congressional Medal of Honor to the late President Roosevelt.

The bill calls for the awarding of the medal in recognition of what is called "his peerless leadership as Commander-in-Chief, his heroic courage as a pioneer of new frontiers of freedom, his gallant and unselfish devotion to the service of his country and his everlasting contribution to the cause of world peace."

Russians Tightening Pincers Around City As Tanks Cut Into It

Russian troops of two powerful Soviet Army groups last night battled to close the ring of steel around Berlin as assault teams of tanks and infantrymen pushed through the capital's long avenues, taking the city street by street against fanatical German resistance.

The German high command admitted the Russians were fighting in the western outskirts of the city—as well as in the northern, southern and eastern parts—and that the Red Army had reached the areas southeast of Brandenburg and south of Potsdam.

Other reports said German positions in the Spandau Forest west of Berlin were being shelled constantly and that the Russians were pushing southward along the eastern bank of the Havel River which flanks the capital to the west.

These reports indicated that a link-up between the northern and southern Russian spearheads was not far off.

Hamburg radio last night claimed that Hitler was still in the Third Reich capital and that he inspected troops in the main defense line yesterday. If Hitler really has stayed behind to face the Soviet avalanche he may very soon be inside a Red Army trap. Moscow dispatches said every effort will be made to take him alive.

Inside the city, according to reports, the Russians expected no mass surrender and were proceeding on the theory that the Nazis intend to sacrifice the city block by block. Artillery showered destruction with creeping barrages knocking out everything in the line of advance.

The Germans were putting up a desperate resistance from cellars, rooftops, street barricades and trenches. As one defense line crumbled the Nazis retreated and took up the battle from new positions. One correspondent said they were fighting with more ferocity than had been met by the Russians at any time during the war.

Although there seemed no likelihood of a large-scale surrender, 600 troops in one of the streets raised the white flag and walked out with their hands in the air. Other reports said white—and red—flags were flying and that Berliner A-see was lined with white.

The most furious fighting inside Berlin apparently was taking place in the north-eastern suburbs, where the Russians were

(Continued on back page)



THE STARS AND STRIPES

Printed at The Times Publishing Company, Ltd. for U.S. Armed Forces... Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censor...



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.

Job Security

Apr. 21, 1945

To the B-Bag:

Is this same thing going to happen to us when we get back?

My brother was recently discharged from the Army, permanently crippled because of wounds sustained while fighting at Anzio. Despite his handicap, he was able to hold a job in one of the Chrysler Corporation's aircraft plants.

American industry owes my brother and other discharged vets and those of us still in the service the assurance of job security when the war is over.

[United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (CIO) recently proposed to the Westinghouse and General Electric Corporations a plan which would credit all veterans, both former members and new employees, with seniority for time in service.]

Thanks, Medics

Apr. 2, 1945

To the B-Bag:

I would like you to publish a piece in The Stars and Stripes for me. There are a lot of us casualties here in this hospital and we would like to thank the doctors, front-line medics, nurses, ward boys and all the others in the hospitals in England and France for the good treatment they gave us before we were evacuated to the States.—T/J Eugene Millen, Batey Gen. Hosp., Rome, Ga.

Suggestion for Congress

Apr. 20, 1945

To the B-Bag:

After three years in the ETO I have finally been forced to contribute my two cents worth to your column. It seems that the "brains" in Congress can't get together on a simple program to do right by all the soldiers.

Why not simplify the matter and give all an outright bonus according to their services? What has the American Legion done to help gain this goal for millions of potential members?—Sgt. Joseph J. Galati, Sig. Bn.

Pay for Unused Furloughs

Apr. 22, 1945

To the B-Bag:

I think that the suggestion that GIs be given pay for unused furlough time is a good one. Many GIs have had only ten or 15 days since coming to the service. I have had none, but it is neither my fault nor the fault of anyone else.

Do we have to wear pinks to make an impression on Congress or whoever can alter the situation? Call me selfish or whatnot, but this is my opinion.—Pfc Arthur J. LaBier, Eng. Regt.

German Atrocities

Apr. 19, 1945

To the B-Bag:

We read your story in today's issue about the concentration camp horrors uncovered by the capture of a camp by the 8th Armored Division.

That GI had an idea there. Why not? And why not make every German see the movie so they'll know why we must take stern measures with them?—Pvt. S. S. Firestone, A/C.

Hash Marks

Suggested Epitaph for A. Hitler. Born: Too Soon. Died: Not Soon Enough.

Momentous remarks. A special service officer grooming his base basketball team remarked, "And remember that basketball develops individuality, initiative and leadership. Now get on the floor and do exactly as I tell you."

Our spy at the front reports that Berlin isn't so well pleased with the tourist trade it's getting this season.

A Missouri editor we just heard about has a brilliant scheme for selling war bonds. "Hide 'em under the counter,"



he advises, "and then pass the word around that they are hard to get."

Irving Hoffman tells this one in Coronet. People these days are given short emergency courses in how to carry out difficult tasks.

Vignette of War. "I beg pardon, ma'am," said the Irish maid to the English officer's wife, "but is it colonel or major I should be calling the captain?"

We are repeating this oldie at the request of R.N., so please bear with us.



An intelligent girl is one who knows how to refuse a kiss without being deprived of it.

Leonard Lyons informs us that Pat Paree of the Follies, who has been sending her photos to servicemen, received a note from some of the Joes saying that they don't need pins to keep her photos on the walls—their heavy breathing keeps 'em up.

The office syc sez an old maid is a girl who said "no" once too often.

Afterthought. Many a man who marries his wife because he admires her carriage has worked like a horse for her ever since.

J. C. W.



"Aren't you glad that we have our Hans back home in Berlin at last?"

Infantry CO Outwitted Nazi Captor From PW to Burgomaster Is Colonel's Saga

(This is the third of several articles by staff writer Tom Hoge, who escaped from a German PW camp.)

By Tom Hoge

Stals and Stripes Staff Writer ODESSA, Mar. 25 (delayed)—Advancing warily into the German town of Wugarten some weeks ago, the commander of a Russian recon unit must have been slightly amazed when, instead of encountering an armed Nazi garrison, he was greeted by an American colonel and a group of bizarrely dressed U.S. officers.

Then, while the Red commander was probably trying to figure out how he had wound up on the wrong front, the colonel gave an order and 30 disarmed, disgruntled Nazi soldiers were led out and turned over to the Russian.

Thus was first brought to official light an episode in the career of Col. Hurley E. Fuller, of San Antonio, Tex., that ranks with an adventure magazine thriller. An episode that was climaxed when he became military commandant and burgomaster without portfolio of a German village on the Eastern Front.

Fuller, commander of the 28th Div.'s 110th Regt., had been undergoing a rest period with his battle-weary outfit in Luxemburg, when the Germans launched their December counter-attack.

After three days of bitter fighting, in which his outfit was badly mauled, the Germans reached Clervaux and Fuller's CP. Fuller tried to escape but he was picked up by a German patrol and taken back to a collection point with a number of other captured members of his regiment.

"They ordered the men to dig graves," said Fuller. "All that day they dug graves for the German dead."

It was grueling work, but it gave the men one grim satisfaction. They discovered that during the three-day battle their outfit had killed more than 2,000 Germans.

It was probably this death toll that put the Nazis in a vengeful mood. The next day Fuller and a group of officers were taken to a section of the Siegfried Line and locked in a pillbox. Left without food or water for 48 hours, they had resigned themselves to the fact that they had been left to die when they were taken out and, along with the rest of the group, taken on a 125-mile march.

The enlisted men were dropped off at a Stalag inside Germany and the officers taken to an Oflag near Spokken, Poland. They were there six days when the Russian push began. Orders were given to evacuate the camp.

"So it began all over again," said Fuller, "marching day and night without rest, across fields and through forests, along back routes to avoid tanks which were often only three or four kilometers away."

Finally, one night, after the men had sunk down wearily to rest, Capt. Matz, the German officer in charge, heard the rumble of Russian guns in the distance and ordered them to push on.

"That was too much," said Fuller. "I told Matz that the men were in no condition to walk and pointed out the danger of moving at night in case the Russians overtook us and we would be unable to identify ourselves.

Infantry CO Outwitted Nazi Captor

Then I made the captain a proposition. I suggested that he take the wagons and make a getaway with his men, leaving us a certificate stating that we had not killed our guards, stating that we had not encountered a German patrol.

Matz rejected the proposal in a fury. "Put it this way, then," said Fuller. "If you force us to march and we're overtaken by the Russians and a single American is killed, I promise you that you'll never live to be taken prisoner. Either I or one of my officers will grab a gun and shoot you."

His fury suddenly subsided, Matz said he would confer with the other German officers. As a result the men stayed where they were for the night.

The next day, as Fuller had hoped, the group was encircled by the Russians. Overcome with rage and alarm, Matz marched them all that day in a vain effort to get out of the pocket.

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Colonel's Saga

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GI Bull Session Gets Bitter

Doughs Give Bull's-Eye Picture Of What They See in Falling Reich

By G. K. Hodenfield

Stals and Stripes Staff Writer WITH THE 104TH INF. DIV., HALLE, Germany, Apr. 20 (Delayed)—It was almost pitch black in the shadow of the CP building where the bull session was in progress.

The southern accent spoke up again, "Did you guys see that place at Nordhausen? If that didn't make you hate their guts, I don't know what would. They ought to castrate every SS bastard they find alive."

A new voice spoke up from somewhere off to the left. "I had a funny thing happened to me today. We captured a German medical captain and I asked him what he thought of SS men and he said they weren't really so bad.

I almost blew my top. I asked him how about these political prisoners, and he said that other races were inferior and didn't deserve good treatment—they weren't civilized anyway so why treat 'em like civilized people."

"I swear I damn near killed him right there. I told him I left Poland when I was a kid and how would he like me to treat him the way they treated the Poles. He was scared stiff then, afraid I might hurt him. Wish to hell I had binged him around a bit now. And that bastard—said he got his medical education in America."

The man with the cigarette came back into the discussion. "Yeah, and we were going through a house the other day looking for some damn civilian who'd taken a pot shot at us and I saw a picture of Hitler on the wall and a bust of the sonofabitch on the piano.

I took the picture off the wall and some old lady started bawling her damn eyes out and yelled something about 'My savior, my savior!' That's the first old woman I ever saw that I wanted to kick her teeth out. What in hell's the matter with these people? Are they stupid? Ain't they got brains in their heads? It burns my keister."

Someone got up and yawned. "Well," he said, "we can't do a hell of a lot about it now but knock the hell right out of them. But somebody's gonna have to get busy soon and take some sort of steps to make damn sure these Krautheads don't get a chance to start this all over again in 20 years. And my God how I'm hoping they do a good job."

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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.

NAZI 'JUSTICE': Together

least 150 other Nazi prisoners, this man was herded into a barn and forced to sit on gasoline-soaked straw.

Congressional Medals Awarded to 2 GIs

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (ANS)—The War Department has announced the awarding of the Congressional Medal of Honor to 1—Sgt. Hulon B. Whittington, of Bastrop, La., for his part in routing a 100-tank panzer column and Nazi infantry force near Gerniesmil, France, last July, and—

Ticked Off the Global Wire

Big 3 Warn All Germans Against PW Cruelties

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (Reuter)—Disclosure of a Big Three warning to the held areas of Europe was made last night virtually simultaneously with a joint announcement by the War and State Departments of acceptance of a German offer to leave all prisoners in PW camps as the Allied Armies advance.

President Truman, Marshal Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill, in the first joint declaration by the new Big Three, told all Germans, from the high command captured United Nations troops or citizens would be "ruthlessly pursued and brought to punishment."

Britain and France joined in accepting the German government's offer to allow prisoners to remain in the camps. The agreement was considered effective as of midnight last Sunday, the deadline set for any German rejection of the arrangement. The War and State Departments said, adding that the Reich government is believed still to hold about 60,000 to 65,000 U.S. troops as prisoners. So far, 47 of the 78 PW camps and hospitals where American soldiers are known to be held have been overrun by the Allies, it was added.

Phillips Given New Post

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (A) (AP)—William Phillips, former American Ambassador to Italy and more recently President Roosevelt's special envoy to India, has been appointed a special assistant to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr., it was announced today.

13 Killed in Plane Crash

PERTH, Australia, Apr. 24 (Reuter)—Thirteen persons, including three U.S. Red Cross nurses, were killed when a U.S. Navy plane burst into flames after crashing in a fog in a hillside orchard near Perth.

Pétain Gives Himself Up for Trial

BERN, Apr. 24 (UP)—Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain, French Chief of State during the German occupation, who fled to the Reich with his Vichy government when the Allies liberated France, has arranged to give himself up for trial by the French and is now in Switzerland awaiting instructions from Paris concerning the time and place of his entry into France, it was announced officially today.



MARSHAL PÉTAIN

A Swiss communique said the Federal Council had granted the 88-year-old Marshal's request that he, his wife and a small group of attendants be allowed to cross the Swiss border into France in order to surrender to the French high officials and which had planned to try Pétain on May 17 even if he had been absent.

Pétain took control in May, 1940, when the Germans overran France, and arranged the June surrender to Hitler. During his regime, the pro-Axis Vichy government strove to abolish the democratic institutions of the French Republic and set up instead an authoritarian state along Nazi lines.

Pierre Laval, Pétain's Prime Minister from 1942 until the liberation of France, has been turned back by both the Swiss government and the authorities of the tiny principality of Liechtenstein, an authoritative Swiss source said.

An Associated Press message from Bern said that King Leopold of Belgium also was expected soon to reach the Swiss frontier.

Seek Berlin Honor for Pershing

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (ANS)—The Veterans of Foreign Wars asked Gen. Eisenhower today to designate World War I veterans to represent Gen. John J. Pershing in ceremonies marking the formal occupation of Berlin.

The request was cabled to Eisenhower by Jean A. Brunner, VFW Commander-in-Chief, who said: "This recognition would be a fitting tribute to the foresight of another great military leader."

Brunner pointed out that Pershing had hoped to march down Berlin's Unter den Linden at the conclusion of World War I in an effort to warn Germans against another war.

Germans to Be Told About Nazi Horrors

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (ANS)—Elmer Davis promised yesterday that the Germans will be told "plenty" about the wholesale horrors perpetrated in their country's concentration camps.

The OWI director, who returned recently from Europe, said part of the re-education of the German public will be liberal coverage by Allied newspapers and radios of Nazi-inspired atrocities discovered at Belsen and other camps.

Davis told a news conference that German citizens, especially in badly battered cities west of the Rhine, already are in a "chastened mood."

Davis said his trip had resulted in an agreement for co-operation between the OWI and the military in propaganda. The work will continue during the military occupation of Germany under Brig. Gen. Robert A. McClure, chief of the Psychological Warfare Division of SHAEF.

Liberated Countries to Try Beast

GEN. DEMPSEY'S HQ, Apr. 24 (Reuter)—Joseph Kramer, commandant of the notorious Belsen concentration camp, will be tried by the countries against whose subjects he committed atrocities, it was officially announced here today. The governments of Britain, the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Hungary and Poland are likely to be among those involved.

The "Beast of Belsen" is at present under close arrest in a field military camp.

World War I Graves Unhurt

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24 (AP)—Congress has received assurance that the graves of 30,439 American dead of the first World War in France and Belgium were not desecrated by the retreating German Army in recent fighting.

Maj. Charles B. Shaw, officer in charge of the American Battle Monuments Commission, told the House Appropriations Committee the cemeteries suffered very little damage. Adding: "The Germans went by them so fast they made no stand."

Punch at Plate Gives Chisox Early Lead

CHICAGO, Apr. 24—A major league manager without worries is practically an extinct creature, but if Jimmy Dykes of the rampaging White Sox has one worry at present it's the source of his cigar supply. His Chisox are looking that good.



JIMMY DYKES

The Dykesmen are off to their best start in 25 years, with five victories and no defeats, and they have slammed out 64 hits, an average of 13 per game, for a .352 team average, which is mighty good slugging.

Jimmy's ageing outfield of Oris Hockett, Johnny Dickshot and Wally Moses, who average 33, have been clouting the ball at the rate of 420. Hockett, who was acquired in a trade with the Indians last winter, and Dickshot, who failed with the Pirates and knocked around in the minors until last season, both have an average of .435. Moses is the weakling of the gardeners with a mere .391, but he has a date with Uncle Sam coming up Apr. 30 and will be replaced by Guy Curtwright, who is only 32—and also the only other outfielder on the Sox roster.

Infield a Surprise

However, the Hose infield is the most pleasing and also the most surprising to the cigar-chewing Dykes. It is sparked by 19-year-old Shortstop Cass Michaels, who, in addition to fielding his position flawlessly, has hit all kinds of pitching for an average of .421. Then there is 36-year-old Tony Cuccinello, a fugitive from the National League, who is clouting .385 and performing miracles at third base; 35-year-old Second Baseman Roy Schalk, who has come through in the clutch a number of times while compiling a .304 average; and Rookie Bill Nagel at first.

Nagel, a converted third baseman, is still a question mark at the initial sack, but with Kirby Ferrell, bought from Indianapolis for insurance, Dykes has no worries. Ferrell has been employed twice as a pinch-hitter and each time came through with a single to score a run which meant a ball game.

Haegg to Run In Penn Relays

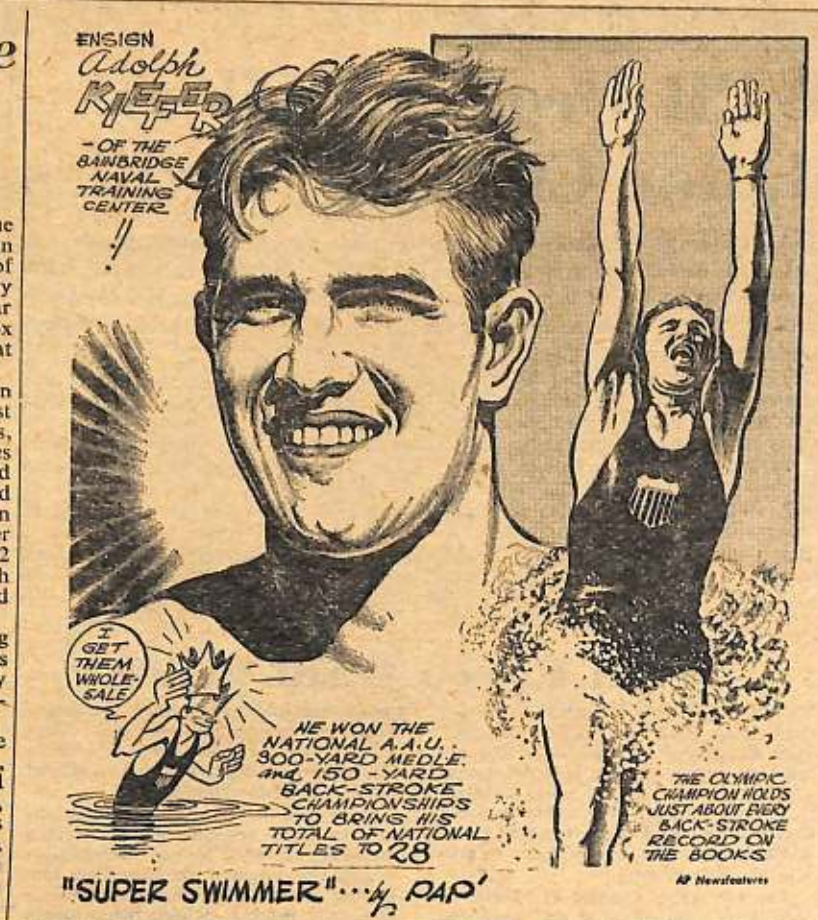
PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 24—Gunder Haegg is expected to show his championship form again Saturday when he competes in a special mile handicap race at the 51st annual Penn Relays at Franklin Field.

Haegg agreed to compete in what will be his first outdoor appearance since he arrived in the States last month after learning that transportation back to Sweden was delayed. He had been scheduled to sail for home Saturday, the day he will run in the relays.



American League standings table with columns for team, W, L, Pct.

National League standings table with columns for team, W, L, Pct.



Collins' Albany Club Favored In Eastern League Flag Chase

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Apr. 24—Jimmy "Rip" Collins' Albany club seems to be the team to beat as clubs of the Eastern League warm up for the opening of their 24th season May 2, but the draft boards have taken so many whacks at the loop's representatives that most fans want to "wait and see" before laying down their shekels.

Collins, former Cardinal slugger who a lot of folks think could step back into the majors and prove himself a headache to pitchers, will again be managing the Albany team from first base, and the league's number one drawing card has five of his most dependable performers returning.

Five new managers will be introduced this year, Jimmy Adair having been handed the reins at Elmira, Elmer Yoter at Scranton, Dick Porter at Wilkes-Barre, Bill Cronin at Binghamton and Merle Settlemyre at Hartford, where the '44 pennant wound up.

Porter and Cronin aren't exactly strangers, however. The former was a catcher with Binghamton and Settlemyre was a member of the Hartford mound staff last summer. Managerial holdovers are Ray Kolp at Williamsport, Collins at Albany and Ed Sawyer at Utica.

As a nucleus at Albany, Collins has such vets as Tony Rensa and "Vet" Luzansky, Pitchers Ralph McCabe and Fred Clemence, and Infielder Vern Lewis. The Williamsport Grays, Elmira Pioneers and the Wilkes-Barre Barons list about ten holdovers each. At Binghamton, Hartford, Scranton and Utica the reconstruction will have to start practically from the ground up.

Clark Griffith Wants All-Star Game Played

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24—Clark Griffith, president of the Washington Senators and baseball's closest contact with government officials, left yesterday for the joint meeting in Cleveland prepared to organize agitation for rescheduling the All-Star game at Boston's Fenway Park, which was originally set for July 10.

Since the only business on the Cleveland agenda is the election of a new commissioner—and that event to Griffith's way of thinking will not come to pass—he won't be able to introduce legislation for the return of the All-Star battle, but he plans to start the ball rolling.

"Perhaps there were many reasons for the cancellation at the time the All-Star contest was dropped," Griffith said. "But these have been dissipated and there is a strong demand from the services that the game be played."

Minor League Results

Table of minor league results including International League, American Association, and Pacific Coast League.

Miami Star Killed in Crash

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 24—Lt. (jg) Carl Gleason, who starred on the Miami (Ohio) University football team, was killed in a plane crash while on a training flight near the Wildwood, N.J., Naval Air Station last Friday officials of Fourth Naval District have announced.

'Chick' Fewster Checks Out

BALTIMORE, Apr. 24—Wilson J. "Chick" Fewster, who played the infield and outfield for the Yankees, Red Sox, Indians and Dodgers from '19 through '26, has died suddenly here.

Dick Tracy



L'il Abner



By Chester Gould



By Al Capp



Around the 48 Yesterday

WPB Urges Retailers Ration Clothing, Textiles

WASHINGTON (ANS)—To meet the tremendous requirements of the armed forces and to assure civilians "an even flow of supply," the War Production Board urged the nation's retail stores voluntarily to ration all clothing and other textiles to prevent hoarding and to spread supplies in which there are shortages.

Effective immediately, the WPB suggested that no retail store should sell any customer a quantity of merchandise in excess of "reasonable needs" so other customers will be given an opportunity to buy.

The plan will limit sales along these lines: Two sheets to a customer, two pairs of women's hosiery per person, two shirts, shorts and undershirts to a customer and two garments of infants' underwear per person.

The WPB declaration also set forth a long list of "don'ts" in advertising of all types to cut down scare buying.

Later, the WPB disclosed that the nation's stocks of tin were the lowest since the country entered the war and were in danger "of complete exhaustion if consumption continues at the present rate. Current stocks total only 70,000 tons, as against 105,000 tons before the war, the WPB said.

GIs at Frisco Want Peace

SAN FRANCISCO (ANS)—Two recently discharged soldiers who said they were designated by the State Department as advisers to the U.S. delegation at the United Nations world security conference opening Wednesday declared that veterans wanted a permanent peace and were prepared to fight again to preserve it, if necessary.

The two men, Charles G. Bolte, of New York, chairman of the American Veterans Committee, and Arthur W. Coats Jr., San Francisco, West Coast representative of the AVC, which claims 2,500 members, all World War II vets, said they and Sgt. Alfred M. Lillenthal, of New York, who has been convalescing at Camp Pickett, Va., after ten months in North Africa and Italy, had been asked by Washington to consult with the delegation on what the GIs wanted after the war.

(The State Department has not made

an announcement concerning the designation of veterans as consultants, but the Associated Press reported Lillenthal's name as among those on an official list as associate consultants.)

Bolte said that in reply to a questionnaire to AVC veterans and servicemen overseas, the AVC learned that soldiers unanimously wanted the immediate formation of a United Nations organization, with the U.S. joining before peace treaties were written, and 92 per cent supported the use of American armed forces to stop aggression without specific Congressional approval in each case.

Bolte added that the survey showed that 94 per cent approved the broad outlines of the security Council voting plan agreed upon at Yalta and that 96 per cent believed that if the Council asked U.S. servicemen to take a positive action to preserve peace, they would be willing to fight again.

High Court Rules 'No Treason'

WASHINGTON (ANS)—Voting 5-4, the Supreme Court set aside the treason conviction of Anthony Cramer, a German-born New Yorker who had been sentenced to 45 years in prison for allegedly giving aid to two German saboteurs put to death in 1942. The majority opinion held that there was not enough evidence to show that Cramer committed an open act of treason. It was the first time in history that the high court had ruled on a treason case.

In other rulings, the court refused a request by 20 railroads to reconsider its decision to hear a complaint by Gov. Ellis Arnall, of Georgia, against alleged discriminatory freight rates in the South and upheld the right of workers to solicit union members on company property during non-working hours.

Labor Board Okays Soft Coal Contract

Meanwhile, in the capital, the War Labor Board unanimously approved the wage provisions of the new soft coal contract which operators said would increase miners' pay an average of \$1.30 daily. The pact now must be approved by Economic Stabilization Director William H. Davis and by the OPA before it becomes effective.

The government is anxious for Davis to reach his decision before May 1, when the 30-day extension of the old contract expires. Otherwise, the government feels there might be some work stoppages under the United Mine Workers "no contract, no work" policy.

At the same time the Senate voted down, 66-9, a proposal to require 12 months of training before combat duty for all draftees under 20. The action came after Gen. George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, said the Army would adopt a policy of sending no men under 19 overseas as soon as military conditions permitted. Later, all Democratic Senators visited President Truman and pledged goodwill, cooperation and support during his administration.

Nobody Would Bury Maud

ST. LOUIS (ANS)—The embalmed body of a woman known only as "Maud" has lain in an open wooden casket in a local funeral parlor for 40 years "because relatives would not put out the money to bury her," the Star-Times reported.

The case follows that of the mummified body of a woman believed to be Mrs. Mary E. Woodward, who died in 1912 and whose body was found in her daughter's home in Washington last week.

August Kron Jr., proprietor of an undertaking company here, told the paper that Maud was brought to the establishment in 1905 when the business was operated by his father. He declined

to identify the woman further because "I think she still has relatives here."

She wasn't buried then, Kron said, only because her relatives wouldn't put out the money for the services.

Kron said that he first saw the body when he was a youngster and "she hasn't changed much in 40 years." He said that since "we've kept her here this long, there's no reason to bury her now."

Dr. Joseph F. Bredeck, City Health Commissioner, said he would order an immediate burial of the body and also an investigation as to why it wasn't buried previously. J. B. Lasater, head of the city's Vital Statistics Department, said the body was in excellent condition and well dressed.

Nicholas Murray Butler Resigns

NEW YORK (ANS)—Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, 83, one of the nation's foremost educators, resigned as President of Columbia University effective Oct. 1—the 44th anniversary of his presidency. The university's board of trustees unanimously accepted the resignation, then named Dr. Butler President Emeritus after Oct. 1.

In announcing that no plan had yet been made for choosing a successor, Frederick Coykendall, chairman of the board, said: "As President Emeritus, Dr. Butler will continue in the active service of the university, particularly in all that has reference to its relations with the general public."

Butler was graduated from Columbia in 1882 and received his doctorate two years later. Subsequently he won honorary degrees from 37 universities throughout the world. He founded the Educational Review in 1891 and for 30 years was its editor. He also founded Columbia University's summer session and the New York Teachers College.

French PWs Become Sterile

PARIS, Apr. 24 (AP)—Sterility is widespread among French prisoners being released from Germany, and is likely to have an important effect on France's already dwindling birthrate.

The French Ministry of Health referred a query on the subject to one of the leading Paris specialists who has been conducting a study of Frenchmen who have escaped from German prison camps during the last 18 months.

The Germans have apparently performed surgical sterilization on very few French prisoners, and those who have been subjected to this indignity are mainly

French Jews, he reported.

But sterility runs high among released prisoners, perhaps as a result of malnutrition, suffering and torture—and perhaps because the Germans introduced substances into their food without the prisoners' knowledge.

"It is still too soon to consider these spermatic disorders as permanent, but we can expect in years to come considerable recrudescence of masculine sterility among prisoners now returning from captivity," the doctor said. He has been treating some prisoners with a view to restoring their powers of reproduction.



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo
NO MERCY HERE: While U.S. soldiers stand by to see that they do not falter, German civilians of Gardelegen remove a body of a Nazi atrocity victim from a mass grave on the city's outskirts. All civilians were forced to uncover the mutilated bodies, rebury them in individual graves and put crosses over them.

The Red Star Shines Bright

First Tanks Into Berlin

By Roman Karmen
United Press Special Correspondent

INSIDE BERLIN, Apr. 24 (UP)—We are in Berlin. I am writing this dispatch inside Tank T34 in which I rode across the suburbs and into the streets of the capital with Marshal Zhukov's armored vanguards.

The enemy had been cleared from many of the streets, but we ran into heavy artillery and mortar-fire on the

West Fronts -

(Continued from page 1)

pounding the latter part with more than 400 artillery pieces and unrelenting air assaults, and in the Berlin area, where Allied tactical planes joined yesterday in aiding the Red Army's fight to conquer the Reich capital.

Units of the 3rd Army, which reached the Danube, were about 100 miles north of Berchtesgaden. A Reuter dispatch from SHAEF said it was generally believed there that, despite Hamburg Radio broadcasts that Hitler was leading the defense of Berlin, the Fuehrer had long since fled to Berchtesgaden, in the southernmost corner of the redoubt.

The Austrian border was only 35 miles away from 3rd Army spearheads. Red Army troops are already advancing along the Danube Valley, through Austria, following the capture of Vienna.

Prior to the announcement that the Danube had been reached, dispatches had reported 18-mile advances along a 25-mile front. Tanks of the 11th Armored Division were last reported at Cham, 28 miles northeast of Regensburg, while infantry units were 11 miles closer.

On the western flank of the armies storming the outer ramparts of the redoubt, U.S. 7th Army forces, with two crossings over the Danube already won, were reported by Luxembourg Radio to have entered Augsburg, 35 miles northwest of Munich. The report was unconfirmed.

Both American and French troops took part in capturing Ulm, 75 miles west of Munich. Twenty miles farther south French units captured Ochsenhausen.

Dispatches said the bridgehead at Dillingen, on the Danube northwest of Augsburg, had been expanded to 10 miles wide and six deep.

French troops crossed the Rhine again, this time at a point near the Swiss frontier, in what apparently is a move to quicken the liquidation of the pocket in the Black Forest area, one of the three big pockets formed by the American and French operations in this southwestern area of Germany.

The United Press said 2,000 U.S. tanks were being used in the drive on the redoubt.

France Gives Honors To American Officers

Gen. Carl Spaatz, USSTAF commander, yesterday was awarded the Legion of Merit, Grand Officer—France's second highest military decoration—for "exceptional services rendered in the course of the campaign for the liberation of France."

The French Legion of Honor, Order of Officer, was given Maj. Gen. Frederick L. Anderson, USSTAF deputy commander for operations; Maj. Gen. Hugh J. Knerr, deputy commander for administration; and Brig. Gen. Edward P. Curtis, Spaatz' chief of staff.

East Fronts -

(Continued from page 1)

fighting hard to overcome road blocks hastily erected in the streets between rows of houses and flats. Big Russian guns have been massed in an arc around the northern sector of the city, however, and were plastering the streets ahead of advancing troops. Furious hand-to-hand struggles were reported around the Schoenhauser Allee station and along the Eberswalder and Danziger Strasse.

On the east, Hamburg Radio said strong Russian tank forces had broken into the Frankfurter Allee and that the Landsberger Allee station had been captured by the Soviets but later retaken. Other reports said that Marshal Zhukov's forces, pushing westward along the Frankfurter and Landsberger Allee, were between one and a half and two miles from the Wilhelmstrasse.

On the south, Marshal Koniev's tanks, after breaking into the city, drove near the fringes of the big Tempelhof airfield and were threatening to link up with other forces advancing on the field from the east. Other elements of Koniev's command were reported in the Scholeneberg sector, about two miles south of the Tiergarten in the center of the city.

South of the city a great battle was reported raging on a line running between Zossen and Gross Machnow, east of Luckenwalde. Berlin said the center of gravity was near Luckenwalde and along the autobahn extending north from Zossen. Norwegian Telegraph Service reports said Luckenwalde and Juterbog had been entered by the Russians.

Far north of Berlin Russian troops were said to have forced their way across the Oder River to form a big bridgehead south of Stettin.

Second Tactical Air Force fighter planes were thrown into the Berlin battle yesterday, the rocket-firing fighters attacking German convoys moving into the city from the west. The fighters caught long lines of German transport moving into the city bumper-to-bumper from the area of Nauen. The two streams of traffic extending for many miles were wide open for attack and the fighters left hundreds in flames.

"We couldn't miss," one pilot said, describing the massacre. "The road was crammed all the way into Berlin. Every shot was a bullseye. We just went down the line destroying everything."

Describing the Berlin scene, one pilot said, "the entire eastern half of Berlin is in flames." Other pilots, who met Russian pilots over the German capital, said smoke and dust rose a thousand feet over the city.

While the 8th Air Force remained idle for the third straight day, Lancasters of the RAF yesterday bombed the railway center of Bad Oldesloe, northeast of Hamburg.

Truman Names Ross White House Press Aide

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24—President Truman has announced that Leonard Reinsch, named as the Presidential press secretary last week, had returned to his duties as a radio executive, and that Charles G. Ross, Washington correspondent for the St. Louis Post Dispatch, has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Truman explained that former Governor James M. Cox, of Ohio, had requested that Reinsch be returned to his duties as managing director of Cox's radio interests.

Ross, granted a two-year leave of absence to undertake the job, will cover the San Francisco Conference before assuming his new post. The President said that Jonathan Daniels has agreed to remain as press secretary until Ross returns.

8th Idle, RAF Out

While the 8th Air Force remained idle for the third straight day, Lancasters of the RAF yesterday bombed the railway center of Bad Oldesloe, northeast of Hamburg.

Terry and the Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



By Milton Caniff

