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LIEGE EDITION

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily News paper of U.S. Armed Forces
Vol. I—No. 77

in the European Theater of Operations
Friday, April 6, 1945

Man Spricht Deutsch

NSDAP—Nationalsozialistische
Deutsche Arbeiter Partei
The Nazi Party

Reds Void Pact With Japs

Ninth, British Cross Weser Near Hanover

3rd Races For Link With Reds

Tanks of the Ninth U.S. and Second British Armies crossed the Weser River yesterday less than 25 miles from Hanover.

While the Ninth and British were on the roads to Hanover, Brunswick and Berlin, the Third U.S. Army's Fourth and 11th Armd. Divs. were spilling into the flat Thuringian Plain toward Jena, Leipzig and Marshal Ivan Koniev's First Ukrainian Army on the Eastern Front. Spearheads were less than 75 miles from Leipzig.

Meanwhile, elements of the First and Ninth U.S. Armies opened a concentrated push to wipe out the Ruhr pocket, where two German armies and parts of a third are trapped.

Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's Ninth Army, which was put under command of Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's 21st Army Gp during and after the Battle of the Bulge last winter, went back to operational control of 12th Army Gp. This gave Gen. Omar N. Bradley the largest army group on the Western Front, including the First, Third, Ninth and 15th Armies.

Cross South of Hameln
Meanwhile, the Second British Army continued its northward advance toward Bremen, Wilhelmshaven and the North Sea, while the First Canadian Army drove northwest toward the Zuider Zee in a move to isolate German Army Gp. H in Holland. Group H includes at least two parachute armies.

In the south, the Seventh U.S. Army was striking through bitter resistance down the last 34 miles to fabled Nurnburg, where the war-minded Reich transformed toy shops into arms factories.

The exact point at which the Ninth Army armor crossed the Weser was not disclosed, but AP front line reports said it was south of Hameln, the Pied Piper town, 23 miles southwest of Hanover. Earlier the Ninth's Second and Fifth Armd. Divs. had been reported on the west bank of the Weser in this area.

The British crossing, made by elements
(Continued on page 4).

Dynamite Plant Captured Intact

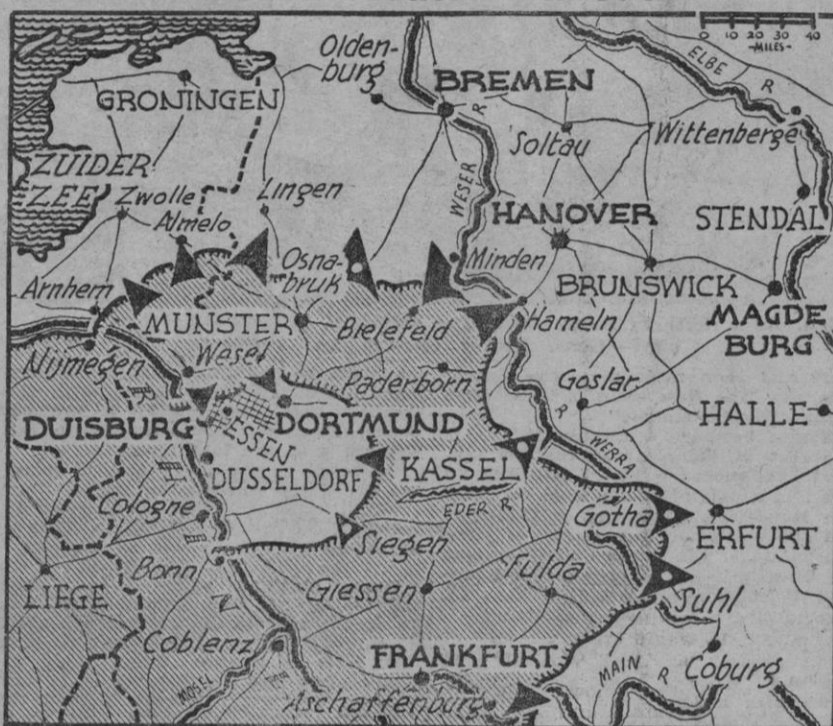
By Hal Boyle

Associated Press War Correspondent
NEUSTADT, Germany, Apr. 5 (AP)—Hidden among the pines of the Neustadt Forest and unmarked by Allied bombs lie the Nazis' largest dynamite producing plant, which, until a week ago, was producing half a million shells and 5,500 tons of dynamite monthly.

The 2,000-acre plant, where more than 4,000 slave workers were guarded by 300 soldiers and scores of ferocious dogs, was overrun by First Army troops. They took the factory and countless stores of explosive intact.

With it was a 500-acre processing plant where German mines, bazookas, depth charges and grenades were loaded. Here also the first V1 was produced experimentally. Rusting warheads of a number of old model flying bombs were found.

Allies Threaten Hanover



British and Ninth U.S. Army forces, only 23 miles from Hanover, crossed Weser River yesterday as Third Army pushed east from Gotha and Suhl toward Leipzig and Russian lines.

Ike Doubts Foe Will Make Clean-Cut Capitulation

WASHINGTON, Apr. 5 (ANS).—Gen. Eisenhower has informed President Roosevelt that "a clean-cut military surrender" of the Nazis is improbable. In a letter to the Chief Executive, the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe foresaw an extensive guerrilla warfare.

Eisenhower wrote:
"Dear Mr. President:
"The further this campaign progresses, the more probable it appears that there will never be a clean-cut military surrender of enemy forces on the Western Front. Our experience to date is that even when a formation as small as a division is disrupted, their fragments continue to fight until surrounded."
"This attitude, if continued, will likely mean that a Victory in Europe Day will come about only by proclamation on our part rather than by any definite and decisive collapse or surrender of German resistance.

"Projecting this idea further, it would mean that eventually all areas in which fragments of the German Army, particularly paratrooper, panzer and SS elements, may be located will have to be taken by application of or threat of force."
"This would lead into a form of guerrilla warfare which would require for its suppression a large number of troops."

Near-Violence Flares In Soft Coal Strike

PITTSBURGH, Apr. 5 (UP)—More than 60,000 were idle yesterday as soft coal strikes in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky and Alabama cut into the nation's steel production. Near violence flared in some sections.

2,400 Planes Bomb Reich

Twelve hundred Eighth AF Fortresses and Liberators, with a 600-fighter escort, hammered two Wehrmacht supply depots, three rail yards and a jet-plane base in the Munich-Nurnburg area yesterday.

The armada struck in the wake of a 1,200-plane RAF night assault on synthetic oil plants at Merseberg and Hamburg and a Mosquito raid on Berlin. It was the heaviest RAF night blow in more than a month.

Eighth and Ninth AF pilots claimed destruction of more than 50 planes in attacks on Luftwaffe bases.

Ninth AF flew 600 sorties against enemy vehicles and troops in the Ruhr pocket and also hit rails and roads in Hanover, Leipzig and Nuremberg.

About half of a group of 2,000 soldiers spotted marching along a road south of Arnesberg were killed in strafing attacks, Ninth AF pilots said.

Free 8,500 Russians

WITH 82nd RECON. BN., Apr. 4 (Delayed)—More than 8,500 Russian PWs were liberated yesterday when elements of the 82nd Recon. Bn. overran a Nazi prison camp on the fringe of the Teutoburger Forest near Detmold.

Yanks, Reds May Link In 10 Days—FDR Aide

LONDON, Apr. 5 (UP)—Judge Samuel Rosenman, personal adviser to President Roosevelt, said today that it was his "personal and casual" belief that Allied forces and the Red Army would "meet up in a week or ten days inside Germany." He has just returned from a visit to Cologne.

Reds Capture Town 2 Miles From Vienna

Russian troops were within sight of the cathedral spires of Vienna last night following the capture of Zwölfaxing, two miles south of the city limits of the Austrian capital.

Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian Army greatly increased the threat to Vienna from the east after capturing Bratislava and linking up with the Third Ukrainian Army. Marshal Stalin announced that Malinovsky's men had taken Bruck, 17 miles southwest of Bratislava and 19 southeast of Vienna.

Malinovsky also was developing a threat to Vienna from the north. His forces captured Malacky, 22 miles above Bratislava and 33 miles northeast of Vienna, Stalin reported. They also captured Previdza and Banovtse, described by Stalin as important German strong-points in the Carpathians.

German News Agency reports said that one of Marshal Tolbukhin's forces was by-passing Vienna in a drive from Baden, south of the city, toward St. Polten, 30 miles due west of Vienna.

May Sacrifice Vienna
Other German reports indicated that the German High Command had decided to sacrifice Vienna in street-to-street fighting. A Moscow dispatch said that high Nazi officials already were fleeing the city—including Hitler's Austrian Gauleiter, Baldour Von Schirach, who only three days ago exhorted the Viennese to give their lives in defense of their city.

The Russians closing on Vienna were reported by Moscow to be encountering dozens of fresh strong units of German troops that had been rushed into the line. German mortar fire was said to be extremely heavy. The Nazis have great strength in hills north and northwest of Vienna, AP said, and a great belt of strongpoints around Vienna that had not yet been broken.

The German radio hinted that the battle for Breslau in Silesia was near an end, reporting that Russians had broken into the western part of the city after heavy fighting. The Nazi radio again predicted that the Russians were ready to launch the long-expected drive from the Oder front due east of Berlin.

Captured Test Model Tank Has 155MM Gun

LAGE, Germany, Apr. 5 (AP)—The Second Armd. Div. in the Teutoburger-Forest captured a German tank testing ground and found a new Super-Tiger tank.

It mounts a 155MM gun 20 feet long. The tank, 12 feet high, has tracks three feet wide.

The new American Pershing tank mounts a 90MM gun.

Say Tokyo Aided Nazi War Plans

Russia yesterday repudiated her neutrality pact with Japan—an action viewed by some sources in Washington as one of the final steps preceding Soviet entry into the Pacific war—and in Tokyo the Japanese Cabinet resigned because of the "gravity" of the war situation.

The resignation of the Cabinet came a few hours before Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Commissar of Foreign Affairs, had handed the formal Russian note to Japanese Ambassador Sato in Moscow, the United Press reported.

Japan Aids Germany
As reported by the Moscow Radio, the Russian statement said: "The neutrality pact between the Soviet Union and Japan was concluded April 13, 1941, that is before the German attack on the Soviet Union and before the outbreak of war between Japan on one hand and Great Britain and the U.S.A. on the other. Since then the situation has radically changed."

"Germany has attacked the Soviet Union, and Japan, Germany's ally, has been lending assistance to the latter in her war against the Soviet Union. Furthermore, Japan is waging war against the U.S. and Britain, who are allies of the Soviet Union."

"Under such circumstances, the neutrality pact between Japan and the Soviet Union has lost its meaning, and its continuation becomes impossible."

"In view of the aforesaid and in accordance with article three of the pact which foresees the right of denunciation one year before elapse of the five-year term of the pact, the Soviet Government herewith informs the government of Japan of its wish to denounce the pact dated April 13, 1941."

London Jubilant
The renunciation of the pact becomes effective April 13—just 12 days before the opening of the San Francisco conference.

While State Department officials in Washington were not notified formally in advance of the denunciation of the pact, the AP said, the Russian step was foreshadowed in a general awareness that the denunciation would be based on the conclusion that Japan—at war against Russia's allies and on the side
(Continued on page 4).

British and Canadian Ships Go to Orient

OTTAWA, Apr. 5 (AP)—Canada plans to send two cruisers, two aircraft carriers, a number of destroyers and frigates into the Pacific, Navy Minister Angus Macdonald told Commons.

(A Reuter dispatch quoted a Japanese broadcast as reporting that a British fleet of ten units has left the Red Sea bound for the Indian Ocean to take part in operations for the reconquest of southern Burma and Malaya.)

A Stroke of the Pen

WASHINGTON, Apr. 5 (AP)—President Roosevelt yesterday signed legislation increasing the public-debt limit from \$260,000,000,000 to \$300,000,000,000.



They Don't Agree

In reply to George W. McIntyre, Pfc. Inf., who solved the army of occupation problem through the device of mileage ratios from the front—the further a man was from the front, the longer he'd "occupy"—I'd like to ask this vain-glorious Pfc a few questions:

1. Do you realize that you had little or nothing to do with your being at the front?
 2. That you are taking credit and laying blame for a phenomenon that was mainly a case of supply and demand?
 3. That there are also "infantry" men miles from the front?
 4. How he knows that he "goes through more hell in 5 minutes than rear area troops do in 5 years?" Has he been in a rear area for 5 years?
 5. Does it occur to him that he could not have "physically beaten the hell out of the Nazis" without the men he's trying to stick?
 6. Does he realize that if his system is applied, that he has a very good chance of occupying Japan? Better than rear area troops?
 7. Why didn't he develop his theme to include the troops in France, England and U.S.? That way some troops would owe a son to the occupation.
- This solution probably struck like a godsend when it occurred to him that he had only a month overseas whereas some of these complacent inglorious rear area troops had 30 times that much, which might count for something, come demobilization. Quit breaking your arm, Pfc. Cause all that self-back slapping may disable you, and then you won't be able to carry any of the equipment you get from these guys in the rear area, who are supposed to work, but not share.—1st Sgt. H.W. Mattick, 4445 QM Co.

Stomach vs. Heart

Each day we read about it and every time we see the civilians about us we are reminded of it. That the people of Europe need food—common staple groceries, dried milk, bread, cheese, beans, fruit. Couldn't some be sent to them?

No shipping space. Yet we have at our meals rice krispies, fresh oranges, pickles, catsup, fruit juice, shredded wheat and a few other "essentials." How did they get there?

I wonder if those of us who love these undernourished children wouldn't demand that the shipping space for our luxuries be sacrificed for some good food for them?—A Chaplain.

Gen. Rose: One of Tankers' Best

By Andy Rooney
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Maurice Rose, the Third Armored Div. major general whom a German tanker killed with a machine pistol Saturday night, was a leader down where they fight. The American newspaper-reading public may not know him very well but professional soldiers, men in the business, and the men in his Spearhead Division, know the U.S. Army has lost one of its most capable armored commanders. Eisenhower knew him, Bradley knew him, Hodges knew him.

They gave Rose and his division four of the toughest jobs of the war. They gave him St. Lo, Mons, the Ardennes and Paderborn.

"I like working with the corps commander," Gen. Rose said two nights before he was killed near Paderborn. "He just tells me where he wants the Third Armored to go. He doesn't tell us how to get there."

The Corps commander knew Rose would always find a way.

Two nights before his death, Gen. Rose asked four correspondents traveling with the division into a room he had fixed as his overnight headquarters.

Fine Taste for CPs

The general had a fine taste for CPs. He always located a comfortable house or mansion and somewhere in it was a good-sized room he used as his office. He put his desk in the center of the room, always facing the door, and on the desk he laid his maps. Across the room, where he could see it easily, was a large situation map. Things looked that way the night he gave his last interview to the four men who came into his CP to talk informally about the drive which was taking the Third Armored out on a strong steel limb to Paderborn.

The general stood when the men came in. He stood as straight as the sketched soldiers in the field manuals. At 45 he looked eight years younger, and he was a handsome man. He stood six feet two in his high-topped, Texas-style, flat-heeled boots. He weighed about 185 pounds. His face under his close cropped, grey hair was flushed with color and, while he smiled, he seemed to hold his lips as though they were puckered.

He Could Hope

"Sit down," he said. And he sat himself, as erect as he stood.

"When do you hope to reach your objective, General," someone started.

"Tomorrow," he replied with a smile.

"You think you'll be there tomorrow—better than 100 miles?"

"You said hope. I can hope can't I?"

"Yeomans will probably be the first man on the objective the way things look now," Gen. Rose continued. "He'll get



Gen. Rose (left) in front of Cologne cathedral with two members of his staff—Gens. Hickey (center) and Rudinot.

there and then radio me some caustic note like "The first team is here, when is the division coming?"

"I sent Yeomans a message today. It was sent in the clear so the Germans must have picked it up. I told him I'd give him a case of Scotch if he captured Von Rundstedt, Kesselring or Guderian, and one bottle for Hitler, dead or alive. The message was garbled and someone put Goering in for Guderian. Now I suppose if he brings Goering in here I'll have to give him a case of Scotch."

It Would Work

The general got along with his men that way. When he closed himself in his office with his maps and finally came out with a plan sketched in grease pencil, his task force commanders knew it would work that way.

Gen. Rose took command of the Third Armored in the middle of the breakthrough action at St. Lo, where he started as chief of the Second Armored's COB. He was the close friend and star pupil of Maj. Gen. Ernest N. (Old Gravel Voice) Harmon. As a colonel in North Africa, he was Harmon's chief of staff with the First Armored Div. On one occasion in the Tunisian campaign, Rose was well forward in the middle of a tank attack in his jeep. The jeep was hit by an 88 and he miraculously escaped unhurt.

Although Gen. Rose did not think the Sherman tank was as good as the Ger-

man tank he had great faith in his commanders—Budinot and Hickey with the Combat Commands, and Richardson, Doane, Yeomans, Lovelady, Hogan and Weiborn with the task forces.

"What about the Ninth Army?" someone asked the general that night.

"We'll meet the Second Armored up here," Rose said, laughing. "They're almost as good a division as this one."

Favorite Planning Board

Rose's favorite planning board was the top of his jeep. Time after time he would ride to an observation point where he could view the operations of a task force in trouble. From there he would often use his jeep radio to call through for "air" on some obstacle in his path. Then, with the task force commander he would spread his map of the area over the warm hood of the jeep and plot a new course of action.

"Would there have been any time during this operation when horse cavalry would have been of any use, General?" a correspondent asked him that night before his last.

"No."

"What do you plan to do after the war?" someone asked, stretching the interview a few minutes longer.

"Oh, I'd like to go back to some nice, permanent post like Ft. Bliss, Tex., and command a horse cavalry troop," the general laughed.

"I have a four year old boy at home to get acquainted with, too. That will take a lot of my time."

German Princess Balks at 14-Room Quarters When Soldiers Are Billeted in Huge Palace

By Edward Connolly
United Press War Correspondent

WITH NINTH ARMY IN NORKIRCHEN, Apr. 5—The German Princess Valerie Marie was disturbed Sunday when Americans moved into her 300-room palace. Armored columns had reached the 16,000-acre estate and the princess fussed because she and her husband were told to leave their private suite and occupy two buildings which had at least 14 rooms.

An American colonel repeated his plea in a weary voice. The princess was upset but the colonel courteously informed her the Ninth Army was boss.

The princess claims to be the great grand-daughter of the late Queen Victoria and a distant cousin to King George VI. Her husband is Prince Charles Arenberg Ingelbert.

Shelter for Tired Yanks

Their residence consisted of a vast collection of about a dozen buildings. It

meant temporary shelter for tired and dusty American troops.

The prince stood by, fairly embarrassed during the interview with the colonel. He appeared to have made up his mind to accept the situation. The princess wanted the Americans to move into the dirty part of the building which German soldiers had occupied.

While the princess showed the colonel through the numerous tapestried rooms, dusty GIs squatted on the lawn, eating K-rations, and an armored car stood by with guns trained on the palace.

Prince Arenberg said Goering "was quite nice to me. I think had he been chief of Germany before the war the English would have got on very well with him." The prince agreed that the Nazis had stolen some of his estates and destroyed some of his valuables.

"They will fight like gangsters to the end," he said.

East Meets West

STOCKHOLM, Apr. 5 (UP)—The so-called Free German Press Bureau, quoting a military source, says that the German Army has combined its Western and Eastern Hq. at Meissen, near Dresden.

Reds Decorate 3 Marshals

MOSCOW, Apr. 5 (AP)—The Supreme Soviet has decorated Marshals Gregory Zhukov, Ivan Koniev and Konstantin Rokossovsky with the jeweled Order of Victory.

Patrol Prowls As Hoodwinked Germans Party

By Wade Jones
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH NINTH ARMY, Apr. 5—

The four-man patrol from the 35th Div. still is considerably awed by its singular experiences in an enemy-held town.

Edging cautiously into the very hot Ruhr Valley northeast of Essen, the patrol, with two Russian "slave worker" guides, brushed elbows with German troops and civilians, looked through windows at nattily-dressed German soldiers drinking and dancing with local girls, were greeted with wild enthusiasm by a group of Russians, in a factory.

The patrol passed through nine German sentries, killing one and taking one prisoner. The Yanks left town by crawling over a high girder I remains of a canal bridge—while German troops at one end of the bridge were looking for the sentry who was supposed to be there.

The patrol had the sentry up on the girder, taking him back as a prisoner.

Russian Welcome Noisy

Members of the patrol, all from Co. K, 320th Regt., were 2/Lt. Omer D. Whitwell, McKinnet, Tex., Sgt. Walter Hrbacek, Chicago, Pfc Wesley Bryan, Philadelphia, and Pfc Erwin A. Lord, Berkeley, Calif.

"There were drunken parties going in a lot of the houses," Whitwell said. "Once we crowded up near a house trying to see in better when a Jerry opened a door practically in our faces and looked right at us, but for some reason didn't see us. Too stinko, maybe."

"The Russian workers damn near gave us away, they made so much noise," Hrbacek said.

Talk to Nazi Guards

It was on their way out that they had to pass all the sentries. Whitwell and Hrbacek, who speak perfect German, convinced the guards the patrol was only a bunch of Germans on a lark.

"The eighth sentry was a little suspicious, though," Lord said, "so one of our Russian guides slipped a knife between his shoulder blades."

They wanted a prisoner and took the one at the canal bridge.

"We were all lined out up on that damn girder way up over the water when the prisoner lost his balance," Hrbacek said. "I managed to pull him back, and just as I did four Germans walked up to where we'd captured the sentry and began talking loud and excited. We froze on the girder and pretty soon they went away."

"That was the craziest damn town I ever got into or ever want to get into."

American Forces Network (First Army)

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TODAY

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 0555-Opening, Prayer. | 1530-Combat Diary. |
| 0601-Sound Off. | 1645-On the Record. |
| 0615-Rice and Shine. | 1630-Strike Up Band. |
| 0712-Program Sum. | 1701-Kate Smith. |
| 0715-Song Parade. | 1730-Music Time. |
| 0730-Return Engage. | 1755-AEF Mark Up Map. |
| 0801-Combat Diary. | 1815-GI Supper Club. |
| 0815-Personal Album. | 1905-Canada Show. |
| 0830-Modern Music. | 1915-Ransom Sherman. |
| 0910-Army Talks. | 1945-Spotlight Band. |
| 0925-Ranch House. | 2001-Navy Date. |
| 1001-Morning After. | 2030-American Band. |
| 1030-Strike Up Band. | 2105-First Army News. |
| 1101-Home News. | 2115-Command Perform. |
| 1106-Duffie Bag. | 2145-Strings Wings. |
| 1145-Plane Parade. | 2201-Home News. |
| 1202-Concert. | 2205-Mildred Bailey. |
| 1310-Sports News. | 2235-Here's to Roman. |
| 1315-Light Music. | 2303-Music We Love. |
| 1401-RCAF Band. | 2338-One Night Stand. |
| 1430-Let's Go to Town. | 0015-Sign Off. |
| 1510-Raymond Scott. | |

(News every hour on the hour.)

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Vol. 1, No. 77

HUBERT by SGT. DICK WINGERT



"Careful, don't wake him up."

This Happened in America Yesterday:

Bet Dollars to K-Ration Tops A Hill Billy's Capture Adolf

By Charles W. White
Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, Apr. 5—Quite a few people have been wondering what to do with Herr Adolf Hitler when he's been located in a Bavarian cave or somewhere atop an Alp. We have done some thinking about it ourselves. One time in London, we brought up the subject and some charwomen who were working on the floors suddenly got up and a spokeswoman said: "I'll tell you what to do with 'im, just leave 'im to us. Leave the barstid to the women of England." Then they all laughed in gruesome glee at what they'd do to get even for certain things.

That was their idea, and you probably have your own. But the most original to appear in these parts lately came out in The New York Daily News this morning under the heading: "Why Not Psych Hitler?" The editor's idea was that the various complexes, delusions and things the guy has racing around in his noodle not only would win him an easy Section Eight but would be of value to medical science. "How did Hitler get that way?" the editor, asked, observing that not even Napoleon ever pretended to be a divinity.

"He should be kept under glass," this writer suggested, "until science has explored and analyzed as many as possible of the dark caverns of his brain and soul. If it did nothing else, it would add to the store of human knowledge."

Of course, it's a little early to make guesses, and Germany is a long way off from here, but it does begin to look as though science were going to be cheated out of this specimen, sad as it may seem.

One fellow offered to bet that Der Fuehrer, who may be hiding in the mountains, would be located by an American, and that the American probably would be a Kentucky, Tennessee or West Virginia mountaineer. In that case, of course, science will be really and truly out of luck.

The above may give an idea of the trend of people's thoughts in New York City.

Two Strikes End; 10 Hurt in Texas Tornado

THE papers here carry stories of two strikes ending after brief negotiation. In Kansas City, Armour and Co., which prepares meat for the armed forces, resumed normal operations with 3,500 employes back at work. In Detroit, after a four-day strike protesting the discharge of a union steward, 13,000 Hudson Motors employes returned to work.

In Texas, at least ten persons were injured as a tornado whipped through Terrell and Wills Point areas, and sections of east Texas suffered heavy damage from rains, high winds and lightning. This is vouched for by the Associated Press, but of course we're not trying to convince any Texan in the ETO, as we have tried that before.

In the wake of the heaviest snow storm since early winter, the Rocky Mountain area counted a traffic death toll of six. All the fatalities were in Colorado. There were snow depths from 18 inches in Ft. Bridger, Wyo., and 14 inches in Greeley, Colo., to six in Denver. The storm is subsiding now.

Third-Bandit Nabbed by FBI Near Litchfield (U.S.A.)

THE FBI at Springfield, Ill., reported capture of the third of the trio of bandits who robbed the First National Bank, at Greenville, Ill., of more than \$20,000. FBI men said all the loot was recovered. Two men surrendered to the state police in a corn field southwest of Litchfield (not, thank gosh, England) and the third was seized an hour later after he barricaded himself in a farm building.

The current meat shortage in the U.S. will last until early next year. So say the delegates to the National Livestock Producers Assn., meeting at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago. But don't feel too sorry, gentlemen; anybody can get a steak about any time in the U.S.A., and he doesn't have to kill a cow personally, either.

Draft-Dodging Racket Bared

G-MEN arrested six New York business executives in their thirties in a draft-dodging conspiracy and revealed a racket by which the men put in a couple of hours' spare time daily in a plant with a government contract to non-classification as "essential war workers." Five of the men had non-essential jobs, and the sixth, a friend, was personnel manager of the Universal Camera Co., which had a contract to make binoculars for the armed forces. Five took part-time jobs in the winter of 1943-1944 when work-or-fight legislation was being considered. Later, they quit and the Government charged they failed to tell their draft boards about it.

Another war-time racket was exposed in San Francisco when Harry Mone was convicted on a charge of being West Coast agent for an illicit Pennsylvania concern which dealt in counterfeit ration stamps. John Alex, accused as one of Mone's agents, pleaded guilty. The case was broken when Alex boastfully showed his landlady a sheet of red stamps, and she told the OPA. Alex then said it was a fluke but he continued to get stamps in jail.

Li'l Abner



Braves' Infield Is Spotty, Outfield Has Little Punch

(This is the 15th in a series on major league prospects for 1945.)

BOSTON, Apr. 5—A glance at the material available this year in the Boston Braves' camp indicates Manager Bob Coleman is having pipe dreams when he says the Braves have an excellent chance for a first division place in 1945.

Ex-Leaguers Belt Phillies' Pitching

NEW YORK, Apr. 5—Former big leaguers continue to plague major league clubs in exhibition games against service teams and yesterday three of them ganged up on the Phillies, who lost a 10-6 decision to the Curtis Bay Coast Guard team. Lou Klein, who once played second for the Cardinals, had two homers and a double, and home runs were added by Mickey Witek, ex-Giant, and Henry Majeski, Yankee property.



Lou Klein

The Yankees defeated the Red Sox, 8-3, at Atlantic City as Oscar Grimes got a three-run homer inside the park, and the Senators barely nosed out the Naval Training Station team, 8-7, at Norfolk, Va. Bill Dietrich and Joe Haynes gave up only four hits as the White Sox blanked the George Field, Ill., team, 8-0, while at Hagerstown, Md., the Athletics made it two straight over Toronto, 2-1.

USSTAF Cage Tourney

Wednesday's Results
ATSCE Bearcats 42, Eighth AF Yanks 37
Tp. Cr. High Flyers 31, First TAC Trojans 27
A Fifth Wingers 42, Eng. Bulldozers 40

The infield, hardly of major league caliber, is Boston's weak area and Tommy Holmes, in left, is the only outstanding outfielder. The pitching should be good with Charley Barrett, Al Javery, Nate Andrews and Jim Tobin, the latter a holdout, forming the starting mound staff. Lefty Charles Cozart, 18-game winner at Atlanta; Jim Wallace, Army dischargee, and Johnny Hutchings, 265-pound right-hander, are, other starting candidates Armand "Ben" Cardoni and Ira Hutchinson are counted upon for relief.

Phil Masl and Clyde Klutz are expected to carry the bulk of the catching with Bob Brady, up from Hartford, trying to make the grade off his .303 batting average last year.

Holmes has been moved to left to make way for Dill Ramsasa, speedboy from Sacramento, leaving right field open for Butch Nieman or Charley Workman. Ab Wright and Garden Gillenwater are reserves who will act as pinchhitters.

Vincent Shupe, who hit .340 for Hartford in the Eastern League last year, is battling for the first base job with Joe Mack, .287 hitter at Columbus in 1944. Frank Drews, Brooklyn castoff, is at second, and Tommy Nelson, who had a .303 mark with Milwaukee last season, is the third baseman. Shortstop is a tossup between Dick Culler and Whitey Wietelmann.

Hines Shoots Hole-in-One

ATLANTA, Ga., Apr. 5—Jimmy Hines, 39-year-old Great Neck, L.I., golfer, shot a hole-in-one on the 160-yard 11th of the Capital City Club here yesterday during a practice round. He will play in the Iron Lung Golf Tournament, scheduled to start today.

WMC Shocks Job-Leaving Ballplayers

WASHINGTON, Apr. 5—Ballplayers who thought they were safe from the draft when they left war plants to return to baseball were jolted today when the War Manpower Commission explained its recent decision meant only that players did not have to go through the U.S. Employment Service channels when changing jobs, and that the edict was certainly not binding on local draft boards.

Latest player to be thus affected is Nick Etten, Yankee first baseman, whose Chicago draft board has classified him 1A. Etten remained on his job with American Gears until after the WMC had announced ballplayers might return to their normal occupation without fear of being termed "job jumpers". Etten hit .293 and played 154 games for the Yankees in 1944.

Pirates Hard Hit

The Pirates were hard hit during the week when Bob Elliott, third baseman with a 4F classification, was ordered by the War Department to undergo three days' hospitalization for observation. Fritz Ostermueller was ordered to report for induction, after the War Department reviewed his induction, and Hank Camelli got Uncle Sam's greetings at his Milford, Mass., home.

Hugh Luby, Giants' infielder, was called for a physical, and Pitcher Loren Bair, 4F because of a skin condition, received



Nick Etten



Bob Elliott

the same call. The Dodgers are sore over the Sturgeon, Wis., draft board's action in reclassifying Pitcher Cy Buker 1A for leaving his school teaching job at Eau Claire, Wis. Branch Riekey threatened to take the case to WMC, but he needn't bother now, since the commission has said it has no power over local boards.

Lach Named Best In Hockey Circuit

MONTREAL, Apr. 5—Elmer Lach, center of the Montreal Canadiens, was named the most valuable player in the National Hockey League, receiving 116 of a possible 120 points in the voting by 12 sports writers. Lach was followed by his teammate, Maurice Richard, whom Lach helped set a record total of 50 goals this season. Bill Cowley, of Boston, two-time winner of the award, was third.

Lach's hockey-playing days seemed numbered three years ago when his arm was broken in two places after a crash into the boards. It failed to mend properly, but it was reset and he returned to action in 1943.

Black Hawk Pilot Resigns

CHICAGO, Apr. 5—Paul Thompson, 38-year-old manager of the Chicago Black Hawks, of the National Hockey League, has resigned to enter business in his home city, Vancouver, B.C., he announced yesterday.

Thompson will manage an ice skating rink in Vancouver and he hopes eventually to enter a club in the Pacific Coast Hockey League.

Pacific Coast League

Last Night's Results

Los Angeles 8, Seattle 5
Portland 5, Sacramento 4
San Diego 5, San Francisco 2
Others unscheduled

Standing of the Clubs

W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.		
Portland	4	1	.300	S. Diego	2	3	.400
Seattle	3	2	.600	S. Franc	2	3	.400
Los Ang.	3	2	.600	Sacram.	2	3	.400
Hollyw.	2	2	.500	Oakland	1	3	.250



Indies Japs Blockaded by Yank Thrust

MANILA, Apr. 5 (ANS)—Troops of the U.S. 40th Div. have invaded Masbate Island in the central Philippines, Gen. MacArthur disclosed today in proclaiming that an American blockade of Japanese shipping is in "complete operation" from the northern end of Luzon to the southern tip of the Sulu Archipelago—a distance of 1,000 miles.

MacArthur said the blockade came into full control of the area with American seizure of of the enemy's Tawitawi base only 30 miles from Borneo.

"The Dutch East Indies," MacArthur said, "are isolated, not only for exploitation but for enemy reinforcements and supplies."

Yanks who invaded Masbate, a sugar-producing island just west of Samar on the main shipping line through the central Philippines, were aided by native guerillas.

U.S. heavy bombers of MacArthur's command carried out the first concentrated attack on the great shipping base at Hongkong, China. No planes were lost in the raid. One hundred and twenty-six tons of bombs were dropped.

Tenth Army Holds Sixth of Okinawa

GUAM, Apr. 5 (ANS)—U.S. Tenth Army forces swept ahead on Okinawa Island yesterday against scattered Japanese and by nightfall had 80 square miles—one-sixth of the island—under their control.

The Seventh Inf. Div. consolidated positions on Nakagusuki Bay along Okinawa's east coast. To the north troops of the Marine Third Amphibious Corps established a line across the neck of a narrow isthmus north of Yontan hill.

Ninth Near Hanover ---

(Continued from Page 1)

of the 11th Armd. Div., was 35 miles northeast of Osnabruck, which would put it in the vicinity of Minden. The British 11th Armd. and Sixth Airborne Divs. both had been reported at Minden earlier in the day.

As the Allies opened their trans-Weser assault, Allied war planes struck through a driving rain against roads choked with Germans fleeing eastward toward the Eibe River, flowing northeast from Berlin to Hamburg.

Pilots said the Germans seemed to be evacuating Hanover. There were indications that the enemy, apparently having abandoned hope of forming a defense line along the Weser, might try to reorganize east of the Eibe, on the doorstep of Berlin.

Location of the Third Army's eastward driving tanks was not disclosed, but they were known to have pushed beyond Gotha, cleared yesterday by the spearheading Fourth Armd. Div.

Gotha, 145 miles southwest of Berlin, is only 40 miles west of Jena, the city where Napoleon won his decisive victory over Prussia more than a century ago. Just 75 miles northeast of Gotha is the great German city of Leipzig, with a population of 700,000.

On the Ninth Army Front, the Second Armd. Div.'s Combat Command A reached the Weser at Hamelin, 160 miles west of Berlin, after a 32-mile dash. All bridges across the river were reported blown. CCB of the same division drove ahead 24 miles to Nieheim.

Eleven hospitals, containing at least 9,000 German wounded, were taken in the area around Minden and Herford, both of which were captured and cleared. Resistance was being met across the Weser River from Minden, where ten enemy tanks and considerable artillery was in action. However, the west bank was cleared from Minden to a point 17 miles to the southeast.

The extent of the enemy's dislocation in areas overrun by the Ninth was indicated in the 150 separate units identified in one area.

Increased enemy air action of the last few days continued yesterday with more than 25 combat and reconnaissance planes in operation over the Ninth's forward areas.

The Teutoberger Forest barrier, stretching northwest to Bielefeld from

'Oh Yeah!' Is Proper Answer to This PW

LONDON, Apr. 5 (UP)—On the day of the Rhine crossings a large group of Germans stood in a PW cage watching a huge stream of transport planes with airborne troops headed for the Reich, followed by rocket-firing Typhoons.

After an hour or so, one of the prisoners turned to a British guard and said contemptuously, "Propaganda."

U.S. Strives To Heal Rift

WASHINGTON, Apr. 5 (ANS)—Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr. yesterday asserted that the U.S. is engaged in "very active efforts" to resolve the recent "temporary difficulty" among the Big Three.

Stettinius said he could not discuss current difficulties in detail, but expressed "full confidence" they will be solved along with others that "will inevitably arise as we approach the end of the war."

Difficulties to which he referred include failure to form a Polish government of national unity and Russia's request that the Lublin Poles be invited to the San Francisco Security Conference, Russia's request for extra votes in the proposed World League Assembly, and recent signs of disagreement in Rumania.

Vandenberg's Proposal Backed by Connally

WASHINGTON, Apr. 5 (AP)—The suggestion by Sen. Arthur H. Vandenberg (R-Mich.) that the proposed World League have power to review wartime boundaries and similar decisions appears likely to receive official U.S. approval.

Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and, like Vandenberg, a member of the American delegation to San Francisco, is reported ready to support the principle.

Al Jolson and Mammy No. 4



Al Jolson, 56, with his fourth bride, Erle Galbraith, 21-year-old film actress, on their return to Hollywood following their elopement. They were married in Quartzsite, Ariz.

Munster an Area of Ruin With Few Houses at Edge

By George Dorsey
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH U.S. 17th AIRBORNE DIV., Munster, Apr. 5—A few scattered intact houses in the outskirts—that's all that remains of Munster, once a great center of German culture and in the war picture a highly important transportation hub.

Soldiers who have seen both say that the devastation of Munster is more complete than Cologne.

The population has fallen from a pre-war 144,000 to something under 20,000. No one can be sure what it is today, because people still are edging warily out of cellars and filling in from the country. Paratroopers and glider riders of the 17th Airborne Div., backed by the Sixth Armd. Coldstream Guards captured Munster and more than 4,000 Nazi soldiers by banging swiftly into the city from three sides.

Goering Barracks Seized

The 513th Parachute Inf. Regt., advanced into the western outskirts to open the attack.

The 194th Parachute Regt. wheeled in to mop up the eastern part.

The modern Herman Goering Barracks on the northwest edge were among captured points of interest. Others—a hospital containing 1,000 Allied and Wehrmacht wounded, a concentration camp imprisoning 2,000 Russians.

Fires from Sunday's big softening-up air raid still flickered among the ruins in the heart of the city. Munster's Gothic cathedral, after surviving 98 raids, was wrecked in this one.

Germans Loot Warehouse

A warehouse containing a million dollars worth of food and liquor was the scene of a wild looting spree staged by German civilians and displaced persons until military authorities intervened.

The city's defenders were men from 80 different units. They ranged from boys to old men, ack-ack crews to Volkstormers. At least eight of them had artificial limbs.

The 513th Regt.'s Second Bn. finished off a band of Nazis in a woods behind the city. These fanatics had eight 88s, five 20mm flak guns and some captured Sherman and Churchill tanks. It took 20 hours to subdue them.

Pact - - -

(Continued from Page 1)

of Russia's enemies—could no longer constitute a neutral.

London received the news jubilantly, the United Press reported, and observers there predicted that it would be followed shortly by war by Russia against Japan. The first question appeared to be whether Japan would accept the Russian slap without declaring war in retaliation, or whether she would leave the initiative entirely with Russia, the UP added.

London interpreted the Russian action as a direct result of the Yalta Conference, the UP said. Unconfirmed stories at that time said that Russia would choose the psychological moment for declaring war against Japan.

Radio Tokyo, announcing the resignation of the cabinet headed by Gen. Kuniaki Koiso, said that it will be succeeded by a far more powerful government.

Later Radio Tokyo said that Emperor Hirohito ordered Adm. Baron Kantaro Suzuki, 77, president of the Japanese privy council, to form a new cabinet. The choice of Suzuki, according to the Japanese News Agency, was decided at a meeting of Japanese senior statesmen.

In Washington, Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-Ohio) said he regarded the Russian action as indicating the Russian intention of entering the war against Japan, the AP reported. Sen. Arthur H. Vandenberg (R-Mich.) commented that "this is undoubtedly a preview of vitally important things to come."

Senate Democratic Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky.) called the Soviet action "gratifying," while Sen. Warren A. Austin (R-Vt.) said it was "a significant step toward ultimate victory."

Heavy Snows, Freeze Strike Central U.S.

CHICAGO, Apr. 5 (ANS)—Spring took a holiday yesterday as heavy snow, cold and high winds combined to endanger fruit crops, block highways and close many rural schools in Midwestern and Rocky Mountain falls.

Snowfall reached 17 inches in Minnesota's worst April storm in 15 years. Northwest Iowa had 16 inches, Nebraska 14, Wisconsin and upper Michigan eight, Colorado and Wyoming 14, New Mexico, Texas, Missouri and Kansas had lesser falls.

Temperatures ranged upward from 17 below zero at Laramie, Wyo., and 14 below at Leadville, Colo., to 30 at Chicago. The freeze extended into Texas and the Oklahoma panhandle.

The weather bureau forecast continued freezing temperatures and horticulturists said fruit crops would suffer severely. Most of Nebraska's fruit crop was believed lost already, but Iowa officials said damage there might be less.

Minnesota crop observers said the snow would benefit spring wheat already seeded, but would hamper farmers who had not yet seeded.

Wind Hits 60 M.P.H.

Winds were as high as 60 miles an hour in gusts at Chicago, where a woman was blown from an elevated railway platform, trees were uprooted and windows smashed. At Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Great Lakes steamers dropped anchor to ride out the blasts.

Meanwhile, the Mississippi, in flood stage from Iowa to the Gulf of Mexico, rose further. Army engineers in the lower valley prepared to blast open the Morganza floodway within ten days to prevent a repetition of the 1927 flood disaster. Hundreds of families have been driven from their homes along the big river's tributaries.

Baruch Confers With Churchill

LONDON, Apr. 5—Bernard M. Baruch has completed conversations with Prime Minister Churchill on far-reaching plans for postwar control of Germany. The New York Herald Tribune Bureau reported today.

They discussed policies. The Herald Tribune said, to be applied jointly by the U.S. and Great Britain on questions ranging from Allied reparations to selective elimination of enemy industries in the German zones which their forces will occupy.

Baruch was said in the report to have brought to his conferences with the Prime Minister and with other British officials a modified version of the so-called Morgenthau plan for elimination of the German war potential. This includes all aircraft factories, arms and ammunition plants, arsenals and tank factories and other obvious war plants.

In addition, plans are said to be completed for rigid control of "war component industries," such as electrical manufacturing resources, which are capable of easy conversion to a war production basis.

Studios Fire Strikers

HOLLYWOOD, Apr. 5—Nine major film studios yesterday mailed dismissal notices to all employes on strike for the last 25 days. The action came after an ultimatum two days ago, in which 14,000 studio workers were ordered to return today or lose their jobs.

By Milton Caniff

Terry and the Pirates