

# HITLER BEARS THE HEAVY BURDEN

## Patton Within Work Begins 79 Miles Of At Frisco Berchtesgaden Conference

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

PARIS (AP)—The American Third Army reached the Danube and moved within 79 miles of Berchtesgaden today while two other armies, assaulting Hitler's final Alpine redoubt, crashed forward in a great maneuver to encircle Munich, greatest of South German cities.

British in the north stormed Brenz while armies in the center awaited a junction with the Russians.

The American Seventh and French First Armies are exploiting their Danube bridgeheads in drives to the Swiss and Austrian borders with the encirclement of Munich shaping up steadily. AP Correspondent A. J. Goldberg reported from Gen. Jacob L. Devers' Sixth Army Group Headquarters.

### LAKE OUTFLANKED

The vacantly defined redoubt in the south perhaps has been invaded already by Devers' troops which have outflanked Lake Constance, its western limit.

The Tiger (Fourth Armored) Division of the Seventh Army captured Oberstdorf, 97 miles southwest of Munich and 97 from the Brenner Pass into Italy. Other Seventh Army troops were but 46 miles from Munich—capital of the Nazi Party and third largest city in Germany—in the north.

All three armies were rolling with unchecked power through foothills of the Alps through terrain 2,000 or more feet high.

The Eleventh Armored Division of the Third Army stabbed fifteen miles farther southeast, in Germany to within eighteen miles of the Austrian border. It reached a point 79 miles north and slightly east of Berchtesgaden.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army, wheeling south on the left flank of the assaults are in the south, powered by 40 known divisions of nearly 400,000 men and as many as 1,500 tanks, was rolling upon Berchtesgaden where Hitler is believed to have fled—the German radio to the contrary notwithstanding—to direct the Nazis' last ditch stand in the Bavarian redoubt, where the Alps tower up to five miles high.

Patton's pains since starting his offensive south and southward aggregated 400 miles.

### GERMAN SURVIVORS

His tanks and infantry overran 2,100 square miles of shrinking Germany yesterday.

The First Division reached thirteen miles forward and reached the Danube two miles west of Regensburg—a major traffic center on the main line to the industrial and six miles from Valhalla. The division is now in the hands of the enemy.

### WEATHER

Mostly cloudy and warm today and tonight followed by partly cloudy and warmer Thursday. Temperature at 2:30 today—74. High and Low Last 24 hours—64, 74. Sunrise Today—6:02. Sunrise Tomorrow—6:37.

### Not From Eisenhower

## V-E Day Announcement Will Come From Allied Capitals

By JAMES M. LONG

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SUPREMACY, Paris—(AP)—The day of victory in Europe will be proclaimed by the chiefs of staff of the Allied Governments, and not by Gen. Eisenhower, and there is being brought to bear considerable influence to prevent a premature celebration.

All the way from generals down to privates, Allied fighting men believe that the celebration of "victory" while thousands of men still may have to die in mopping up operations would be a threat to the world's health and a handicap to the job still to be done.

### Big Four Chiefs Review Plans

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Big Four chiefs gathered today for a last-minute review of plans by which they hope to make the United Nations Conference the world's guarantee of peace.

Preliminary to the formal opening at 7:45 P. M. (EST), these men whose countries are sponsoring the 44-nation assembly to draw up a world organization went into a hotel room huddle. They were Secretary of State Stettinius, Russian Foreign Minister Molotov, British Foreign Secretary A. V. Alexander and Chinese Foreign Minister Soong.

To them largely falls the job of sealing the conference through its crucial first days and then on into the work of blue-printing machinery for preventing another world war.

The presence of Soong was taken as a sign that the Polish issue, sharply dramatized by the absence of any representation thus far for Poland, was not at the moment under discussion. This difficult problem is almost entirely one for the Big 5, with Russia on one side and Britain and America on the other.

A beautiful day, with the sun shining on San Francisco's rambling hills, welcomed the delegates as they started off their historic conference.

This is the day that millions of people over the earth have waited and worked for through the years of fighting to the verge of victory. It dawned bright with expressions of hope for lasting peace, yet darkened by one cloud—the Anglo-American-Russian dispute over Poland.

During some dramatic move by Premier Marshal Stalin of Russia, that dispute on Polish representation was solved in a speech by the Soviet Union's chairman of the deadlocked talks as ever-splitting the ranks of the Allied powers in the moment they strive for unity.

Otherwise there is evidence of close big-power co-operation which members of the American group insist on for that purpose.

### MUCH ACTIVITY

Highlights of the scheduled half-hour program to be broadcast around the world in a speech by President Truman from Washington, Stettinius raps the session to open and deliver the initial address, introducing the American Chief Executive. After Mr. Truman the program can be followed by Gov. Earl Warren of California and Mayor Roger D. La Guardia of New York.

The President began work on his address last night after talking for an hour with former Secretary of State Acheson.

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### Direct 'Earthquake' Hit

## Fuehrer's Berchtesgaden House Blown To Pieces

LONDON (AP)—RAF Lancasters blew to pieces Hitler's chateau at Berchtesgaden today with a direct hit by a 12,000-pound earthquake bomb and rained the mammoth bombs down on his "Eagle's Nest" fortress atop Kehlstein mountain five miles from the chateau.

The raid on the Alpine lair possibly was an attempt on the Fuehrer's life, and even heavier bombs may have been dropped.

Sixteen "earthquake" bombs—the type that drilled the thick hide of the "Tritons" and plunged through 20-foot-thick concrete U-boat shelters—were dropped in the area where Hitler's underground fortress is believed located.

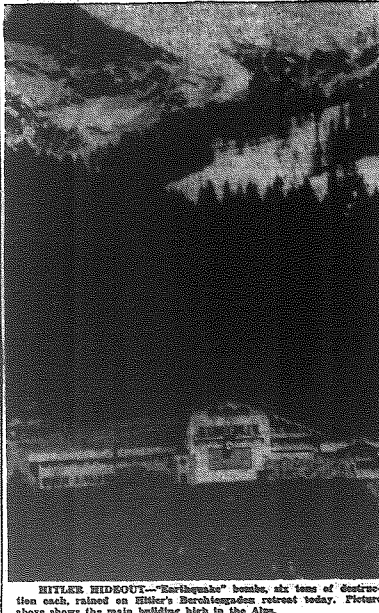
Probably 200 of Britain's biggest planes staged this first direct attack on Hitler's Berchtesgaden properties and an Air Ministry announcement that such high explosive and deep penetration bombs were used indicated that possibly the 25,000-pound monster bombs capable of making a 100-ton crater also were dropped.

Angels were Hitler's chateau near Berchtesgaden itself, 200 barracks on the grounds reportedly paralyzing 10,000 picked troops, and the mountain peak perched a top Kehlstein five miles from the chateau.

The Kehlstein "castle," reachable only by a serpentine road, elevators inside a mountain shaft, is believed to have a vast underground fortress of air-conditioned corridors and huge supplies.

Whether Hitler was there at the time was not known.

There was no official suggestion whether the raid was planned specifically to catch See RAF BOMBS on page 9



HITLER HIDEOUT—'Earthquake' bombs, six tons of destruction, rained on Hitler's Berchtesgaden retreat today. Picture above shows the main building high in the Alps.

### March On In Italy

## Fifth And Eighth Drive Across Po

ROME (AP)—Both the British Eighth and U. S. Fifth Armies sent troops across the Po River today in pursuit of disorganized German forces reeling back toward Italy's northern border.

The crack 10th American Mountain Division won the first Allied foothold beyond the barrier stream Monday morning in the face of what a communique called a "remarkably fierce" concentration of enemy fire.

Units of the Eighth Army also advanced the stream to the east later.

Exactly where the Allied forces were the crossings was not disclosed as the Allied Command claimed as a security blackout to keep the Germans as possible from the enemy.

It was known however, that the U. S. 10th Division, racing forward 25 miles in two days, crossed the river at a point where it is about 200 yards wide with gradually deepening shores. The Germans, protected by earthworks, poured a hail of lead into the Allied assault boats, but the 10th quickly secured a bridgehead.

In the Po Valley northwest of Rome, other Fifth Army elements mopped up extensive German units by-passed in the first stages of the drive.

Elsewhere along the long, twisting battle line, from Ferrara on the right flank, the east port of Leghorn on the Ligurian coast, Allied troops were reported moving forward, although they altered enemy defenses. Ferrara fell yesterday to the Eighth Army. The Fifth won La Spezia.

### Mecklenburg Casualties

(Stories Inside)

KILLED

## Japs' Naha Line Reels

By AL DOPKINS

GUAM—(AP)—U. S. Seventh Division infantrymen, seizing high ground near the village of Naha, today threatened the Eastern flank of the strongly-fortified Japanese defense wall on Southern Okinawa.

Capture of the elevation was the first marked change in the fiery front since the beginning of the all-out attack last Thursday, when three divisions of Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge's 24th Army Corps advanced up to 800 yards.

Since then the fighting has been a slow, bloody and methodical job of digging the Japanese from caves, blockhouses and pillboxes in their elaborate interlocking defense belt, which extends four miles south to the capital city of Naha.

Marines of Maj. Gen. Roy S. Geiger's Third Amphibious Corps, who overran the northern third of Okinawa, are digging the beach position, landed yesterday on three more offshore islands, Yagachi, Hrasma and Kouri virtually completely encircling the American clean-up of islands around Okinawa.

### JAPS ANTELUATED

Yagachi and Kouri are north of the Motobu Peninsula, which juts off the northwestern coast of Okinawa. Hrasma is off the Kouri Peninsula, on the west coast. Only on Yagachi was any opposition encountered. This was fierce and quickly dispersed.

Unlike the larger islands of Ie and the Kermas, these small islands are devoid of battlefields, but are of strategic importance as must be occupied to prevent Japanese Okinawa fugitives from reaching them.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz's command today reported continued heavy fighting along the entire front. Six guns of battleships, cruisers and destroyers poured hundreds of tons of shells into the enemy defenses, sealing off caves and destroying emplacements.

## Russian Army Reported In Heart Of City

### Complete Encirclement Of Battered City Announced By Stalin

LONDON (AP)—Premier Marshal Stalin announced complete encirclement of Berlin today and the Hamburg radio admitted that the Russians had reached the heart of the city.

The announcement of the encirclement came in an order directed jointly to Marshals Gregory K. Zhukov and Ivan Konev, which said the troops of the First White Russian and First Ukrainian Armies had linked up northwest of Potsdam.

Stalin said the juncture cut all roads leading out of the capital and totally enclosed it.

The Hamburg radio announced the penetration to the center of Berlin a short time before Stalin's order was broadcast from Moscow.

The geographical heart of the city is on the famous Unter den Eichen. The German High Command announced earlier that the Red Army had seized the last escape railway line westward from Berlin.

Nazi Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels, however, in a statement broadcast over the Hamburg radio, told the population of Berlin that help was on the way and appealed to the garrison to hold out.

"Important forces to relieve the defenders of Berlin are being brought up," he said. "Until they arrive we have to scratch together all our energy and all our courage in order to hold the enemy at bay."

Goebbels added that "no white flag" should be shown in the capital, which is fighting for its life.

Soviet troops were reported in the enemy's communique to have reached the city northwest of Dresden. At last reports, Americans stood on the Mulde River, east of Leipzig, and twenty miles from the Elbe there.

The broadcast German communique said the Russians reached the Elbe between Riesa, 25 miles northwest of Dresden, and Torgau, another 22 miles farther northwest, by floodwaters.

### Nazis Blasting Big Rhine Dam

NEW YORK (AP)—The Germans "have warned the Allies that they are blasting a big Rhine dam upstream from the Elbe. A tidal wave in the river can be expected," the British radio reported today. Elements of the First Army are operating along the Rhine in closing upon Germany's coasted. In the Rhine, French, British, American, Soviet, and Allied supply lines downstream might also be affected by floodwaters.

### Underground War

## Subway Battle Rages In Berlin

By KIDD GILMORE

MOSCOW—(AP)—A fantastic battle surged through the subway beneath Berlin's rubble-strewn streets today as Russian forces fought to crush fanatical Nazi troops using the underground network to elude Soviet attacks. Elements of the First Army are operating along the Rhine in closing upon Germany's coasted. In the Rhine, French, British, American, Soviet, and Allied supply lines downstream might also be affected by floodwaters.

These and other reports of the struggle raging inside Berlin suggested the Germans might succeed in making a long defense of their capital.

A Red Star correspondent, describing the strategic use in which the Germans were putting the Berlin subway, declared the battle for the city was assuming "a peculiar character."

"It is difficult to define," he wrote, "fighting is going on up and down the subway, and there are unexpected battles in the comparatively deep tunnels. The Germans have transferred from the center of Berlin through the subway many fresh units. They crawl from the subway and bring fighting pieces with them. The streets are again under attack."

"We have to wipe them out or drive them back into the subway otherwise they would spread over many blocks and continue their communications."

### BATTLE AROUND STATION

The Red Star correspondent told of a fierce hour-long battle around the main station where the Nazis suddenly appeared in an area from which they previously had been cleared.