

Patton Eight And Half Miles From Austria

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR
PARIS — (AP) — American armies closed within 41 miles of Munich on the north and northwest today and sent tanks thundering down the Danube Valley within eight and one-half miles of Austria and 100 of a junction with the Russians which would encircle Czechoslovakia.

Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army was closest to Austria and across the Danube at a point 41 miles north of Munich beyond the heavily fortified city of Regensburg. Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army threatening Augsburg was the same distance to the northwest.

Hitler's ruined roost at Berchtesgaden was barely 27 miles from Third Army troops in the Danube Valley. The three-army assault force was closest to Austria and across the Danube at a point 41 miles north of Munich beyond the heavily fortified city of Regensburg.

NEW YORK — (AP) — The Moscow radio said today "It is reported that the American Seventh Army is only 30 miles from Munich." This would place a spearhead some fifteen miles beyond positions that included in hard discharges from that sector.

upon the Nazis' Alpine redoubt in the south was up to or across the Danube on a 100-mile front.

The 11th Armored Division of the Third Army drove nine miles farther southward, to the vicinity of Furlbach, only eight and one-half miles from the Austrian frontier.

German resistance, however, was stiffening. Pilots saw German troops and machine gunning at Passau on the Austrian border for a supreme defense of that Danube-Brezen and the Danube.

The Third Army, like the First and American Seventh, had crossed the Danube on a wide front.

STRIKE EAST
Some of Patton's divisions struck east into Czechoslovakia capturing Eger (Cheb), where Hitler made his post-Munich headquarters in the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia.

Mecklenburg Casualties
(Starts Inside)

KILLED
Sgt. James W. Crawford
Pfc. James T. Roland

MISSING
Pfc. Calvin L. Morgan

PRISONER
Capt. Renato F. Spadola

Two-Minute News Roundup
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germany
Two of Germany's most important ports fell to the Allies today — Bremen and Hamburg.

The British Second Army captured Bremen, the Nazis' biggest submarine base and second largest port, where the opposition suddenly collapsed this afternoon. The British Second Army, which advanced into the city of Stettin, Marshal Stalin announced in the course of the day, has fallen to the Russians.

British Take Great Port Of Bremen

City Captured
By Second Army
PARIS — (AP) — The British Second Army captured Bremen today, clearing all the great port except the dock area and Burgoyne Park, dock area and Burgoyne Park, north of the center of the city.

The British Lowland (5th) and Iron Third Divisions captured 5,000 Germans since entering Bremen yesterday. Road congestion saved many suddenly and almost disappeared.

The threatened entrapment of Bohemia and Moravia—last unconquered parts of Czechoslovakia—might prove a greater blow than even the German disasters in the Ruhr and at Stettin.

ROADS CUT
All roads and rails from the Pilsen-Prague area to the Bavarian redoubt were cut except a strategic route through Ulm and the Third Army was advancing down the last 23 miles to that city.

The Seventh Army moved south and southeast upon Munich along a 60-mile front against hardened German resistance. Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army, threatening to curl around that third largest German city from the south in a pincer move to the Austrian border.

The French First Army slashed into German pockets in the Black Forest, Swabian Alps, around Ulm and Stuttgart and Aalen. The Pfc. pushed along the Swiss-Rhinelands, led by Waldhut, 21 miles northwest of Zurich.

ARMY DESTROYED
The French closed in on Munich from the west after destroying the German Ninth Army. Rumor has it that the city of Munich, Berchtesgaden, where Hitler's chateau was hit by six tons and higher bombs yesterday, was indeed destroyed from all sides. The Russians were reported beating in from the east, some 50 miles away. The French moved down from the north, the British from the south, the Seventh Army and the French were striking down from the west and east, and the Third Army was striking frontally from the north.

Stimson Says
Nazi Power Broken By Allied Might

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Secretary of War Stimson today declared that Nazi Germany's military power had been broken.

In his weekly war report, Stimson summed up the world military situation in this manner:

"First, the entry of Russian troops into the blasted ruins of Berlin, the imminent Japanese surrender and the Soviet forces, and the push of the Western Allies against the German coastal land in the north and the Bavarian Alps on the south—these developments have torn and broken Germany's military power with a final finality."

"While no doubt there is heavy and perhaps prolonged fighting yet to be done in sections of Germany, the disintegration of the Nazi military establishment permits us to look more and more clearly to the war against Japan."

Clemency Will Be Asked For Marshal
PARIS — (AP) — Andre Moromet, procurer of the High Court who will prosecute Marshal Petain on charges of treason, said today "Petain's death penalty is not the only thing that I would ask for. I would also ask for clemency for the aged military leader."

Imminent Junction Hinted
Shells From Soviet Guns Fall Near 9th Army Elbe Positions

Act As Yanks March Italian Patriots Rise Up In Cities

ROME — (AP) — Fifth Army troops captured Verona, on the approaches to the Brenner Pass, today.

ROME — (AP) — Radio broadcasts monitored in Rome indicated today that Italian patriot forces were seizing control of all major cities in Northern Italy, with the German and Italian Fascist garrisons either fleeing or surrendering.

In disguise had arrived at Como in Italy on the Swiss border.

Uprisings against the Fascists were reported at Turin and the cities of Gallarate, Legnano, Inverigo and Varese. Many other smaller towns were reported in patriot hands.

At Genoa the Nazi General Meinhart ordered his troops to hold the city.

French Drama
Petain Awaiting Arrest At Border

By THOMAS F. HAWKINS
VALLORBE, Switzerland — (AP) — Marshal Petain arrived at this Swiss border station at 4:37 P. M. today to await arrest by French officers on a charge of high treason, a crime punishable by death.

The Marshal alighted from his car following a journey from Vevay in eastern Switzerland, and walked with his wife into the railway station's restaurant to take coffee while waiting.

The 89-year-old marshal, his wife and other officials traveled in a four-car caravan led by motorcycle escort.

Members of his entourage meanwhile mailed a letter to the aged former Vichy chief of state who wrote April 5 to Adolf Hitler announcing that he intended to return voluntarily to France.

The letter, which seems likely to stand as the theme of his forthcoming defense, declared that he intended to place me in absentia before the high court of justice.

"Preliminary discussions begin April 24. This information imposed an obligation that I accept as my duty and I address myself to your excellency to aid me in accomplishing my duty."

A London newspaper man who flew in one of the lead ships said the force of the explosion made the ground speeded rocks, earth, bricks and even trees, uprooted and thrown into the air.

By WES GALLAGHER
ARNEBURG, GERMANY — (AP) — Red Army shells now are falling occasionally a mile or two east of Arneburg, where the headquarters of the Soviet western bank is held by U. S. Ninth Army troops awaiting a breakthrough.

Red bursts of the Russian shells are part of a great drama of the war which can be seen from the top of a bluff here at Arneburg.

Piercing death throes are speeding a tide of panic-stricken humanity to the Elbe in

Stettin Falls To Other Red Army Forces

LONDON — (AP) — Marshal K. K. Rokossovsky's Second White Russian Army captured the port of Stettin today as other Soviet forces battled in the center of Berlin and, by German account, drove to within 14 1/2 miles of the Elbe.

The German High Command announced that a Soviet wing west of Berlin had driven to Rathenow, 14 1/2 miles from American positions.

The advance to Rathenow, an optical instrument manufacturing center on the Havel River, represented a 23 1/2 mile gain westward for the Russians from Nauen. It widened farther on the west the encircling belt through highly arid Berlin.

Stettin, 100 miles northwest of Berlin, was the main port of the Soviet Red Army. Moscow said the Russians advanced 10 miles beyond the river.

Frontier Marshal Stalin's order sought to hasten the fall of the port was the first Soviet confirmation of German reports that the Red Army had moved westward into the Oder. It also was the first Moscow disclosure that the Russians had captured Lower Oder in the Berlin area.

Stettin had been under siege for several weeks. Stalin's order crossed both the western and eastern Oder, doubtless to be broken through powerfully-justified German defenses on the west bank.

A late Moscow dispatch reported that German resistance in Stettin was weakening.

As Russian artillery concentrated a withering fire on the heavily fortified city, the Red Army broke through powerfully-justified German defenses on the west bank.

Under a deadline Berlin's Soviet News Agency dispatch said: "Men of the Red Army today are fighting in the heart of the German capital."

The dispatch gave no details, but probably referred to the vicinity of the Alexanderplatz, the heart of the capital's business district.

By enemy account both sides have thrown in the towel. Fighting in the industrial districts of Tegel and Spandau in the northwestern part of the city, the Germans also reported fierce fighting on the southern fringe of Stettin on the Oder estuary north of Berlin.

"Sidney Carton"
Say Stouge Will Die In Hitler's Place

STOCKHOLM — (AP) — The Free German Press Service said today that the Soviet former grocer resembling Adolf Hitler had been sent to Berlin in a plane to replace the man on the barricades.

He will act as Hitler's trumpet. The Soviet Press Service said today that the Soviet former grocer resembling Adolf Hitler had been sent to Berlin in a plane to replace the man on the barricades.

WEATHER
Partly cloudy and warm. A heavy rain shower is expected tonight. High 65, low 45.