Nazi Pockets

This Battle of the Pockets is about all that remains of the war in Europe. Maps and special story on page 2 of this edition give the location of these Nazi islands of resistance.

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HAMBURG CAPTURED AS GERMANY NEARS DEFEAT

Russians Hold Berlin After 12-Day Battle

LONDON — (AP) — Berlin, the Nazi capital and fourth largest city of the world, surrendered yesterday to troops of two Russian armies, and 70,000 of the city's defenders gave up the fight which had raged for twelve deadly days through streets and subways.

The city fell at 3 P. M. to troops of the first White Russian and First Ukrainian Armies, Premier Marshal Stalin announced in an order of the day. He disclosed also that Russian forces had destroyed the German Ninth Army, trapped southeast of Berlin, killing 60,000 men and capturing 120,000, and had overrun the last of Germany's big Baltic ports, Rostock and Warnemuende.

In Moscow, the fall of Berlin was celebrated with an official salute of 24 salvoes in the streets with dancing, shouting and general hilarity. Moscow dispatches said belief was evident everywhere in the capital that the end of the war could be expected at any time.

The victorious Russian Armies, headed by Marshals G. K. Zhukov and Ivan S. Koniev, entered Berlin on April 21, after jumping across the Oder. They swarmed into the 341-square-mile city, already battered from American and British air raids, and laid it low in 12 days of some of the bitterest street fighting in history. It was not known how many of the German capital's peacetime population of 4,335,000 persons remained in the city at the time of its fall.

The collapse of Berlin, symbol of German power, came two years and three months after the tide of battle was turned at Stalingrad. And Russian troops who swarmed over the German capital found that most of the city's monumental buildings were largely destroyed from 77,000 tons of bomba rained on it in 301 American and British air assaults.

It was not the first time Berlin had fallen to a foe. It was plundered in 1757 by 4,000 cavalrymen and in 1760 the Russians took the city from Frederick the Great after a stiff battle. In 1806, it was occupied by the French after Napoleon defeated the Germans at Jena.

Say Doenitz Is At Kiel

LONDON—(AP)—A Stockholm dispatch reported today that Adm. Karl Doenitz, new leader of the crumbling German Reich, and his Foreign Minister, Count Ludwig Schwerin Von Krosigk, were at Kiel, with British troops only 35 miles away.

The report, unconfirmed elsewhere, said Doenitz had met with Josef Terboven, Nazi Commissioner for Norway, and Werner Best, German Minister to Denmark, to confer on a possible last stand in those Scandinavian countries.

Other radio reports concerning German activities:

The South German radio broadcast an order of the day signed by Field Marshal Ferdinand Schoerner telling German troops facing the Russians west of Vienna to fight on.

The Luxembourg radio followed with a broadcast asserting that Schoerner was dead, but giving no details.

A Free Czechoslovak radio station asserted the Patriots were rising against the Germans in that possible hold-out area and sabotage had reached such proportions that German rule was approaching the vanishing point.

From the Swiss border came a report that Archduke Albrech Von Hapsburg, Adolf Hitler's choice as a successor to Adm. Nicholas Horthy as Regent of Hungary, had tried to enter Switzerland, accompanied by former Iraq Minister Pachid Ali, but that both were turned back at the border.

March Of Defeat

Berlin Defenders Lay Down Arms

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW —(AP)— Thousands of dirty and unshaven Germans shuffled through the Brandenburg Gate under the pillars of victory in faallen Berlin today to lay down their arms where goosestepping Prussians formerly paraded their triumphs.

The hush of a dead nation lay over the smoking, broken capital, interrupted only by occasional explosions in the ruins.

There was no further information on the fate of Hitler or his propaganda minister, Paul Joseph Goebbels, who were said by Goebbels' deputy to have committed suicide when their dream of Berlin as the capital of the world collapsed about them. But the Russians were checking the story.

One well-known Soviet commentator, Nikolai Tikhonov, declared in Pravda that "Hitler is not in Berlin."

"Whether he fled to his devils' nest, to the other world or to the embraces of some fascist protectorate it's all the same. He isn't in Berlin. We'll find out what actually happened to him, and if he has fled we'll find him no matter where he has found shelter."

100,000 CAPTURED

The toll of captured Germans in the Nazi capital, originally announced last night as 70,000, grew to 100,000.

The first Soviet eyewitness story on the capital's capitulation was written for Pravda by War Correspondent Jacob Macarenko.

As ironical as it was symbolical, he said, was the fact that the actual surrender took place at the Tiergarten, Berlin's once beautiful Central Park, between Victory Avenue—which bisects the Tiergarten from north to south—and the pillars of victory of the Brandenburg gate.

He said Berlin's Tempelhof Airdrome already was being used by Russian planes.

"Immediately after capitulation the city's streets commenced to fill with the foe's battalions headed toward the appointed gathering place," Macarenko reported.

WHITE FLAGS WAVE

"The whole city is covered with white flags."

The correspondent met a soldier, Ivan Terekhin, a veteran of Stalingrad who was watching the sullen Nazis pile up their arms.

"This dog was at Staraya Russa," muttered Terekhin. "This one was at Leningrad. This one was at Kaluga and this one he was even at Stalingrad."

The park known as the Old Square of Paris just east of Bran-

See DEFENDERS on page 9

Mecklenburg Casualties

(Stories Inside)

KILLED

S. 2/c John Bunyan Raucom.
Pvt. John A. McCall Jr.
S. 1/c Charles Cadmon Blackmon.
Pfc. Robert E. Taylor.
Pfc. James H. Phifer.

MISSING:

Pvt. Jay G. Ballard.
Pfc. Loudoan McKee.

Says Hitler, Goebbels Ended Lives

Russians Told About Suicides

By ROMNEY WHEELER

LONDON —(AP)— Adolf Hitler, who vowed to rule the world, committed suicide in the ruins of Berlin with Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels and the chief of the German General Staff, Gen. Hans Krebs, a Soviet communique said today.

The Russians declared their informant was Dr. Hans Fritsche, Goebbels' chief lieutenant, who was captured as Berlin fell. It was presumed Russian commanders on the scene would make vigorous inquiry to obtain indisputable proof.

Whether Hitler was a suicide or whether he was the victim of a brain hemorrhage, a possibility reported by Supreme Allied Headquarters, there was little doubt among Allied leaders that the Fuehrer indeed was dead and that he had met death in a manner which would thwart any die-hard Nazi attempt to build a Wagnerian legend about him.

SECRET MEETING

A statement authorized by the Supreme Allied Command told of a secret meeting eight days ago at Luebeck, Germany, between Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler and Swedish Count Folke Bernadotte, reputed peace go-between, at which Himmler was reported to have said "Hitler is so ill he might already be dead."

Himmler was quoted as saying Hitler at that time could not live more than two days longer. A German general named Schlieburg, who was present at the meeting, said Hitler had been stricken with a brain hemorrhage.

These reports gave the lie to a Nazi propaganda campaign to convince the world that Hitler died at the head of his troops in a Berlin command post in the Reichs-Chancellery, fighting to the last against bolshevism.

The remaining German radio stations at Hamburg, Goerlitz, Linz and Prague hammered at this theme yesterday. The Goerlitz station late last night read at dictation speed a propaganda story for publication in all Sudetenland papers today.

REPORT BANNED

Gauleiters were told in the broadcast to see that the article was published, and also "to see to it that a certain report, on the other hand, would not go into the press." The radio did not explain the nature of the banned report, but said: "It is expected by us that foreign broadcasting stations would take the opportunity of the heroic death of our Fuehrer to intensify the hate campaign. These stations do not realize what a world-wise statesman Adolf Hitler has been."

The propaganda report, which did not mention Goebbels or Krebs, said the Fuehrer had fought with his troops "until, with the last stroke of breath, he found a Hero's death in Berlin." It exhorted the German people to rally to resistance, and added: "We shall avenge Hitler's death."

If Hitler Is Alive Look For Him In U. S.

NEW YORK—(AP)—If Adolf Hitler is alive, the place to look for him is the United States, Daniel Eisenberg, founder and president of the 22-year-old Skip Tracers Co., a private agency for locating missing persons, said today.

"If he could get into this country—and several of his aides have been able to—it would be the logical place for him to hide," Eisenberg said, "because he could get by indefinitely without the passports and other identification he would need elsewhere."

Noting that most "missing persons" eventually return to their former way of life, Eisenberg said: "If Hitler's body is not found and definitely identified in the near future, look for him in a large American city—probably wielding a paint brush."

'Stone Walls Do Not A Prison Make'

Laval Lounges In Luxury As World Waits His Fate

By CHARLES S. FOLTZ

MONTJUICH CITADEL, Spain — (AP) — Pierre Laval, Vichy's former Chief of Government who sought refuge in Spain, listened to the "Voice of America" broadcast in French today for outside news in this stone military prison 600 feet above Barcelona harbor.

I saw him enter the fortress in an American automobile which brought him from the airport where he landed in a German bomber at noon yesterday. A felt hat was pulled tightly over his creased forehead. He fingered and smoothed the white tie which for years was his political trade-mark. He surveyed impassively the massive walls of the prison where he was brought to await disposition by the Allies at American demand.

PIERRE LAVAL

The car, belonging to Barcelona's civil governor, took him into the citadel. There the manager of Barcelona's Ritz Hotel inspected the beds and furniture and prepared food, all brought to the prison from his hotel. This grim fortress is not famed for such luxuries.

Laval did not expect to be treated as a prisoner. A suite at the Ritz occupied in the past by the Duke of Windsor, U. S. Presidential Envoy Myron C. Taylor and Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler still is reserved for him and his wife. A protest by American Consul General David M. Key on behalf of the Embassy, blocked Laval's request to go to the Ritz to rest before his imprisonment at Montjuich.

The French collaborationist chief and four companions are housed in separate pavilions just completed in a part of the citadel which overlooks the sea. The first thing Laval re-

See LAVAL HELD on page 9

North Italy Fight Ends

By NOLAND NORGAARD

ROME—(AP)—With fighting ended in northern Italy, New Zealand troops stepped into disputed Istria today and occupied the port of Trieste and the Isonzo River town of Gorizia, 20 miles to the northwest.

"Fighting has ceased in northern Italy west of the Isonzo River with the unconditional surrender of all enemy troops under the command of German Army Group C," said an Allied Headquarters communique. "There remain only the multitudinous administrative details of assembling and disarming scattered and disorganized remnants of the once proud Wehrmacht."

Gen. Heinrich Von Vietinghoff-Scheel, whose representatives signed an agreement for the unconditional surrender of almost 1,000,000 troops Sunday, was expected to come out of the hills to give up personally.

Marshal Tito's Yugoslav Partisans had been reported fighting Germans in Trieste earlier and the Italian government, through its press bureau, had voiced uneasiness. Italy demanded that the port, whose possession was disputed after the last World War, be placed under the control of Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander's forces pending a post-war settlement.

Both Gorizia, scene of important battles in the First World War, and Trieste, are east of the Isonzo, the eastern limit of Vietinghoff-Scheel's command in Italy and Southern and Western Austria.

The Allied Command said that more than 230,000 prisoners had been taken prior to the capitulation, and that hostilities had ended in the area of Von Vietinghoff-Scheel's command west of the Isonzo River.

The unconditional surrender which yielded nearly 1,000,000 German and Italian fascist troops yesterday opened the mountainous heart of the Nazis' national redoubt area of the Alps. The southern flank of what remains of the redoubt was laid bare to the Allies in the south.

RESISTANCE ENDS

The surrender ended all resistance in northern Italy and western Austria, up to and including Salzburg Province and its capital, Salzburg, which had been the Alpine retreat's eastern bastion. The Allies in the south were in a position to march unopposed to within ten miles of Berchtesgaden, where Hitler had made his mountain home and fortress.

Berchtesgaden is in Bavaria and is not included in the area covered by the surrender order.

Churchill Fails To Make Commons Appearance

LONDON.—(AP)— Prime Minister Churchill failed to appear in the House of Commons today, and this led to speculation as to his whereabouts.

U. S. Faces Test

Small Powers Rap Big 4 Peace Plan

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

Associated Press Diplomatic News Editor

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — The Big Four plan for an all-powerful World Council to guard future peace today was attacked by several nations at the United Nations Conference. They want to put peace-keeping on a more regional basis.

The issue, growing in importance as the work of the conference speeds up, appears certain to impose a severe test of American leadership.

The United States is seeking both to promote the creation of a world-wide security system and to fit into it such regional organizations as the Pan-American system without allowing the development of regional blocs.

So far the American delegation under Secretary of State Stettinius has avoided a showdown among its own members on the sort of formula it may support. The sixteen American amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks Plan, which are to be announced tomorrow, do not cover the regional issue.

REVISION URGED

As proposals poured in for reshaping the Dumbarton Oaks proposals on the power of the Security Council to use force, there were these other developments in this bustling conference city:

1. Stettinius started a drive to keep as many foreign ministers as possible here throughout the conference despite the pressure of their war-end problems at home. He told some that he hoped the job of blueprinting a world organization would be completed within three weeks and he himself intends to see it through. Russian Foreign Commissar Molo-

See NATIONS RAP on page 9

Says Notice Given Russia

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Rep. Dingell, Democrat, Michigan, told the House today that President Truman "has definitely served notice upon Russia, Mr. Stalin, Mr. Molotov and the entire world" that he wants the Yalta Polish agreement fulfilled.

The President, Dingell declared, "stands uncompromisingly for the fulfillment of the understanding entered into under the Yalta agreement" providing for a Polish Government representative of all democratic elements in that country.

He asserted that Russia, which has recognized the present provisional Government formed at Lublin and which has sought a seat for that Government in the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, had failed to fulfill the Yalta agreement.

Dingell who was a White House caller earlier in the day, said: "It is as heartening as it commendable, Mr. Speaker, that President Harry S. Truman, having a full grasp and understanding of the situation, has definitely served notice upon Russia, Mr. Stalin, Mr. Molotov, and upon the entire world, that he stands uncompromisingly for the fulfillment of the understanding entered into under the Yalta agreement."

Nazi Dissolution Looms

Break May Come At Any Time In Norway-Denmark Situation

By ROBERT N. STURDEVANT

STOCKHOLM —(AP)— A responsible diplomat who cannot be more closely identified said developments clearing up the situation regarding German garrisons holding out in Denmark and Norway "might occur today."

The diplomat offered no details in support of his statement, but emphasized that the situation was so fluid a break might come at any moment.

Previously Swedish authorities expressed anxiety concerning the effect Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz' apparent control of a rump German government might have on the chances for a bloodless capitulation in Norway and Denmark.

Danish underground sources said Werner Best, German plenipotentiary in Denmark, had been called to a conference with Doenitz somewhere in what remains of Northern Germany.

Some informants said the Spanish and Japanese diplomatic staffs from Berlin had arrived at Copenhagen, Danish capital, in cars which bore bullet holes.

It was possible the diplomatic remarks on a possible break in Norway and Denmark today were based on information supplied a Swedish Foreign Office delegation which is now in Denmark.

A Norwegian refugee quoted by Aftenbladet said the Germans appeared to be giving up their position at Halden, near the Swedish border southeast of Oslo, and that columns of buses and trucks filled with German soldiers left the town yesterday.

The Free Danish Press Service reported conditions of dissolution of the Wehrmacht in Denmark, with local German commanders taking matters into their own hands in view of the bewildering confusion of orders and counter-orders coming from higher levels.

Nazi Divisions Surrender To Allied Forces

Denmark, Norway Isolated By British-Red Junctions On The Baltic

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

PARIS — (AP) — Hamburg surrendered to the British today as the war in Europe drew toward its close.

Remnants of one beaten German division after another surrendered.

Denmark and Norway were isolated by British-Russian junctions on the Baltic. The Western and Eastern Allies linked up at new points during the day.

Hamburg was the second largest city of Germany and its leading port. The metropolis of 1,682,200 on the lower Elbe had long since been devastated by American and British bombs. Its Blohm and Voss shipyards and Deutsche Werke submarine works had spawned much of Germany's fleet and merchant marine. Its Deutsche refinery had produced up to 30,000 tons of oil a month.

One of the last remarks of the Hamburg radio was that Prague—capital of Czechoslovakia and now the largest city remaining in German hands—had been declared a "hospital city." The radio had proclaimed Hamburg an "open city" shortly before the British Second Army of Lt. Gen. Sir Miles C. Dempsey entered. It was the first German city so designated.

Hamburg fell with hardly a struggle. The surrender terms called for British occupation and control not only of the city itself but also of a ten-mile arc surrounding it on the north side of the Elbe.

The announcement of Hamburg's capitulation, read over a station which has been the voice of the German High Command since the Russians battered into Berlin, said: "It is doubtful whether we will again come on the air with news. We take leave of our listeners. Long live Hamburg! Long live Germany!"

ANTHEM PLAYED

The German national anthem, "Deutschland Uber Alles," was played. Before taking final leave, the announcer said that "another important announcement" would be broadcast shortly.

The proclamation to Hamburg's population was read in German, but was attributed to "the commander of British occupation forces."

"Any resistance by the populace will be crushed by force of arms," the German announcement said. "All traffic on the streets must stop at noon while the British take over the city. Hamburg police will remain on duty."

The Hamburg station over which the order was broadcast was the last authoritative radio station in German hands. All others had followed its lead in transmitting the official announcements, and it alone had carried the German High Command communiques.

"Achtung! Achtung!" (Attention!) said its regular announcer.

"The Reichsender Hamburg now broadcasts an important announcement for the population of Hamburg.

"Hamburg has been declared an open town. British occupation

See HAMBURG on page 9

Nazi Pocket Collapses

PARIS—(AP)—Marshal Stalin announced from Moscow today the collapse of German resistance in the entire northern German pocket east of Kiel.

Stalin's order of the day said a link with the British had been established along a 60-mile front from the Baltic to Wittenberge on the Elbe after the overwhelming of the last German resistance on the Mecklenburg plain.

Canadian Tactical Air Force planes smashed a large concentration of German shipping evacuating military personnel fleeing from small Baltic ports toward Denmark and continued destruction of German land transport going in the same direction.

Stalin said the towns of Barth, site of a prisoner of war camp for American fliers, Doberan, Neubukow, Warin and Wittenburg were captured and a link made with British troops on the "Wismar-Wittenberge line."

Wismar is on the Baltic where Allied quarters previously had announced a link-up and Wittenberge is on the Elbe northwest of Berlin.

British Expected To Enter Denmark

NEW YORK—(AP)—The Swedish Home Radio said today that British forces were expected to enter Danish territory this evening and reported that a heavy battle between German Army and SS troops had broken out near the Danish city of Aarhus.

Surrender Talk Rife In Moscow

LONDON —(AP)— A Reuters dispatch from Moscow said today that rumors of Germany's unconditional surrender were circulating in Russian capital. These cannot be strictly confirmed, the dispatch said.

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers this afternoon and tonight; partly cloudy tomorrow and warmer; change to scattered here Friday fair and cooler.

Temperatures at 7:30 yesterday: High and low 1 hour ago, 72 and 67. Same date last year: High and low, 77 and 57. Sunrise tomorrow ..... Sunset today .....