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WINNING RACE FOR RUSSIA'S DEFEAT THROUGH VIENNA SUBURBS

Sweep Within Six Miles Of City Proper

LONDON—(AP)—The Red Army forces have captured Bratislava, capital of the puppet state of Slovakia on the eastern gateway to Vienna, Marshal Stalin announced tonight.

LONDON—(AP)—Powerful Soviet tank and infantry forces, surging through the administrative district of Greater Vienna, smashed today to within six miles of the city proper, now within easy reach of Soviet artillery. Two massive Russian armies already had deprived the defenders of Vienna of the great bastion of Wiener Neustadt, 22 miles to the south, and were closely pressing Bratislava, 24 miles east of the Austrian capital city limits.

Wienner Neustadt, one of the biggest aircraft production centers of all Europe, fell to Marshal P. I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian Army which drove on sixteen miles to the southwest, capturing Neunkirchen and Gloggnitz. The Russians cut the main Vienna-Vienna-Hof and a trans-Alpine highway connecting the two cities with German troops in Italy.

Al Gloggnitz the Russians were within seven miles of the 3,210-foot Schaffner Pass and were 12 miles east of Adolf Hitler's mountain retreat at Berchtesgaden.

In the drive on Vienna another wing of Tolbukhin's Army captured a crossing of the Leitha River and dashed seven miles through a web of highways and railroads, each an enemy defense line. The Russians bypassed the suburb of Baden and captured Vienna, within the boundaries of Vienna set by the Nazi Party and only eight miles south of the metropolitan limits.

Meanwhile, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian Army hunted a twenty-mile circuit around Bratislava, capital of the puppet state of Slovakia, and within eight miles of the city itself with the capture of the suburb of Prejevoz.

Bratislava was outflanked on the southwest by a Russian advance of twenty miles along the south bank of the Danube River, the junction.

Malinovsky's forces were within eight miles of the city and Tolbukhin's troops as the two Soviet armies squeezed the GER-

man defenders of the Bratislava Gap. Malinovsky's units drove by the east shore of the Neusiedler See (lake) and captured Paudorf, four miles east of Bruck and sixteen miles east of Vienna. Simultaneously Tolbukhin's men broke across the 1,510-foot Leitha Mountains and advanced along the west shore of the Neusiedler See to positions within eight miles of the east end of Bruck, a fortress city in the Bratislava Gap.

Extending its active front to 120 miles the Second Ukrainian Army captured Kremsier, ten miles west of Munkacs in central Slovakia, and was within twenty miles of the city of Zilina, 35 miles to the north.

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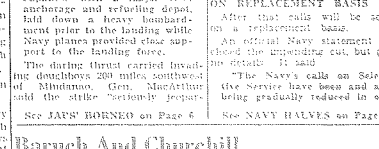
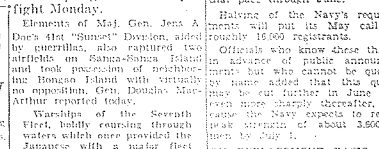
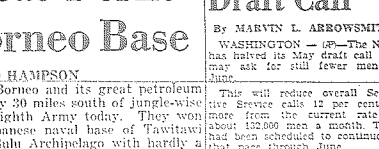
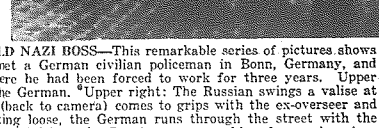
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what took place when a former Russian "slave laborer" met a German civilian policeman in Bonn, Germany, and recognized him as his overseer in a Nazi factory where he had been forced to work for three years. Upper left: The Russian (right) is wrestling a bicycle from the German. Lower left: The former "slave laborer" (back to camera) comes to grips with the ex-overseer and exacts a penalty in his own way. Lower right: Breaking loose, the German runs through the street with the Russian in hot pursuit. Released by the Allies from forced labor, the Russian was searching for an American "displaced persons center" when he happened to meet his former oppressor. These pictures were made by William C. Allen, Associated Press photographer with the wartime still picture pool. (AP Wirephoto).



Kassel Falls To 3rd Army; 9th At Weser

British Armor Speeding Toward North Sea; Canadians March

PARIS—(AP)—Allied armies reached the Weser and Ems Rivers today, pouring through bedraggled German lines within 48 miles of the North Sea and 38 of the great Prussian stronghold of Hannover.

In the center, the Third Army burst out into the rolling Thuringian plain in the heart of Germany and the battleground of middle Europe, 140 miles from Berlin and 65 from Czechoslovakia.

Kassel fell to the Third Army, depriving the Germans of one of their great plane and tank manufacturing centers. Suhl, 22 miles south of Gotha, also was cleared. The Fourth Armored Division also cleared out Gotha.

The cities of Kassel, Karlsruhe, Muenster, Osnabrueck, Fulda, Aschaffenburg, Siegen and Bruchsal were captured. Wuerzburg, Gotha, Hamm, Wuerzburg, Engelo and Zuetphen were stormed and falling. All North Sea ports and naval bases were menaced.

The British Second Army, strong in armor, was racing toward the North sea so swiftly that Field Marshal Montgomery again imposed a partial security blackout, by cutting 30,000 or less Germans he hopes to trap in Holland. The Canadians directly menaced Arnhem and moved within less than 20 miles of the Zuider Zee, forming a trap within the larger trap and threatening hourly to interdict the V-bomb coast from which the Nazis bombed England.

The British reached the Ems 45 miles northwest of Osnabrueck—city where the main roads to Holland and north from the Ruhr converge. The American Ninth Army reached the Weser and imposed the threat to Hannover, led to all north Germany by railroads. The Weser and Elbe are the last large streams on the high road to Berlin.

The Ninth Army captured at least 15,000 Germans yesterday in its drive to the Weser. Major industrial and traffic centers were sharply threatened. All German efforts to break the ring were frustrated.

The 2nd and 10th (Czech) Divisions fought to the heart of Wuerzburg against tank, mortar and aerial attacks. The 2nd and 10th (Czech) Divisions were firing across the Main River at Wuerzburg and Ochsenfurt, nine miles southeast, and at a point two miles north of Wuerzburg.

The Germans were trying to hold a line on the Neckar on the left and the Rhine on the right. The 10th Army's southern flank had been yielding one strong point after another.

Jap Plane Plants Hit

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Aircraft factories in three Japanese cities were blasted on instrument bombing yesterday, April 4, (Japanese time) in a triple attack on the island of Honshu, the 20th Air Force reported today.

Clouds obscured the targets and the big force of possibly 300 B-29s fell on an instrument bombing. However, a column of smoke 2,000 feet high was seen over the Tachikawa aircraft works at Tachikawa, 20 miles west of Tokyo.

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Drive Ahead On Okinawa

By HERLIN SPENCER

GUAM—(AP)—Ten American forces moved swiftly southwestward toward Naha, capital of Okinawa today, and pushing the first line of resistance of the Japanese defenders since the Yanks landed four days ago.

Vern Handland, Associated Press war correspondent aboard Admiral Turner's flagship off Okinawa, said the Yanks had broken through the main Japanese line of resistance of the Japanese defenders since the Yanks landed four days ago.

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Jungle Vets Upurge

By ERB HAMPSON

MANILA—(AP)—Borneo and its great petroleum and rubber resources lay only 30 miles south of jungle-wise veterans of the American Eighth Army today. They won strategic control of the Japanese naval base of Tawitawi at the southern tip of the Sulu Archipelago with hardly a fight Monday.

Elements of Maj. Gen. Jens A. Dahl's 1st "Smokey" Division, aided by guerrillas, also captured two airfields on Sulu-Sulu Island and took possession of archipelago Honson Island with virtually no opposition, Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported today.

Warships of the Seventh Fleet, badly routed through the Japanese with a major fleet anchorage and refueling depot, laid down a heavy bombardment prior to the landing today. Navy planes provided close support to the landing force.

The daring thrust carried invading doughboys 20 miles southwestward to the Sulu-Sulu Islands and the still "Smokey" report.

See JAPS' BORNEO on Page 6

See NAVY HALVES on Page 6

Navy Halves Draft Call

By MARTIN L. ARROWSMITH

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Navy has halved its May draft call and may ask for still fewer men in June.

This will reduce overall Selective Service calls 12 per cent or more from the current rate of about 132,000 men a month. They had been scheduled to continue at that pace through June.

Halving of the Navy's requirements will put its May call at roughly 16,000 registrants.

Officials who know these things in advance of public announcement but who cannot be quoted by name added that this quota may be cut further in June and even more sharply thereafter, because the Navy expects to reach peak strength of about 3,600,000 men by July 1.

ON REPLACEMENT BASIS After that calls will be solely on a replacement basis.

An official Navy statement said: "Service have been and are being gradually reduced in order to meet the needs of the war."

Mecklenburg Casualties

(Steris Inside)

KILLED
Pfc. James H. Marzess Jr., 2nd Lt. James H. Wilhelm, 1st Lt. Carl H. Hibbard.

SENATE QUICKLY CONFIRMS VINSON
WASHINGTON—(AP)—Fred W. Vinson was confirmed by the Senate today as Director of the War Relocation Authority, succeeding James F. Byrnes, resigned.

WEATHER
Partly cloudy and...
Temperature of...
High 65, Low 45.

Two-Minute News Roundup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Western Front
Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's hard-hitting tactics have scored a double triumph—capture of Kassel, 40 miles to the south and Kassel in the center.

The United States Third Army toppled the great plane and tank manufacturing center of Kassel, 22 miles south of Gotha, and Gotha itself, have been captured by the army. Gen. George Patton's warriors also have broken into the plain leading into the heart of Germany. The Third is rolling along the last 20 miles to Czechoslovakia. By German account 100 miles from Berlin.

The French First Army completed the conquest of the Sauerland region. It is believed that the daps are mounting their air attacks on Okinawa from this island, which is believed to be a major industrial and aviation center. The American Seventh Army has fought to within 25 miles of Nuremberg.

The United States Ninth Army has reached the Weser River and is threatening the Prussian stronghold of Hannover, 25 miles distant. In the Ruhr, Field Marshal Albert Kesselring may be sought by the city formed by the Ninth and First Armies.

The British Second Army has struck to less than 45 miles of the North Sea.

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3,000 Planes Hit Germany

LONDON—(AP)—A very strong force of American heavy bombers, estimated to number 1,400, spearheaded a 3,000-plane attack on Germany today and struck submarine yards at Kiel and Hamburg and a major troop concentration at Nuremberg, 55 miles east of Kassel on the direct route to Berlin.

During the night Okinawa bombers attacked Berlin and Plauen, near the Czechoslovak border.

These stepped up attacks on ports and shipping indicated the Allies were attempting to cut off Japan's main artery in the Pacific.

For the first time in months the U. S. Eighth Air Force announced it had hit the exact number.

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Baruch And Churchill

Bernie Gives Winston Brush-Off To Talk With Army Reporter

LONDON—(AP)—Bernard M. Baruch, adviser to President Roosevelt, said today that "one reason I've over here is to hold the big stick over the big boys to make them sure they're not going to lead up the pole."

Baruch, who has found a park bench this time to hold Park, said he had held forth with American officials, mainly brushed off a call from Prime Minister Churchill to give an interview to a star and star reporter.

"We're not to de-industrialize," Baruch predicted that there would be such a wave of prosperity in the United States after the war that more of the service men over here would want to go home.

"No matter what is done for the more work in the United States than there will be minds and hands with which to do it."

Baruch said that those who "what happens after those five or seven years depends on the peace. The big boys are preparing for us now."

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