

NEW YORK ARMY GETTING YANKS

Reds Free Slovakia; Prague Goal Of New Push

Spear Toward Yank Junction

LONDON — (AP) — Red Army forces liberated all of Slovakia yesterday and the Nazi High Command said Soviet armor had launched a new drive west of Vienna, spearheading toward a junction with American troops which would cut off the Austrian roadblock from Czechoslovakia.

Russian troops advanced in powerful 10-mile gains against bitter German resistance in the West Czechoslovakian road and staged a big tank battle near Olomouc (Olomovec), Moravian war production center.

The entire province of Slovakia was freed of German troops by the 4th Ukrainian Army, the 2nd Czechoslovakian Army and the 1st Czechoslovakian Army, which rolled into eastern Slovakia to prepare for a drive toward Prague, Czechoslovak capital.

The combined armies were smashing toward Olomouc along an 80-mile front east of the Morava River valley in a push to throw back the German tank blitz which has been the main thrust on the eastern front.

Northeast of Olomouc, troops of the Fourth Ukrainian Army captured 1,000 Germans and the road junction at Vitkov, 24 miles from Olomouc.

Eighteen miles to the south, where the German-controlled Prague radio said that a big tank battle was raging, troops of the Second Ukrainian Army led and then besieged Olomouc against a violent German opposition.

The Prague Radio asserted the Russians had launched a new drive northwest of Vienna evidently aimed at Prague, 108 miles from the nearest Russian spearheads on the southeast.

The Germans also stated that Prague was threatened from the north by troops of the First Ukrainian Army, reported attacking along the Elbe near Meissen, six miles northwest of Dresden.

Another German account said Marshal Eisehower's Third Ukrainian Army had launched a new westward from St. Pölten, where Soviet troops were 60 miles east of Linz.

The Germans also stated that troops of the Third Ukrainian Army were attacking from Graz from points below the Hammering Pass.

Northwest and southwest of Berlin, more than 4,700 Germans were surrendered to the Russians, while north of Berlin, the Red Army opened a drive to clear the Baltic Islands guarding Stettin Bay.

Solon Backs Expense Bill

WASHINGTON — A House move to vote members \$2,500 a year in last year's expense money drew backing today from a majority of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"I'm for it," Senator McCarran, Democrat, Nevada, told a reporter. "Members of Congress already have had extraordinary expenses. They have to maintain homes in their own states and here too. If the House approves it I believe the Senate will."

Discussing the provision in the legislative Appropriation Bill yesterday, Rep. Rich, Republican, Pennsylvania, told his colleagues: "This is no time for Congress to rack the boat. It is a time for our state to see that the cost of our sacrifice will be taken care of the country."

Vichy Men Executed

PARIS — (AP) — Lucien Henri Rollin, former Vichy detective chief, and Bernard David, who was chief of a special police brigade, were executed today. They were convicted last month of torturing and killing members of the French resistance movement.

Denmark Liberated Danish Border Crossed By British

COPENHAGEN — (AP) — British troops crossed the Danish border at Krusaa today and the British commander reached Copenhagen.

German warships in Copenhagen's harbor opened fire with machine-guns, anti-aircraft guns and cannon on several sectors of the city and sporadic clashes broke out when Danish patriots sought to disarm the Nazis.

The German cruisers Prinz Eugen and Bismarck scolded the patriots' efforts to disarm sailors aboard the ships, and many persons were killed or wounded.

Molotov On Spot Arrest Of Poles Stirs Conference

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — Secretary of State Stettinius announced today that he has asked Russia for a "full explanation" of the arrest of democratic Polish leaders and said further discussion of the critical Polish issue "must await a reply."

Stettinius said that Soviet Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov had officially informed the United States that the Polish "democratic leaders" who disappeared over a month ago have been arrested on the charge of diversionist activities against the Red Army.

British Cheer War News

LONDON — (AP) — A feeling of quiet jubilation pervaded London today over the fact that Nazi forces in northwest Germany, Denmark and Holland had surrendered to British Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, the man who came all the way from St. Albanus.

The British obviously were pleased that Montgomery, like Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander in the Mediterranean, had been able to clinch long hard years of struggle with a instant victory before the final German collapse.

News of the capitulation was greeted last night with hearty cheering by the populace and the Red Cross center for American soldiers, but mingled with the feeling of exulted joy was the sober reflection that the Japanese remain to be finished off.

One American pilot on leave from Germany said: "I can't believe it, but right now all I'm thinking of is having a snack at the mess."

London morning papers eplashed the welcome news across the front pages. The Daily Express said: "The war is over, Norway, Denmark, the Channel Islands, a few pockets of so-called resistance still exist. But they mean nothing. They will come tumbling down."

The Daily Telegraph said: "The thought of what has to be done before Europe can be restored to deliverable life must chatter us all as we wait the final installment of deliverance. It is a task rendered glorious by the banner which which is still to be reached."

Says Hitler's Body Cannot Be Found

LONDON — (AP) — The Free German radio station in Koenigsberg today quoted Dr. Hans Fritzsche, captured Reichstag speaker, as saying Hitler's body has been hidden in a place which will be impossible to find.

Fritzsche had been quoted by the Russian press yesterday as saying Goebbels and Hitler had committed suicide.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and mild today and clear tonight. Sunday fair and warmer.

Temperature at 2:30 P. M. 61°

High and Low Last 24 Hours: 61; 41

Forecast Tomorrow: 61-71

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:52

Nazis May Quit Fight In Norway

Capitulation Seen As Likely

By EDWIN SANKE

STOCKHOLM — (AP) — The German-controlled Scandinavian Telegraph Bureau reported from Oslo that the capitulation of German troops in Norway would be announced today.

However, the Swedish Foreign Office said tonight it regards all reports of capitulation as premature. Earlier reports in Stockholm said the surrender had already taken place.

Responsible Swedish political leaders also predicted a surrender in Norway.

The newspaper Stockholm Tidningen, however, noted that for the moment there was no Allied force to which the Germans in Norway—estimated at about 150,000—could capitulate, with the result that another formal offer would be required for surrender there.

Prime Minister Per Albin Hansson apparently has expressed a general Swedish view with his announcement that he hoped the capture of Denmark would "be followed by another of the same kind."

The Swedes regard their policy of "beneficial neutrality" which has been under fire recently as vindicated by the German surrender in Denmark, and for this reason probably will continue to pursue it with regard to Norway.

Quilting Gives Resistance Order

LONDON — (AP) — Quilting demanded in a broadcast from the Czech radio tonight that Norwegians obey his government "until it is replaced" and the Czech radio tonight declared that the country from becoming a theater of civil war.

"All attacks from the outside will be resisted," said the broadcast. "The German occupation forces in Norway will maintain peace and order."

300 Polish Catholic Priests Liberated

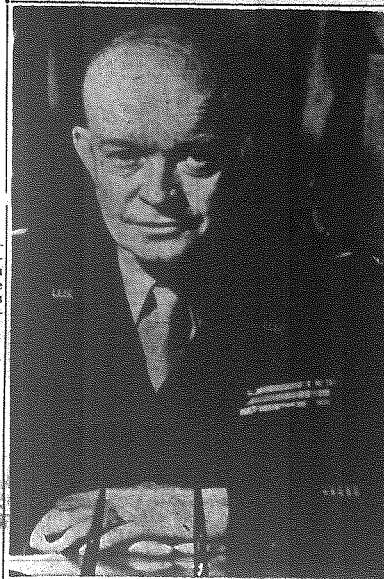
NEW YORK — (AP) — The Polish Telegraph Agency said today that 300 Polish Catholic priests had been freed from a German concentration camp in Germany, with many at the point of death.

American Triumph

By HOWARD COWAN

OUTSIDE MUNICH — (AP) — The German First and 19th Armies surrendered unconditionally to Gen. Jacob L. Devers, Sixth Army Group commander, at 2:30 P. M. (EST) today.

These armies form the German Army Group G. The area they held has roughly been outlined on the map above and to the right. The surrender on the east front was completed by the American First Army, which is officially effective as of 11:00 A. M. (EST) today.



LEADS VICTORY MARCH—Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Dwight Eisenhower was at the verge of his triumph today as his armies routed a major part of Germany and Holland and Denmark had been liberated.

Bid For Liberation Czechs Stage Prague Uprising

LONDON — (AP) — A Czechoslovak broadcast from London reported tonight that a Czech uprising against the Germans had begun in Prague and that fighting already had occurred in the capital.

Simultaneous reports from Prague and other Czech cities indicated that the uprising was being led by the Czech resistance movement, which has been active since the outbreak of the war.

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Fight Against Reds Urged

LONDON — (AP) — The German High Command's communique announced today that the German capitulation in Denmark, Holland and Northwest Germany "was agreed upon by Admiral Doenitz because the war against the Western powers had become senseless."

The communique was read over a radio station which identified itself as "Freiburg" and as the "German Home Service." An earlier broadcast had called upon the German people to fight on.

"Let no one stand aside," he declared. "We salute the Partisans, National Guards and National Committees.

"Death to the German invaders."

Mecklenburg Casualties

(Starts Inside)

KILLED
Lt. James Wilson Debbins
Pfc. Calvin D. Brown

WOUNDED
Pfc. John Raymond Mitchell
Sgt. Robert Oliver Brown

Patton Moves To Liquidate Final Pocket

Two German Armies Surrender As Nazis Fold Fast In Europe

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS — (AP) — Virtually all resistance to Gen. Eisenhower's forces ended today and Gen. Patton's Third Army smashed into Czechoslovakia in a knockout offensive against the last German troops still fighting the Western Allies in the South.

Patton struck out, capturing Linz in Austria, after the First and Ninth German Armies surrendered unconditionally to Gen. Jacob L. Devers' Sixth Army Group. The Eleventh Panzer Division, Germany's last full-strength armored force in the West, was among those quitting the battle.

Patton's Third Army today struck northeastward into Czechoslovakia at points along a 110-mile front. The offensive sped forward against slight resistance. Elements of the Sixth Infantry Division entered Linz, Austria's third city, without opposition after capturing intact a German tank without a fight.

Bid For Liberation

It was first announced that the surrender to Devers included the German Seventh Army, but Eisenhower himself issued a statement an hour later correcting this. Field dispatches announcing the Patton offensive followed within an hour.

The surrendered armies were units of Gen. Schultze's Army Group G.

The German Seventh Army has been opposing units of the U. S. First and Third Armies from Chemnitz south to Gen. Army Group G consists of 200,000 to 400,000 men, Supreme Headquarters said.

Supreme Headquarters made this announcement

"Gen. Devers reported to Gen. Eisenhower this afternoon that Army Group G, commanded by Gen. Schultze, surrendered to the Sixth Army Group.

"The capitulation takes official effect tomorrow, May 6, at noon, but on both sides radio broadcasts now are announcing the end of hostilities. The front so that there may be no further loss of life.

"This was a battlefield surrender."

Frontline dispatches had already disclosed the capitulation of the 19th Army following the linkup of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's troops in northern Italy with the American Fifth Army, which has been advancing since the Germans gave up there Wednesday in a surrender which touched off a general crack up.

The Seventh Army captured Berchtesgaden yesterday, virtually completing occupation of Bavaria.

The status of German forces facing the Russians on the east side of the Austrian-Czech border was immediately clear at this Headquarters, nor was it hard to know what their number might be.

The surrender to Devers came less than 12 hours after the capitulation in Denmark, Holland and northern Europe had gone into effect, with the halting of the last half of 1,000,000 enemy troops opposing British, Canadian and American forces in that sector.

Half a million Germans quit today on this East European front. As many more had given up to British and Canadians in the previous 48 hours, considered as was done by Eisenhower that: "On land and sea east in the air the Germans were thoroughly whipped. Their only recourse was to surrender."

Nearly a million Germans and Italians surrendered today.