

Russian Yank Forces To Link Hands

News Roundun By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

so sain mountain forrest.
The central sector of the battle of Germany is the scene of the interpart meeting of American and Russian flighting men—a junctic awaited monostarily.

MISSING Pvt. Frank Helma

BELLEVILLE III. e/n — A taste for the better things— and a gun, got an unidentified woman that she wanted from the profession of the better than the woman that she wanted from the profession of the profession o

Gun-Mall and Gang Moke Way With Reast

and remembring ment—a por-ture sewarded momentarity.

Berlis

The Russians, too, are driving hard toward the Nests' Alpine redoubt. The German High Comtoward the Comman High Comtoward the Comman High Comtoward the Comman High Comtoward the Comman High Comtoward the Red Army has streaked
half-way across central Austria to
aweep within 80 miles of Berchiesgaden. By German account, this
said the Red Army has a considered
with the United States Third Army.

The bettle for Berlin, meanwhile, finds the Red Army Ughtening its entriclement, with more
than one-third of the city in the
street battles, two powerful Soviet
armies are cutting into the heart
of the capital.

In Italy, the Pfith and Eighth Armies are taking positions along the southern banks of the Po River. Allied Headquarters has clamped a news blackout on the latest gains.

The Pacific

Burst Over Danube At Third Place

> 105 Miles From Berchtesgaden

By HAL BOYLE

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY—(AP)

—The Russians may effect a juncture today with eagerly
waiting American troops, a Soviet tankman hinted in field
practic conversations with doughboys on this front yeaterday.
Guprome Headquarters in Parts
has said that first anomenoments
has anomenoments
have a maximum from Pittsburgh, Pratan tankman from Pittsburgh, Pratank tankman from Pittsburgh, Pratankman from Pittsburgh, Pratankman

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Three Allied Armies have heightened the pressure against the aparticular the processor of the proce

H. Hopkins Is 'Status Ono'

WASHINGTON— 18"—A White ouse news conference falled to ted any light today on the overnmental future of Harry opkins, special assistant to the terrosident Rossvell.

Ebon Ayers, acting White House tress secretary who conducted the onference, was asked by a re-torior: "What is Harry Mopkins' tatus now?"

"Status quo, I think," Avers re- Church Pledges

Laval Refused Admittance

Petain Enters Switzerland; King Leopold Is Expected

By THOMAS HAWKING
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BY THOMAS HAWKING
BY THOMAS HARD
Petala entered Switzerland
from Germany dody after de
citial in France. And King
Leonold of Belgium, who surrendered to the Germans in
190, was expected to reach
the Swiss frontier some time
190, was expected to reach
the Swiss frontier some time
Pierre Laval, arch collaborationist of the Vichy regime,
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border at 9 A. M., at St. Mar-grethen, near the eastern end of Lake Constance.

Council to permit his transit, Petain sisclared himself will-ing to surrender in France and stand trial, it was announced.

However, he will remain in switzerland temporarily until contact is made with the proper Prench authorities.

or remen authorities.

The arrival of Petain and the expectation that King Leopold would reach Switzerland during the day indicated that the collapsing Nasi regime had permitted its potential hostages to leave—possibly through some understanding with the Allied Governments concerned.

It was known that the Allied Gevernments had been in-formed in advance of Petain's coming and presumably gave their consent.

their consent.

Petain arrived at the Swiss
frontier town of Seint Margarethen by automobile in a
nine-car coavoy. He was in
the first car with his wife.

The aged marshal did not

Okinawa Deadlocked

Jap Gun Pockets Halt Yank Drive

GUAM—(AP)—Flame-throwing 24th Corps infantry-men edged down the southern coasts of Okinawa yesterday, press dispatches from the battlefront reported today, but Japanese artillery held the center of the line in check.

Fifth Drives

TANKS RUN WELD

In the advance to the Ferrara
area, the Eighth Army's tenks ran
wild through the fleeing Germans.
The starks along
the fleeing Cermans
The starks along
the fleeing Cermans
the fleeing Cermans
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The Webster definition for status que: "The state in which any thing is; the state existing." CHICAGO (777-24 1924)

CHRGAGO-dm-A pledge of the alleglance and co-operation of the Methodate Chunch in the form of an official greeting was made to a fine of the church of the church of the church of the church church of the church council of (Bishens, Bishen H. Lester Smith of Committee and the official greeting was the first made to a Problemi was the first made to a Problemi was the first made to a Problemi Washington.

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In Frisco

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

nter of the line in check.

The 27th Division made small grains on the West Coast. The 7th thou two more east coast crags on the painful approach to Hull 178 where censury replacement crews speed in creating a world posset put Nipponese machine-guns into action egain almost as fast as they were knocked out.

Japanese hatteries burded see fronting him is the unit-schildren.

His only claboration was to state that naval guns and carrier alternit continued to support troops of Maj. - Gen. John R. Hodge's 24th Army .Corps. Elsewhere in the Ryukyus, 33

Stettinius

Soviet Armies Cut At Nazi Capital Heart

Swift Dash Halfway Across Central Austria Made By Other Red Forces

By RICHARD KASISCHKE

LONDON — (AP) — Russian troops have tightesed their encirclement of Berlin—already more than one-third is soviet hands—and in a swift dash halfway across Central Austria have swept to within 89 miles of Berchtesgeden, littler's mountain retreat, the German High Command declared today.

The surge through Austria carried to Eiseners, 57 miles from Linz and 85 from Salzburg, the broadcast bul-

By German account, Russians in Austria were but 185 airline miles from a linkup with the U. S. Third Army.

Two powerful Soviet Armies were cutting into the neart of Berlin in savage street battles.

heart of Berlin in savage stree.

The German High Command add the Russian encircling drive around the capital on the southwest had reached "areas southeast of Brandenburg, and east of Potsdam," Berlin's great western suburb. Brandenburg is 25 miles west of Berlin. Panic Grows In Berlin

NAZIS BESIST

See SOVIETS NEAR on page 7 Three Americans

ad met.
Marshal Gregory H. Zhukov's Germans Murdes

WEATHE

Presence In Berlin Doubted

Hitler Believed To Have Fled To Southern Redoubt Long Ago

By JAMES M. LONG
PARISS - Gy - Despite Hamburg radio broadcasts beasting that Addi Hitler was in Berlin personally commanding the defense of the Hitler beautiful to the desired of the Hitler was the Hi

whole administration to many went into the Southern Initiation, according to information of the second of the seco

(While Nasi propagandisis pictured Bitler last night and directing from the frontier the Battle to a station using the wavelength of the underground Werewolf said that Bitler was not in the Belch Bitler was not in the Bitler was not i