

Yanks Celebrate Escape From German PW Camp



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photo

Part of the 1,200 soldiers found by units of the Seventh Armd. Div., U.S. First Army, after their escape from a prison camp at Limburg, Germany. (Other photos on page 5.)

PARIS EDITION

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

To Berlin

Patton (near Mulhausen) 150 mi.
Dempsey (at Steyerburg) 185 mi.

To Russians

Patton (from Koniev)... 182 mi.
Simpson (from Zhukov)... 230 mi.

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1 Fr.

1 Fr.

Saturday, April 7, 1945

9th Drives Toward Elbe

Russian Army in Vienna Reaches Factory Section

Red Army troops have driven a wedge into the city area of Vienna, beating back savage German resistance and reaching the Simmering industrial district in the south-eastern section, Reuter reported last night.

Violent house-to-house fighting, Reuter said, indicated that the German high command had ordered the Red Army held as long as possible, even if it means the destruction of the Austrian capital.

Troops of Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian Army drove the wedge into the Vienna city area, threatening the capital's gas and electric works, while other forces of the Third drove to the west in an encircling operation.

Highway Cut

The forces to the west already had cut the Vienna-Linz highway, and German reports said that the Russians gained more ground in a thrust toward the communications center of St. Polten, 30 miles west of Vienna.

Northeast of Vienna, Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian Army also was engaged in an encirclement operation. Malinovsky's advance toward Vienna threatened to cut highways leading to Brunn, Prague and Pilsen.

Meanwhile, Tolbukhin registered new gains on his left flank, in the area where the frontiers of Austria, Hungary and Yugoslavia meet. German reports indicated that Russian troops were in the vicinity of Felzbach, 25 miles southeast of Graz.

5th Army Troops Seize Vital Positions in Italy

ROME, April 6 (Reuter).—Fifth Army troops swept the Germans from important positions south of the town of Massa today in a surprise attack at the western end of the Italian front, Allied Hq. announced.

Advancing from Azzana, Fifth Army units outflanked Mt. Folgorit in a two-mile advance. Strong German counter-action forced a withdrawal at one point. Heavy fighting still is in progress.

New Command Given Nimitz And M'Arthur

WASHINGTON, April 6 (ANS).—The Joint Chiefs of Staff re-assigned commands in the entire Pacific area today by placing Gen. Douglas MacArthur in charge of all Army forces, and Adm. Chester Nimitz in command of all Navy forces. Gen. Henry H. Arnold will continue in command of the 20th Air Force, which directs Superfortress operations.

While MacArthur will direct land operations, and Nimitz operations at sea, either one of them



Adm. Nimitz Gen. MacArthur

may be charged with overall responsibility for conducting specific operations or campaigns under the new setup.

The statement issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff pointed out that these changes had been made "with a view to giving full effect

(Continued on Page 8)

Nazi Cities Off the Air

LONDON, April 6 (Reuter).—Neither Bremen nor Stuttgart radios, which normally start broadcasting at 5AM, was heard today.

Congratulations From Eisenhower:

To the New Stars and Stripes

By a Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

ALLIED FORWARD COMMAND POST, April 6. —The Stars and Stripes, U.S. Army's daily newspaper, "must remain completely free as long as it lives," General Dwight D. Eisenhower said today in a message of congratulations to the staff of the paper's new edition, published in Germany.

General Eisenhower's message:

"The publication places of Stars and Stripes, founded in London almost three years ago, are mileposts marking Allied progress in the European war.

"From London, one offspring went to Casablanca, Algiers, Naples and still further on into Italy. Then, last June, the brother of the Mediterranean son left London for Cherbourg, Rennes, Paris, Liege and Strasbourg. After landing in southern France, many other editions were published.

"And now across the Rhine in Frankfurt.

"Everywhere the soldier's own paper, with his favorite cartoons, the 'B-Bag,' comics and the latest news, has been brought promptly to his camp or bivouac.

"I join every GI in Europe in expressions of appreciation to the paper's staff, and in the earnest hope that before long the Stars and Stripes will be published in the heart of a completely defeated Germany.

"And so long as it lives the paper must remain completely free, published by American soldiers for their comrades in this theater."

End of Russo-Jap Pact Hailed In Allied Capitals; War Seen

Allied capitals yesterday hailed Russia's denunciation of her neutrality pact with Japan, predicted war between the two countries and speculated as to where and when it might begin.

The Russian press printed the official announcement of the denunciation without comment, but the Japanese, in the throes of forming a new cabinet in the midst of a political crisis and severe military reverses, pointed out that the pact still had one year to run.

The Domei news agency, as reported by the Associated Press, quoted a Japanese government spokesman as saying: "I can at least say that the notification by the Soviet government does not make the pact void immediately. It will remain in force for another year, and both parties are bound to maintain neutrality for at least another year."

Commenting earlier on the break, Domei quoted informed sources as saying that the action "was by no means unexpected" and that "developments in the international situation clearly indicated that the Soviet attitude toward Japan was undergoing a radical change."

The AP quoted Domei as reporting (Continued on Page 4)

3rd Army 55 Mi. from Czech Line

American Ninth Army tanks speared five miles out of the Weser River bridgehead toward the Elbe, last water barrier before Berlin, Stars and Stripes front dispatches said last night, as Allied armies rolled over vast stretches of northern Germany and Holland toward the ports of Emden, Bremen and Hamburg.

As the war in the west went into its eleventh month, Gen. Eisenhower's armies at the close of yesterday—the 28th anniversary of America's entry into the first German war—were less than 150 miles from Berlin and 185 miles from Russian lines.

They were encountering the last of the Reich's reserves in the west—replacement battalions rushed directly to the front from the enemy's reinforcement pools in a desperate effort to slow the offensive.

Crerar Drives 25 Miles

Armor of Lt. Gen. Henry G. Crerar's Canadian First Army rolled 25 miles northward from Almelo on a zig-zag course across the canal-slashed Dutch plain to reach Coevorden, 55 miles south of Emden at the mouth of the Ems River and 12 miles from the last rail line leading out of Holland.

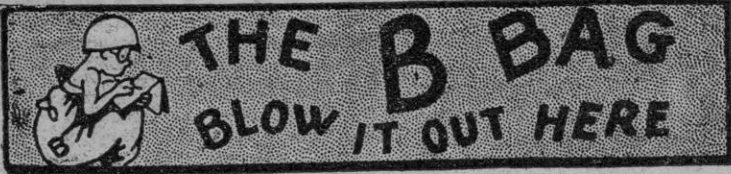
Front dispatches said Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's Ninth Army doughs walked through the massive, twisted railway yards of Hamm virtually unopposed. Other infantrymen fought street by street through Hamelin, of the Pied Piper legend.

The 11th Armd. and Sixth Airborne Divs. of Lt. Gen. Sir Miles Dempsey's British Second Army and Simpson's Second Armd. and 30th Inf. Divs. built up their mul-

(Continued on Page 8)

225,000 PWs Working

LONDON, April 6 (Reuter).—Approximately 225,000 prisoners of war are now working for Americans on the Continent.



Foxhole Religion

This is an answer to Maj. Alpha B. Young's letter captioned "skeptical." You say, Major, that you have devoted much of your adult life to the study of religion, and by so doing you say that you have hopes of receiving a small ray of light on some of the great mysteries of the universe. You go on further to ask if this "foxhole religion" brings with it a full understanding of the riddle of the universe and whether it gives a full explanation of the doctrine of the Trinity.

Even an Atheist Has Conscience

You ask if this religion will stand the test in a rest area or survive 48 hours in Paris. That depends upon a man's individual moral courage. Even an atheist has a conscience which tells him the difference between that which is morally good and that which is morally evil.

Your conclusion is that battlefield religion is born of fear rather than reason. Fear of what? Fear of dying? Reason tells us that we must all die. Or is it God's justice after death which we fear? Reason tells us that law and justice require compensation for their violations and especially so does God's justice demand compensation. Your conclusion is somewhat of a half-truth. God is found through fear but He is known through reason and intelligence.—Pvt. L. Gostkowski, 337th Inf.

I am wondering if the major has not challenged these religious experiences with questions and statements which, if they are not altogether untrue, are certainly beside the issue. I agree with him that the most genuine and satisfying religion usually comes from a gleaning and sifting of convictions until the truth is found, and that many battlefield and deathbed conversions are simply the results of fear, with no genuine convictions being felt. But it is surprising that a man who has spent as much time studying the world's great religions as Maj.

Young claims to have spent should maintain that a religion comes from Germany, simply because the 88 shell which speeded its acceptance came from there. It is also surprising that he would expect Christianity, or any other religion, to explain to our finite minds all the infinite mysteries of the universe. If we could completely understand them all, there would be little need for Faith, which demands that one accept revealed truth as well as truth arrived at by reason.

Don't Grow Doubtful To the private whose experience the major was questioning, I should like to say: Don't grow doubtful just because the mystery of the Trinity was not revealed to you in a flash. Nowhere in God's word are we commanded to understand all His teachings; we are commanded simply to believe them. Certainly Christianity would be a closed door to us all if we were required to understand all its details before we could accept it.

And if the major's statement that "no one gets religion if his foxhole is deep enough" were true, it would certainly be hard to explain how Christianity became so widespread in America—the land where we don't even need any foxholes!—Pfc J. T. Carter, 112th Airborne Sig. Bn.

Convoy Tip

I have a suggestion to make to all convoy commanders. At very busy intersections, many a convoy gets broken up, and the drivers who are left behind don't know the name of their destination.

I suggest that every truck driver in a convoy be told his destination before the convoy starts out. Then, in the event that the convoy does get broken up, the driver will at least know where he has to go.—Pfc R. J. Reddin, 509 MN Bn.

Gentleman 'Wolf

I can't see all this talk about what outfit is the original "Timberwolf."

Personally, I can see no harm in the 311th being known as the Timberwolf Regiment, as we are known as the Timberwolf Division. I am sure that the records established by the respective outfits are things to be proud of. I know I am proud of the 104th. I likewise wear my Timberwolf patch with pride, as do all other members of this organization. There's plenty of room for all the Timberwolves in Europe, be they the 311th, 104th, or just good old fighting Yanks.—Cpl. H. Fraulob, 413 Inf.

An Editorial Gutenberg Is Smiling Today

THE STARS AND STRIPES Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

GERMANY EDITION Thursday, April 5, 1945 Volume 1, Number 1

GET IT UP FRONT Stars and Stripes are rationed. Pass this copy on.

Third Clears Kassel as French Enter Karlsruhe

Fighter-Bombers Smash a Retreating German Truck Column



A German convoy under attack northwest of Giessen by fighter-bombers of XIX Tactical Air Command. Two trucks are burning at center.

7th Gaining Despite Stiff Nazi Defense

General Eisenhower's armies yesterday tore new holes in the German last-ditch defenses of the inner Reich, with Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army shooting some seven columns of heavy forces beyond Kassel, which was cleared in the afternoon, and Gen. Jean de Lattre de Tassigny's First French Army bursting into Karlsruhe to highlight the day.

Yanks Split Main Island In Ryukyus

GUAM, Soldiers' ... Marines and Tenth Army ...

Bratislava Falls as Reds Reach Suburbs of Vienna

BRATISLAVA, capital of Slovakia and the last ...

Army to Boost Furloughs Home, VFW Chief Says

WASHINGTON, Apr. 4 (ANS)—Jean A. Brunner, commander-in-chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, said today that information ...

(Reprinted from the first edition of The Stars and Stripes published in Germany.)

WITH the publication of this free newspaper in Germany, another prop is knocked out from under the civilization Adolf Hitler promised would last a thousand years.

Had the German people been told the truth, National Socialism would have died within a decade. For Hitlerism and truth don't mix. One would have to go. Truth went for a while. But in the end Hitler will exit.

The Stars and Stripes, an Army paper, draws its news from many sources. Some is official, most is not. Much is written by its own staff, loyal to the tradition of a free press. Much comes from the rank and file of the Army.

In B-Bag the soldier speaks his mind with the gusto of a free man. That's how Ike Eisenhower wants it. His order—that The Stars and Stripes be free—is based on the belief that soldiers old enough to fight the war are old enough to face the facts.

To draw their own conclusions, freely reached, that in the end can be counted on to be correct. At times the news may seem irreverent. At times indiscreet. At times unfortunate. But the end product is an informed people. And an informed people doesn't goosetstep to a dictator's tune.

Truth has kept America free. Freedom has made America strong. Strong in many ways of peace. And when threatened, strong in the ways of war.

Perhaps this free newspaper of a freedom-loving Army will, along with our bombs and bullets, make an impression on German hearts and minds. The Germans have what it takes to win back their freedom. Good machinery. Good ink. Good paper and an heritage of good printing that goes back to Gutenberg.

All they need is the truth. Perhaps some day the truth will make them free.

Mystery Veils Red Army in Far East

WASHINGTON, April 6 (ANS).—If Russia goes to war with Japan, at least two Soviet armies equipped with the finest modern military material will be ready to join combat immediately in the Far East.

Behind them will be a string of brand new airstrips swarming with fleets of fast, hard-hitting bombers and fighters.

With them will be large, well-organized U.S. and British military missions prepared to co-operate with the Russians to whatever extent they permit in the prosecution of their part of the campaign.

These are the highlights of the little that is known about the world's most mystery-shrouded military theater. The secrets of the Red Army's Far Eastern military establishment have been so closely guarded that in comparison the Russian forces in Europe are wide open.

Commander Is Unknown So tightly are the secrets held that even the identity of the Soviet commander in the Far East is not known. The former commander, Gen. Apanasenko, was moved west and was killed in the battle of Kursk in July, 1943.

Before Germany invaded the Soviet Union in 1941 the Russians had three armies in the Far East, one more than the usual standing force. One army was reported unofficially but authoritatively to have moved west during the battle of Moscow in 1941.

By now it has probably returned

to its old stamping ground, but in any case the two original armies are in the field. Their quality has been attested by brief dispatches reporting they have paraded through Khabarovsk, showing the best in tanks, motorized troops, artillery and automatic arms.

Signs Point to Others Strong indications that even more than the first and second red-bannered armies are ready for action in the Far East can be seen from the fact that the Siberian forces have not been reported prominently in action since the Battle of Stalingrad in 1942.

During the battle of Moscow, the Siberians played an important part in the last-ditch defense that threw the Wehrmacht back for the first time.

Again, in the Battle of Stalingrad one year later, the Siberians figured prominently in Soviet accounts of the defense and counter-attack that crushed the German Sixth Army and turned the course of the war in Europe.

Since then, the Siberians have dropped out of the picture, perhaps in preparation for yesterday's denunciation by the Soviet Union of its neutrality pact with Japan.

Aviation forces and facilities in the Far East are as secret as the ground forces. It is known, however, that new air bases have been built along the line from Alaska that Russian fliers used to take lend-lease aircraft from the U.S. Soviet naval forces in the Far East are believed to be almost negli-

gible although Vladivostok once served as a base for some 80 submarines and a number of light ships and large shipbuilding centers have been developed at Kom-somolsk and other Far Eastern cities.

Although the secrets of the Far East have not been unlocked generally for Americans, the U.S. maintains a consulate general at Vladivostok, headed by a veteran in Far Eastern affairs, white-bearded Angus Ward. Individual U.S. naval officers have been permitted visits to the region.

The U.S. Military Mission in Moscow, under Maj. Gen. John R. Deane, has been built up for possible expansion. It has army, navy and air sections.

It is no secret that American air bases set up last year in the Ukraine were more important as training grounds for the future than for immediate use in shuttle-bombing from Britain and Italy.

HUBERT by SGT. DICK WINGERT



"Careful, don't wake him up."

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This Was America Yesterday:

Russia's Breach With Japanese Steals Spotlight on Home Front

By Bill Spear

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, April 6.—Russia's denunciation of her neutrality treaty with Japan was the big thing all over America today. It was the big thing because it looked like the final step before Russia jumps into the Pacific war—and in America's estimation that will mean fewer American boys will be killed.

One of the most widely quoted comments was that of Sen. Edwin Johnson (D-Col.) of the Military Affairs Committee: "This is what we have been waiting for, for two years. It means our armed forces will not be compelled to clear the Japs from the continent of Asia. We can concentrate on the job of blockading and devastating the Japanese islands, which ought not to cost a great number of American lives."

As casualty figures officially tabulated through March 27 reached 892,909, meaning that actual casualties of U.S. soldiers and sailors have now topped 900,000, Americans at home are becoming ever more soberly aware of what war means.

This fresh awareness of casualties may have something to do with the hero worship, almost idolatry, of Patton here at home. Home-fronters feel that Patton's methods mean fewer casualties. Patton's name dominates the newspaper headlines to an extent surpassing even Eisenhower himself, and Patton's picture appears on the cover of this week's Time Magazine with the caption: "The enemy has reason to fear him."

Home Front Does Best to Understand GI

THE home front knows, too, that GIs overseas think that it does not appreciate or understand them, and Americans here are highly sensitive on that point. They don't dispute it, they admit it, but they claim that they do the best they can.

But folks are still able to laugh at themselves, and the cartoon in this week's New Yorker seemed funny because it exaggerated a matter which is uppermost in so many people's minds—a matter of understanding what their sons', brothers', fathers' sacrifices mean. A cartoon by Helen Hokinson showed a wealthy woman doing marketing in an expensive, well-stocked market and saying to the grocer: "You mean we still haven't conquered that place where my tea comes from?"

RACIAL tolerance is another matter about which people are thinking a lot. The New York Post carries a story about Pfc Hillel Aaron, wounded in Germany, who came home on furlough and visited an old friend in the Bronx, Rabbi Solomon L. Teitelbaum. While they were sitting in the living room chatting, a rock came crashing through the window—it was the third time the rabbi's window had been stoned by hoodlums.

Aaron rushed to the window, but the hoodlums had gone. The Post reported that Aaron burst into tears and quoted him as saying, "I've been fighting for democracy, and now I come back to this outrageous crime against democracy in my own country."

And who do you think is taking a big part in the fight against intolerance? Frankie Sinatra. The crooner has been speaking to youngsters all over the country for several weeks about intolerance and expects to continue lectures until he leaves for overseas. "I believe that most of this intolerance begins with kids, but they get it from their parents," he tells youthful audiences. "So it's up to you to be firm with your parents, kids."

BECAUSE of the manpower shortage in Detroit war plants, a plan is under way to allow Canadian workmen to commute to Detroit from Windsor across the border.

And because of the cigaret shortage, the Army has issued an order prohibiting members of the Italian "service units"—Italians who work at Army camps and bases—from buying the six most popular brands of cigarets at PXs.

C. E. Wilson, president of General Motors, says that some passenger cars might be built this year if the war in Europe ends this month. He told a Detroit press conference that the possibility of getting passenger vehicles into production this year would depend on whether manpower and materials could be spared from the Pacific war effort.

ROBERT C. GIUS knows now what a sunken garden is. He spaded a backyard victory plot in Tacoma, Wash., and retired for the night, planning to seed it the next day. But in the morning all he found was a big hole—the garden plot had sunk to the bottom of a 54-foot dry well.

WAC to Disband Recruiting Setup

WASHINGTON, April 6 (ANS).—The WAC recruiting stations will be merged with regular Army recruiting stations May 1 or soon thereafter, the War Department reported yesterday.

The move was attributed to the growing requirements for administrative and technical personnel and will release a "large portion" of the Army recruiting staff for other assignments.

The announcement was coupled with a report that the Army is already over the top on the February-to-May recruiting goal of 6,170 WAC technicians, with 15 percent to spare.

Training Films Hit by Strike

HOLLYWOOD, April 6 (ANS).—Processing of Army training films was hampered today as laboratory, refrigeration and air-conditioning electricians joined the 26-day-old studio strike.

These electricians, affiliated with the Conference of Studio Unions, had been left on the job to work on government films.

Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference, which originally called the strike, ordered the electricians off their job.

The latest walkout came as movie producers notified the strikers that their contracts had been terminated because of their refusal to return to work.

Town Turns Out En Masse in Effort To Keep Mississippi Within Levees

Offer a Charter for Industrial Peace



Shown in Washington as they announced a partnership charter which guarantees rights to both management and labor and aims at a vastly expanded peacetime economy are, left to right, William Green, AFL president; Eric A. Johnston, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Philip Murray, CIO president.

Curb on Using 19-Year-Olds In Combat Sought in Congress

WASHINGTON, April 6 (AP).—Military and diplomatic successes started talk in Congress today of a restriction on the use of youths under 19 for combat and abandonment of the nurse-draft legislation.

Sen. Edwin C. Johnson (D-Colo.) said that it was not outside the realm of possibility that the Selective Service act might be allowed to expire May 15.

On the other hand, Sen. Lister Hill (D-Ala.) told reporters: "We can not afford to relax efforts for either the Selective Service act extension or induction of vitally needed nurses at a point short of peace on both the European and Pacific fronts."

Sen. Johnson, who joined Senators Tom Stewart (D-Tenn.) Chapman Revercomb (R-W.Va.) and George A. Wilson (R-Iowa) in an amendment to the draft law to prohibit sending youths under 19 into combat unless they had six months' training, told reporters: "Certainly, successes against Europe and the prospects of Russia's entrance into the war against Japan make it unnecessary to rush boys into the battle lines short of training. The Army is getting nurses now faster than they can place them."

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Judge Rules Actor Committed Bigamy

LOS ANGELES, April 6 (ANS).—Judge Clarence Hanson declared yesterday that actor John Carradine "committed an act of bigamy" by marrying Sonia Sorel in Tia Juana, Mexico, six months before his previous wife's California divorce became final.

The judge said at an alimony hearing that the "matter will be referred to the district attorney for such action as he deems necessary."

2 Sentenced For Extortion

NEW YORK, April 6 (ANS).—Joseph S. Fay and James Bove, labor leaders, were sentenced yesterday to serve from eight and one half to 16 years each for conspiracy and extortion.

A special jury on March 15 found the defendants guilty of charges of extorting \$62,000 and conspiracy to extort \$280,000 from contractors of New York City's \$300,000,000 Delaware water project.

In opposing pleas for leniency, District Attorney Frank S. Hogan told the court: "Well over \$1,000,000 was paid on that aqueduct job. Both men are ruthless and grasping thieves and their long conspiracy from 1936 to 1943 is a record full of overt acts."

Fay, 53, of Newark, N.J., is vice-president of the International Union of Operating Engineers, while Bove, 45, of Long Island City, N.Y., is former vice-president of the International Hod Carriers Building and Common Laborers Union. Both are AFL unions.

Stimson Points to Nazi Choice

WASHINGTON, April 6 (AP).—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said today that the German people have a choice only between unconditional surrender now or unconditional surrender later, when much of Germany has been destroyed.

Menacing Waters Force Thousands To Flee Homes

NEW ORLEANS, April 6 (ANS).—Nearly all the 5,000 persons in Natchitoches, La., pitched in today with shovels and sacks to save the imperiled town, while elsewhere on the flood front new danger spots turned up.

In central Louisiana alone, Red Cross officials said, more than 5,000 families have been removed from threatened areas along the rampaging Red River, troublesome Mississippi tributary.

Meanwhile, from Cairo, Ill., to New Orleans, engineers kept a 24-hour vigil on the flooded Mississippi. Crews worked all night sandbagging levees and building new embankments.

300 Families Marooned
Twenty miles west of Natchitoches, the levee at Armistead broke, marooning 300 families. A Texas and Pacific train rescued them and they were sheltered in the Northwestern State College stadium.

Efforts to protect the levee on the west side of the Red River from Armistead to Lake End, a distance of about eight miles, were abandoned and residents of four small towns were warned to flee.

Six small towns on the east side starting at Atkins, 21 miles southeast of Shreveport, were under water. Hard-pressed levee crews continued to work in face of a situation which engineers said was critical.

A big plane from Barksdale Field dropped rafts to persons stranded on the roofs of houses at East Point, where the boggy Bayou rose suddenly, inundating the town.

Coast Guard Aids Rescue
Many other towns in the East Point area were similarly hard hit. Coast Guard cutters and boats aided in rescuing trapped and marooned.

In the fight at Natchitoches, Mayor E. L. McClung called on all able-bodied men and boys to aid in sandbagging and building new embankments.

The situation was reported under control early today, but reports said constant work would be needed to save the city.

The Red Cross announced at Washington that 72 assault boats, helicopters and amphibious planes had been sent to the flood area, as well as 75 Red Cross relief workers from Atlanta and St. Louis.

Mother Gives Birth Alone, Rides to Hospital

LIVINGSTONE, Mont., April 6 (ANS).—Hospital attaches reported yesterday that the wife and baby daughter of a serviceman are doing well, despite the fact that the baby's birth took place unattended and that two days later the mother pedaled a bicycle to the hospital with the child in one arm. The mother was Mrs. Clie Worley, 22.

Carlines Casanova Gets 30 Years

SAN FRANCISCO, April 6 (ANS).—Francis Van Wie, 58, who wooed and won 13 wives without benefit of divorce, was sentenced yesterday to 30 years in the wifeless confines of San Quentin Prison.

Van Wie, ex-streetcar conductor, ex-lion tamer and ex-husband, was sentenced to consecutive sentences of not more than 10 years on each of three counts of bigamy. He also was fined three dollars to conform with statutory provisions of the penal code.

The balding "Ding Dong Daddy" of the carlines took Superior Judge Herbert Kaufman's verdict philosophically.

"I guess the judge did his duty as he saw fit, but it means practically a life sentence for a man



Francis Van Wie of my age," Van Wie said as he was led back to the city jail to wait

out a five-day stay of execution pending an appeal.

"I've never tried to harm anyone and I never realized the meaning of what I did until I was arrested," Van Wie added.

Before imposing sentence, Judge Kaufman delivered a stern oration on the evils of divorceless multiple marriage. He also denied motions for a new trial and for probation.

Van Wie did not take the stand during the bigamy trial but testified briefly at a second trial on his plea of not guilty by reason of insanity. He said he had been kicked in the head by a mule, fallen off a ladder and suffered other injuries which had injured his brain. Three psychiatrists testified he was legally sane though a bit on the irresponsible side.

GIs Babes at Love Folies Queen Knows



"A French woman does not give her heart lightly. When she does she gives it absolutely. She will do anything for her man . . ."

"Your soldier boys go after love with the simple, eager enthusiasm of a child after a new toy. They want it impatiently at first . . ."

Mlle. Ginette Wander philosophizes on l'amour.
"An American man . . . sips love as light-heartedly as champagne."

Small Nations Must Sacrifice, Smuts Asserts

LONDON, April 6.—Field Marshal Jan Christiaan Smuts, premier of the Union of South Africa, told delegates to the Empire Conference that smaller nations must be prepared to make "considerable" sacrifices "in order to keep the more powerful nations together," the United Press reported today.

Smuts' statement to the opening session Wednesday was made public today together with statements of other Dominion leaders. He warned that the proposed World Security Council must not be a body for "gate-crashing smaller powers."

A 'Terrible Responsibility'

"On the Big Five will rest the terrible responsibility for peace," Smuts declared.

"If they cannot keep together, the position of the smaller nations who cannot defend themselves will be hopeless. If San Francisco fails, I see nothing but stark disaster for mankind."

Smuts predicted "colossal victory" soon for the Allies. He stressed the need for continued unity among the great powers and hinted at new scientific discoveries which, if used in a future war, might mean the end of the human race.

Prime Minister Churchill appeared before the conference today to tell the story of his discussions with President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin at Yalta, the Associated Press said. It was understood, the AP added, that Churchill's speech went beyond any previous official statement on the Yalta meeting.

'Ghost Government' Of Aachen Captured

By a Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
WITH SEVENTH ARMD. DIV.,
April 6.—The city government of Aachen, which last September picked up its desks and administrative records and fled to another German city to carry on a "ghost government," has been overrun, and 50 employees have been found in the German town of Gellerhaus, 125 miles from Aachen.
The "government" in "exile" has been carrying on business for the last six months despite Allied occupation of Aachen.

Soldiers Treat Amour Too Lightly, Like Child With Toy, She Says

By Kingsbury Smith
INS Staff Correspondent

AMERICAN men are babes in the art of love. So says Mlle. Ginette Wander, blonde young star of the Folies-Bergere.

Mlle. Wander, who sings and dances nightly before hundreds of American soldiers in Paris, declared that American men treat love as lightly as a child with a new toy.

"It is hard for French girls to have a big, serious love with American men," said the tiny leading woman of the most daring musical show in Paris.

Just Like a Babe

"An American man in love is like a baby," she said in an interview. "He sips love as light-heartedly as one sips a glass of champagne on a gay evening."

"Your soldier boys go after love with the simple, eager enthusiasm of a child after a new toy. They want it impatiently when they first see it; they get terribly excited about it when they first have it but before they have found out how to make it work they are attracted by a new toy."

"Love seems to be a little thing with them. With French women it is a big thing. I know we are supposed to be liberal with our love, but actually we are very serious about it. A French woman does not give her heart lightly. When she does, she gives it absolutely. She will do anything for her man."

Fair to American Women

"We are not, however, trying to win the love of the American boys who have come to liberate our country and help defeat the Germans. That would be unfair to American women. Tell them not to worry. We shall send their men back to them. What we want to do while they are here is to try to take their minds off the horrors of war, give them a little of the joy of life, and let them carry pleasant memories of France back home with them."

"I often think that many of those boys out in the audience will soon be staring death in the face, and it makes me work harder to give them a little pleasant relaxation."

"The enthusiasm of the American soldiers is marvelous. There is such a happy spirit about them. The greatness of your country can be seen in their youthful, healthy

faces and in their easy, whole-hearted laughter."

Advice to the Lovelorn

Asked what advice she would give to a woman who was seeking to win a man's love, the Parisian stage beauty said:

"If a woman is interested in winning the love of a man, she should first use her charms to the utmost to capture his attention. When she has succeeded in making him infatuated with her, she should then stop immediately and feign indifference. Once the woman knows the man is definitely interested, she should not let him think she is easy to get. She must let him think she has other interests, that there are other men around. If the man really wants her, that indifference will make him keener than ever. The attention he shows during that period of indifference will be the test of his true feeling for her."

"If he loves her, he will continue to pursue her. If he does so with gentleness and devotion, the woman can then begin to risk giving him the affection of her heart. It is from that moment that true love develops."

"But," added the little musical star who has never been in America, "I am sure American women know how to win their men."

USSTAF Praised By British, French

USSTAF HQ., April 6.—British Chiefs of Staff have commended the U.S. Strategic Air Forces in Europe for "their outstanding successes against German oil targets during the last ten months."

In a message to Gen. Carl Spaatz, USSTAF commander, the British Chiefs of Staff said: "There can be no doubt of the great extent to which these operations have contributed to the attainment of the present favorable situation on all fronts."

Gen. Joseph Pierre Koenig, military governor of Paris, also lauded USSTAF in a message which stated: "I wish to congratulate you heartily and also express, to you all my admiration for the splendid work done by the air force under your command."

New Versatile Long-Range P47 Developed

WASHINGTON, April 6 (ANS).—The War Department announced today that a new model Thunderbolt P47, with a combat radius of more than 1,000 miles and a speed of more than 450 miles an hour, has been developed.

Primarily offensive, the fighter is so versatile that it can serve as fighter-bomber or escort plane on long-range bombing missions. It is a single-seater, so the pilot is navigator, bombardier, gunner and radio operator.

Developed by Republic Aviation Corp. and Air Technical Service Command, the new P47 is armed with eight .50-cal. machine-guns and carries ten five-inch high-velocity rockets and two 500-pound bombs.

The fuel capacity for use as a long-range escort fighter has nearly doubled over the old model by redesigning the wing section to increase the internal gas supply and adding eight other gas tanks.

Kesselring Trapped?

LONDON, April 6 (Reuter).—An unconfirmed report broadcast by Paris radio said that Field Marshal Kesselring is among the German forces trapped in the Ruhr pocket.

End of Red-Jap Pact Hailed

(Continued from Page 1)

ing that Adm. Baron Kantaro Suzuki, chosen by Emperor Hirohito to form a new cabinet, had succeeded in obtaining the co-operation of the Army and Navy" but had not given Hirohito a list of new cabinet members as yet. Suzuki was expected, Domei said, to present a list today.

In Washington, the State Department, according to Reuter, commented "Naturally, the U.S. government welcomes this development."

This view was echoed by many senators. Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-Ohio), however, said he thought that Russia might have been influenced by territorial designs on China, according to the United Press.

Vice President Harry S. Truman said: "I am quite sure that this denunciation . . . will shorten the war considerably." Chairman Elbert D. Thomas (D-Utah), of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, declared that "this certainly must mean eventual entry of Russia into war with Japan."

The New York Herald Tribune commented that "Americans will welcome the aid of the Russians in

U.S. Threatens To Take Over Struck Mines

WASHINGTON, April 6 (ANS).—The War Labor Board last night told John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, to get his miners back to work in 200 coal pits in eight states or the government "will have no alternative but to seize and operate the mines on strike."

It was the first official recognition that wildcat absenteeism in the mines since last Friday constitutes a strike.

In Pennsylvania, 5,000 soft-coal miners returned to work today after voting to end wildcat strikes at ten mines in the Pittsburgh area. However, 27,000 miners were still idle at 61 other mines.

Negotiations Stalled

WLB Chairman George W. Taylor said in a telegram to Lewis that work stoppages had occurred in approximately 200 mines, despite the 30-day contract extension which the UMW, and coal operators had agreed to last Sunday.

Lewis and both hard and soft-coal mine operators are stalled on negotiations for a new contract. The old contract expired March 31 and Lewis agreed to withhold any strike action by extending the old contract 30 days.

The WLB's message to the miners yesterday said: "The board calls on UMW at this critical stage of the war to take every step necessary to bring about immediate termination of these work stoppages and resumption of production."

Steel Industry Hit

The WLB said that the stoppages are interfering particularly with the production of coal essential to the continued operation of the steel industry. Stoppages have occurred in Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Alabama and Indiana.

Fuel Administrator Harold L. Ickes said yesterday that the government should take over the soft-coal mines immediately and stop production losses.

"I don't think that we ought to wait," he told a press conference. "I don't think that any miners have the right to lay down at a time when all we need is to continue what we are doing to win through to victory in Europe. It is unsupportable and inexcusable."

Latest Goering Rumors: He's Dead or Missing

LONDON, April 6 (Reuter).—Paris, Zurich and Lisbon are buzzing with unconfirmed reports that Hermann Goering has committed suicide or has fled to some neutral country. The News Chronicle's Paris correspondent quotes a report from the German frontier that Goering has vanished and that Hitler is making an inquiry.

the Far East, whether it takes the form of active military assistance or some other aspect, because it will shorten the war."

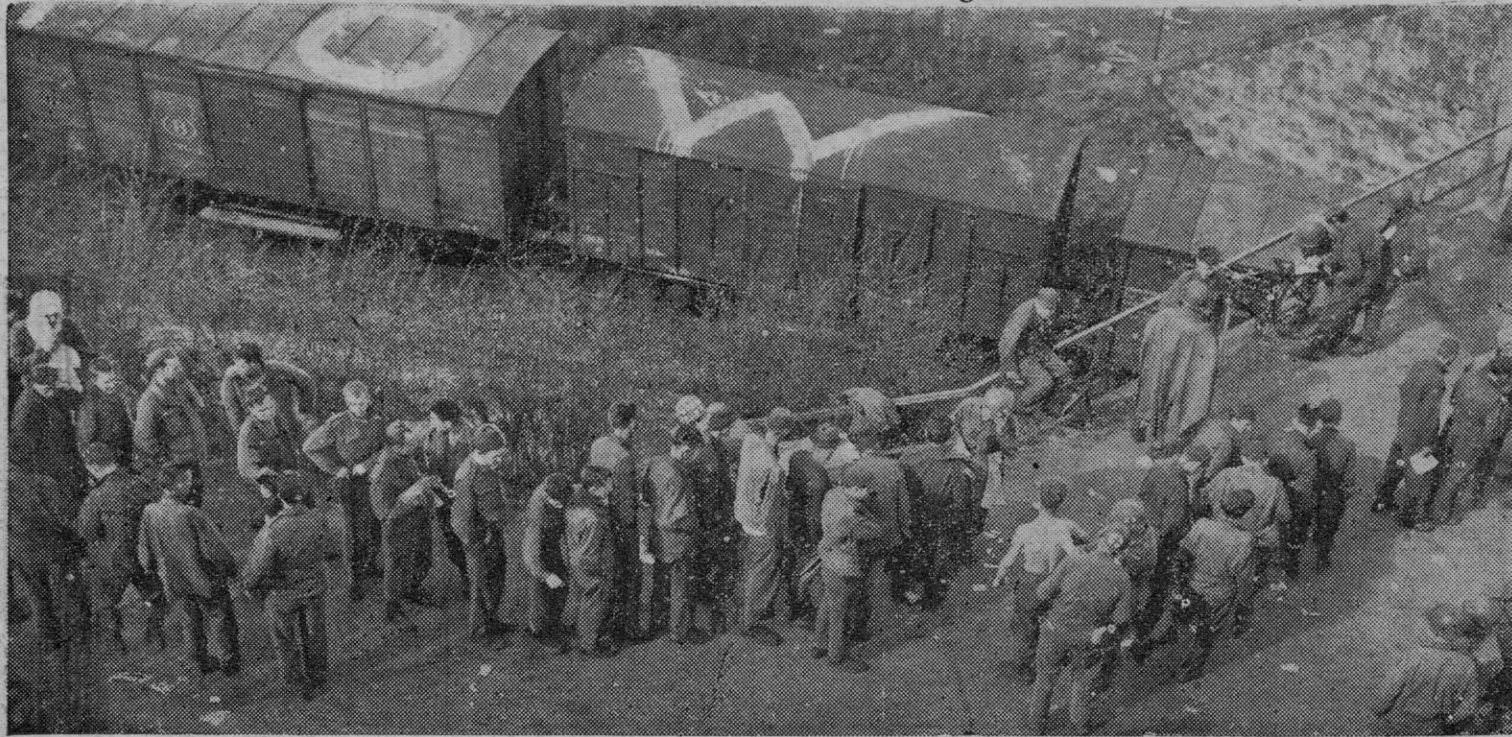
Russia's action and the resignation of the Japanese cabinet headed by Gen. Kuniaki Koiso "signify the bankruptcy of Japan's war regime," the New York Times said, attributing the "prime cause of both" to the "succession . . . of Allied victories in Europe and the Far East."

Some Washington observers saw the possibility of a sudden Japanese attack from Manchuria, the United Press said. They speculated on the number of troops on the Manchurian-Outer Mongolia border, recalling past clashes.

Reuter reported from London that political circles consider it almost certain that the British government will be asked to make a statement on the Russian action when Parliament reconvenes Tuesday after the Easter recess.

Paris political circles warmly welcomed the Russian step. Until recently, the French interest in the Far Eastern war was only secondary, but this changed with the Japanese attack on French forces in Indo-China.

Filthy, Starving American PWs Weep With Joy At Liberation From Horrors of Nazi-Made Hell



Sick and wounded American soldiers line up for medical treatment near the German prisoner of war train from which they were freed at Burgsolms, on the Lahn River, Germany, when the 99th Division overran the area. They had been held on the train for eight days.

277 Doughs Freed After U.S. Planes Halt Prison Train

By Allan Morrison

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
WITH 99th INF. DIV., Burgsolms, Germany (Delayed).—American soldiers, who had languished for months in German stalags and prison trains, wept for joy here when liberated by doughboys of the 393rd Regt.

The PWs had been living at a subhuman level for months, penned up in cramped, filthy quarters while being underfed and brutalized. And for those who witnessed it the rescue was poignant, heart-tearing.

"I won't say I cried real tears," said one of the liberating infantrymen, "but my eyes sure got watery in a hurry."

Planes Halted Train

The way to liberty was paved when U.S. planes stalled a prison train with about 1,500 prisoners aboard. The Nazis left 277 men in the boxcars, abandoned because they were unable to walk, while the others were marched away with the retreating Germans.

Three haggard, dirty, hollow-eyed men from the boxcars stumbled across the fields and met a 393rd patrol. They identified themselves and told about the plight of the others. When Charlie Co. doughs heard from the patrol that there were U.S. prisoners ahead they didn't wait for the trucks to take them the long way around. They jumped off the vehicles and raced across the fields to the train.

When 393rd doughboys broke into the boxcars they found starved, bearded, stinking shells of men, many of whom were too weak to leave the cars and cried out feebly to their liberators. Others stumbled out of the cars and made their way up the embankment. Many could only crawl up. Laughing, crying, babbling, they greeted the men of Charlie Co., shaking hands and embracing.

"I cried like a baby when I saw those Yanks," admitted a former 28th Div. infantryman from New York. "I ran up the hill and—well, I guess I kissed that officer leading the platoon." He was freed on his 150th day of captivity.

The men said that they were overworked and underfed in the prison camps. At one camp, it was reported, those too weak or sick to go out to work were denied food. "In my camp the Germans shot a number of our boys simply because they were too ill to work,"



Pvt. Anthony Rizz, of Niles, Ohio, a liberated PW, lands in France by plane from Germany and plants a kiss on the first person he sees, who happens to be an MP, Pfc Dale V. Lockhart. Rizz is wearing German equipment. At right, other freed PWs get out of the plane.



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photos

Soldiers from India, captured by the Germans at Tobruk three years ago and liberated in First Army drive, walk through a German town.

Adm. King Bids U.S. Keep Big Postwar Fleet

NEW YORK, April 6 (ANS).—Adm. Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the U.S. Fleet, warned yesterday that the nation would invite future aggression if it failed to keep a big postwar fleet and to retain control of the Pacific bases won in this war.

He told the Academy of Political Science and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace that neglect of sea power before the war almost proved catastrophic and that the U.S. must not barter away the great naval machine it has built at such cost.

Paid For in Blood

"These atolls and these island harbors will have been paid for by the sacrifice of American blood," he said. "They will have been scooped out of sand and rock, coral and volcanic ash, by a generation of Americans giving their service, their ingenuity and their money."

"Failure to maintain bases essential for defense raises the fundamental question—how long can the U.S. afford to continue a cycle of fighting and building and winning and giving away, only to fight and build and win and give away again?"

"Rich as we are, we do not have human or physical resources to dissipate our patrimony generation after generation in this manner."

He said that the nation not only must keep the fleet but must constantly modernize it and improve it to keep ahead of aggressor nations.

Warns Against Losing Power

"Possessed as we are for the moment with naval greatness," he said, "it is difficult to believe that we will permit this power to be squandered or bartered away thoughtlessly. We will never do this, I am sure, if we understand what it might mean in terms of America's future."

"We who have gone through this war have paid the penalty of forgetting lessons of the years between wars. This time we shall win victory despite our past mistakes. But next time the penalty of forgetting may be the loss of America and of liberty."

In Washington, the United Press said, the Navy is deciding which Pacific Island bases seized from the Japanese it wishes to keep after the war.

Geneva Convention Is Joke to Yanks In Bad Orb Camp

By Howard Byrne

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
BAD ORB PW CAMP, Germany, April 6.—They were burying their dead at Bad Orb for the last time and 6,600 Allied soldiers stood at attention as bodies of two Americans were carried to the prison cemetery.

Thirty-six American soldiers had died at Bad Orb since the beginning of the year, these two only a few hours before liberation came.

When tanks of the 106th Cavalry Gp. thundered up to Bad Orb Monday, thousands of shouting, laughing, weeping prisoners hugged the crews and kissed the tanks.

Geneva Convention a Joke

Don't mention the Geneva Convention to those who were imprisoned at Bad Orb. For them it's just a joke.

Most of the Americans slept on the floor of icy barracks with only a single thin strip of blanket for cover.

The prison diet was incredibly vile. For breakfast the men were given only coffee. Lunch consisted of a liter of soup. At supper each man received one seventh of a loaf of black bread with a cup of tea.

"The thing that burned us up the most was the Ghetto barracks they set up for Jewish boys in this camp," said an ex-New York newspaperman. "We protested that we were all Americans but were told it was a direct order from the high command."

An American medical officer said Germans gave him only a little help in taking care of American prisoners and that he considered himself lucky that only 36 had died.

French Reveal Pro-Nazi Plot

French security police have rounded up ten or more members of an alleged pro-Nazi conspiracy, French government sources disclosed yesterday.

Details of the extent of the movement were not revealed.

Ringleaders had large sums of money and caches of arms and were in contact with Vichyites seeking refuge in Bavaria, the sources asserted.

The arrests followed the appearance in Paris two weeks ago of an underground newspaper, "Tendances," which attacked the Allies, Jews, Communists and members as well as the policies of the French Provisional government.

4,000 Slave Workers at Factory

Biggest Nazi Shell Plant Falls

NEUSTADT, Germany, April 6 (AP).—Hidden in the vast Neustadt forest and unmarked by Allied bombs lies the Nazis' largest dynamite plant, which until a week ago produced 500,000 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. The plant and countless stores of explosives were taken intact.

Nearby was a 500-acre processing plant, where German mines, bazookas, depth charges and grenades were loaded. Here also the first V1 was produced experimentally.

"Your bombers never hit any of our factory buildings and they never caused us much trouble until they began destroying feeder railway lines ten days ago," said Dr. Walter Naumann, director of the processing plant.

9th Service Command Wins USSTAF Title

HQ Quintet Tops Wingers Of UK, 53-29

By Fred Mertinke

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

USSTAF HQ., April 6.—Lanky Joe Risinger, of Hartford City, Ind., and Bernie Weksler, rugged guard from Chicago, marched their HQ Ninth AF Service Command quintet to the USSTAF basketball championship with an impressive 53-29 victory over the Air Communications Fifth Wingers, representing the UK, here tonight, to conclude the three-day tourney.

The AFSC hoopsters, who qualified for the meet by capturing the Ninth AF title, reached the finals by eliminating the ATSC Bearcats, another entrant from England, last night in the semifinals, 50-42. Risinger dunked nine field goals through the nets to lead AFSC in scoring with 18 points, while Weksler was close behind with five baskets and three free throws.

Risinger, Weksler and Johnny Pfaff, Hazleton, Pa., settled the issue in a hurry, parading Service Command to a 14-8 advantage at the quarter and a 26-10 lead at the intermission. The Wingers were baffled from the outset and hit only four shots from the court during the first half, two by Norm Geske, guard, from Milwaukee.

Bearcats Take Third Place

The ATSC Bearcats, also from the UK, bounced back from last night's 50-42 defeat at the hands of the Service Command in the semifinals to trounce the Troop Carrier High Flyers, 46-28, in tonight's consolation game, which preceded the championship test.

The third quarter was the same sad story for the Wingers as Risinger and Weksler continued to torment the visitors from England, and AFSC boasted a 40-19 edge moving into the fourth quarter.

With Claudio Christolini, rangy forward from Westfield, Mass., dumping nine baskets and one free-throw through the hoop for a total of 19 points, the Bearcats proved their superiority early and often against the Flyers. The UK quintet raced to a 15-4 lead at the quarter and 27-15 at the half, then accelerated to a 36-21 margin at the three-quarter mark.

Box scores:

AFSC (53)			WINGERS (29)				
B	F	P	B	F	P		
Comitz f.	1	3	0	Jack f.	4	1	2
Patterson f.	2	3	0	Beattie f.	1	0	0
Wilson f.	0	0	1	Hoffman c.	1	2	2
Risinger c.	9	0	1	Branch g.	1	1	3
Weksler g.	5	2	2	Otto g.	0	1	2
Pfaff g.	3	2	3	Geske g.	5	0	2
Gerlach g.	1	0	2				
Totals	21	11	9	Totals	12	5	11

(Consolation Game)

BEARCATS (46)			FLYERS (28)				
B	F	P	B	F	P		
Christolini f.	9	1	3	Wright f.	2	1	2
May f.	3	0	1	Travaglini f.	1	2	3
Gallagher f.	0	1	2	Dallago f.	0	0	1
Twarek f.	3	0	1	Demint c.	4	1	3
Powell c.	1	2	1	Mikics g.	0	0	0
Flynn c.	0	1	1	Entwistle g.	4	0	0
Martin g.	0	0	1	Neihaus g.	1	0	1
Souza g.	3	1	0				
Reisberg g.	0	0	2	Totals	12	4	10
Ginzberg g.	1	0	1				
Totals	20	6	13				

Dix's Fans Hand Him Crown

NEW YORK, April 6.—Flatbush followers of the Flock already are handing the National League batting crown for 1945 to their idol, Dixie Walker, chiefly because his closest competitor last year, Stan Musial of the Cards, is now in Uncle Sam's Navy.

If Dixie, who swatted .357 in '44, repeats, he will turn the trick for the first time in 19 seasons. The last time was in 1926 when Rogers Hornsby completed his six-year cycle atop the National League roost. Since then there has been a different leader each semester, although three men have repeated in later years.

Paul Waner enjoyed the distinction in 1927 and '34. Ernie Lombardi topped the field in '38 and '42, and Lefty O'Doul led in '29 for the Phillies and in '32 for the Bums.



Hort Smith, George Lott Head GI Sports Cast on ETO Tour

By Gene Graff

Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

Five GI athletes, sent to the ETO from the States as a sports entertainment unit, have arrived in Paris and are getting ready for a barnstorming jaunt through the Riviera rest-camp area.

Navy Transfers 5 Ball Stars

GREAT LAKES, Ill., April 6.—The Navy's decision to send prominent athletes to war theaters struck hard at Bobby Feller's baseball team here today when five former major leaguers were lifted from the Great Lakes Naval club for overseas shipment.

Officials at the center said those transferred are Pinky Higgins, Detroit third baseman; Johnny Gorsica, Detroit pitcher; Clyde Shoun, Cincinnati pitcher; Max Marshall, Cincinnati outfielder, and Chester Hajduk, White Sox infielder. Three minor leaguers also are being sent out.

Novikoff Caught in Draft

LOS ANGELES, April 6.—Lou "Mad Russian" Novikoff, farmed to the Los Angeles Angels by the Cubs, disclosed today he had been ordered to report for a pre-induction physical. He said he previously had been deferred because of his wife's illness.



BEAR MOUNTAIN, N.Y., April 6.—Antiquated Clyde Sukeforth, who hasn't played a game of ball for five years, today signed a contract as active catcher with the Dodgers. Sukeforth, who forgetfully remembers living only 42 years, caught the final game of 1939 for Elmira of the Eastern League, then piloted Montreal for three years before joining the Bums as a scout.

First Sign of Spring: Bobo Calls A's—Collect

HAGERSTOWN, Md., April 6.—Bobo Newson, garrulous right-hander, made his annual spring gesture today when he called Connie Mack—collect—and assured the venerable Philadelphia Athletics boss that everything is under control.



Luke Sewell Dutch Leonard
Griffs. . . . The Yankee-Red Sox, Giant-Fort Dix and Braves-Curtis Bay games were washed out.

Nelson's 64 Heads Golfers

ATLANTA, Ga., April 6.—Byron Nelson jumped off to an early lead in the \$10,000 Iron Lung golf tourney, which concludes the winter tour, by firing seven birdies on the Capital City course here yesterday for a 5-under-par 64 and a five-stroke advantage over the field.

Sammy Snead, Nelson's closest competitor for winter honors, and Jug McSpaden tied for the runner-up position after the first day's shooting, each with 69. Snead missed an ace by inches on the 140-yard third hole.

Ed Dudley and Orville White carded 70s to jointly occupy fourth place, while Elmer Reed, an unknown from Atlanta, was next with 71. Bunched together at 72 were George Low, Eddie Furgol, Joe Kirkwood and Bobby Cruickshank.

Minor League Standings

Pacific Coast League		W L Pct		W L Pct	
Los Angeles 4	Seattle 2	Portland.....	6 1 .857	San Diego...	3 4 .429
San Diego 3	San Francisco 2	Los Angeles 5	2 .714	Hollywood...	2 4 .333
Portland 5	Sacramento 1	Seattle.....	4 3 .571	Oakland.....	2 4 .333
Oakland 10	Hollywood 8	Sacramento 3	4 .429	S. Francisco 2	5 .286

Babe's Fans Toss in Towel As Idol Makes 'Stage' Debut

BOSTON, April 6.—The man who long was the idol of millions, despite his obvious distaste for the early-to-bed axiom and his fondness for cigars and the proverbial bucket of suds, finally has shattered the illusion.

Babe Ruth, who grew fat financially through his ability to make baseballs disappear over outfield fences, then started growing fat literally of his own accord, no longer will find awed youngsters dogging his trail wherever he goes. The Babe has "sold out" his public—he is now a wrestling referee.

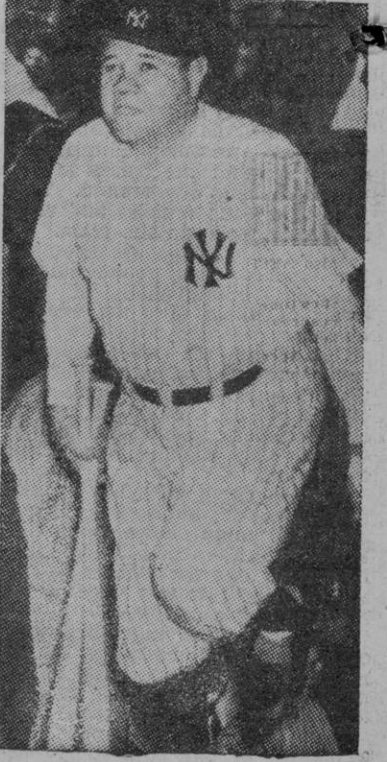
The Babe could get drunk or boisterous and still retain his lofty perch in the eyes of sports fans. He could punch an umpire on the nose without losing face. He could beat a guy's wife and still have the gent cheer the next time he hit a homer. But a wrestling referee. . . well, that's the last straw.

Because he had a host of shrewd advisers, the Bambino doesn't need the dough. Perhaps he thinks the exercise will give him a pretty figure. Or he might even enjoy the hoots and hollers during a match. But, as Joe Jacobs once said, "He should have stood in bed."

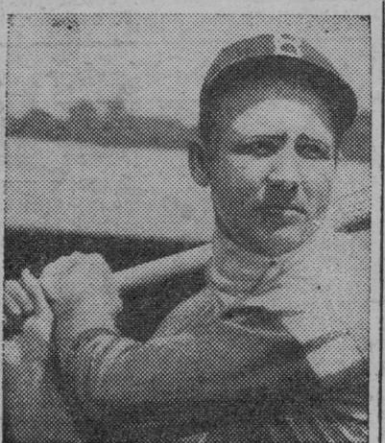
Incidentally, the Babe made his debut last night at Portland, Me., and apparently came through the ordeal in one piece. He made only one mistake, but that was a costly one.

"I'm a wrestling official because I can't stay out of the SPORTS limelight," he said.

And when was wrestling shifted from the theater to the sports category?



Babe Ruth



Dixie Walker

Holbrook Killed in ETO

Ernie Holbrook, former Southern California basketball coach and a member of the Boston Red Sox for a short time, has been killed in action in Luxembourg.



George Lott

pitching expert from Des Moines. "We do not have a set routine," Smith explained yesterday, "but merely improvise according to what facilities happen to be available. We are equipped to play exhibition matches, if that's what the soldiers want, or we can give them conversation, tutoring or movies.

The movies mentioned by Smith are certain to make plenty of friends in the ETO, particularly in units that have been away from the States for some time. The most popular film during their junket through hospitals and camps in the States, according to Smith, was a 35-minute technicolor version of the 1945 Sugar Bowl game between Duke and Alabama.

Some of the other films available include the Louis-Conn and Louis-Buddy Baer fights, Green Bay-New York and Green Bay-Chicago Bears pro football games, the 1944 World Series and a 30-minute roundup of major collegiate football games during '44.



Sol Schiff

PUP TENT POETS

And He's Only One

His head was bowed in reverence
As he knelt in silent prayer
Beside the ugly barbed wire fence
And hell that was everywhere.
Then the soldier softly whispered:
"My Father who art in Heaven
Please listen to my humble prayer
And help make our battle won.
I'm only a GI soldier
From GI shoes to GI tie,
A 'Government Issued' soldier,
But my heart is not GI.
I will work, fight—if need be die
Helping to win and end this war
I'm sure You know the reasons why
And just what I'm fighting for.
The right to simply worship Thee
The right to be alive and love
To walk among beautiful trees
Mid mountains and the sky above.
The right of my pretty wife
To plan and cook good things
to eat
To have a home and happy life
To be queen of her house so sweet.
The right of my little boy
To play baseball and fly a kite.
His heritage of free man's joy
Are the reasons why I fight.
Millions of GI soldiers
Many miles away from home
Fight for what I'm fighting for:
Gee, I wanna go home."
He quickly muttered "Amen"
As he reached for his M1
Got up and headed east again.
I thought—"and he's only one."
—1/Lt. Wm. Garth Seegmiller.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival:

PVT. Robert F. Norris, Cedertown, Ga.—Robert Carroll, Feb. 16; Lt. Augustus J. Sitton, Anderson, S.C.—boy, April 2; S/Sgt. Francis R. Albro, Massena, N.Y.—girl, March 31; 1/Lt. Richard L. Wollan, Chevy Chase, D.C.—Sharon Anne, March 30; S/Sgt. Henry C. Eissner, New York—girl, March 27; Sgt. Peter A. Macaluso, Nutley, N.J.—boy, March 31; S/Sgt. Orville W. Hollingsworth, Brainerd, Minn.—Katherine N. March 1.

CAPT. William Marvin, Savannah—girl, April 3; T/4 Arthur M. Adair, Mayfield, Ky.—boy, March 31; Sgt. Lytle Haxby, Los Angeles—Lytle C., March 29; Pfc Lester G. Holker, Manitowoc, Wis.—William Louis, April 1; Capt. David W. Sidford, Summit, N.J.—girl, April 2; 1/Sgt. Leslie H. Trafton, Miles City, Mont.—Keith Leslie, April 2; Maj. Douglas E. Post, Gulfport, Miss.—Douglas Edmund, March 16.

Lt. James L. Greer, San Antonio, Tex.—Judith Ann, April 4; Capt. William R. Beery, Columbus, Ohio—boy, April 1; S/Sgt. Al Fein, Bronx—boy, April 2; Capt. Harry B. Schooley, Wilkes Barre, Pa.—Harry B., March 31; Lt. Louis J. Hauck, West Philadelphia—Louis, April 2; Cpl. Thomas J. McBride, Hillside, N.J.—Susan Marie, April 1; Capt. James V. Stoddard, Stony Creek, Conn.—Van, March 29; T/5 Fay Albritten, Ottawa, Ill.—boy, April 1.

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted. The Stars and Stripes, Paris, France APO 887.

AMERICAN FORCES NETWORK

Also AEFP (583 Kc. — 514 M.)

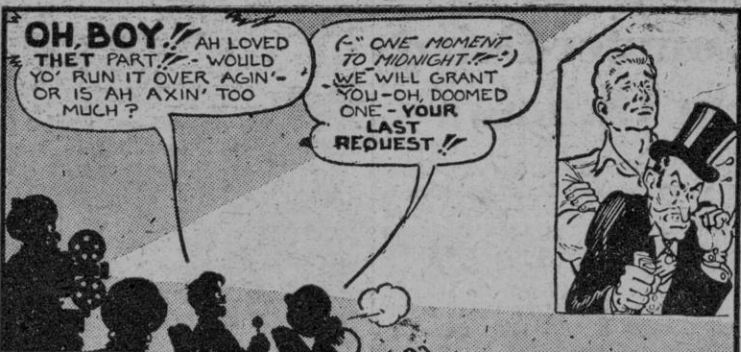
TODAY	
1201-Showtime	1900-News
1215-Beaucoup Music	1905-Hawaiian Music
1300-News	1915-Movie Music
1310-U.S. Sports	2001-AEFP on Spot
1315-RhythmMusical	2015-Swingtime
1330-Over to You	2030-Ch. McCarthy
1401-Army Orchestra	2100-News
1430-Miss Parade	2105-Your War today
1500-News	2115-Footlight Music
1510-Harry James	2200-U.S. News
1530-Combat Diary	2207-Jubilee
1545-On the Record	2235-Latin Serenade
1630-Strike Up Band	2300-News
1701-Dance Band	2305-Satur. Serenade
1730-Nat'l BarnDance	2335-Suspense
1755-Mark Up Map	2400-News
1800-News	0015-Night Shift
1815-Blue Interlude	0200-News Headlines
1830-GI Journal	
TOMORROW	
0601-Great Music	0910-Spotlight Bands
0615-Hymns	0925-Family Hour
0630-Sgt. Saddlebags	1001-Sunday Music
0700-News	1015-Religious Service
0720-Top o' Morning	1045-Bandwagon
0801-Combat Diary	1101-U.S. News
0820-SundaySerenade	1106-Morning After
0900-News	1135-Show Time

News Every Hour on the Hour

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features

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Terry and The Pirates

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By Milton Caniff



Abbie an' Slat

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Dick Tracy

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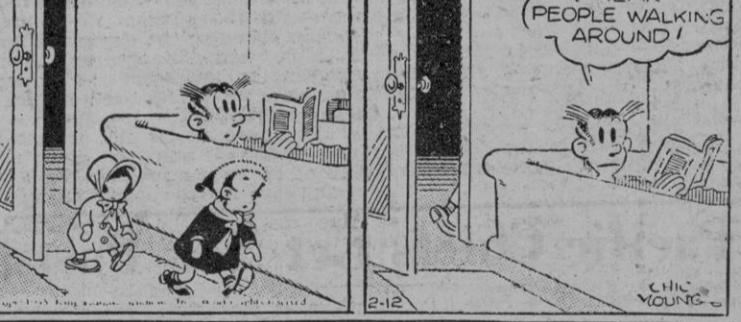
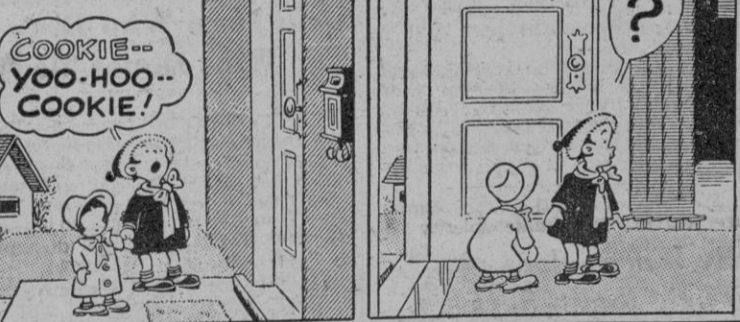
By Chester Gould



Blondie

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Jane

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By Norman Pett



Japanese Open Counter-Drive On Okinawa

OKINAWA, April 6 (UP).—The Japanese this afternoon opened their biggest counter-attack since American forces invaded Okinawa on Sunday. The attack brought U.S. troops to a virtual standstill on the western and central sectors.

An Associated Press correspondent aboard a U.S. ship off Okinawa reported that Japanese planes attacked the American invasion fleet in the heaviest air assault since the landings. The attack started in the morning and continued until late afternoon.

Jap Forces Stiffen; Marine Troops Gain

GUAM, April 6 (ANS).—U.S. marines at the northern end of the American line on Okinawa Island advanced 8,000 to 9,000 yards yesterday against still-negligible Japanese resistance, but Army troops on the south drove into increasing enemy opposition.

Adm. Nimitz reported that up to midnight Wednesday 175 U.S. soldiers and marines had been killed and 798 wounded. Casualties among naval personnel were not reported.

Nimitz' communique did not give any estimate of Japanese casualties, but it did report that in the first five days of the campaign the Japanese had lost 65 planes in attacks on American positions.

Isthmus Secured

Maj. Gen. Roy S. Geiger's Marine Third Amphibious Corps secured Ishikawa Isthmus, narrowest on the 65-mile-long island. The isthmus could have been defended with comparative ease, but it was not.

Maj. Gen. Andrew D. Bruce's 77th Inf. Div., moving down the west coast toward the capital city of Naha, advanced 3,000 yards into areas which Adm. Nimitz described as "organized for defense."

An Allied military government for Okinawa, which is 325 miles from Japan, has been established, Nimitz said. About 9,000 Japanese civilians have surrendered so far, and considerable enemy stocks of foodstuff have been seized.

The Americans' advance on the east coast gave them control of almost the entire shore of Nakagusuku Bay, once a prime anchorage for the Japanese fleet.

Stettinius Named Parley President

WASHINGTON, April 6 (Reuter).—President Roosevelt today designated Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., as temporary president of the San Francisco conference.

Alger Hiss, political adviser of the State Department, was appointed temporary secretary-general of the conference.

The appointments were made in accordance with protocol allowing the host nation to name temporary officers.

Pacific Chiefs Get New Posts

(Continued from Page 1)

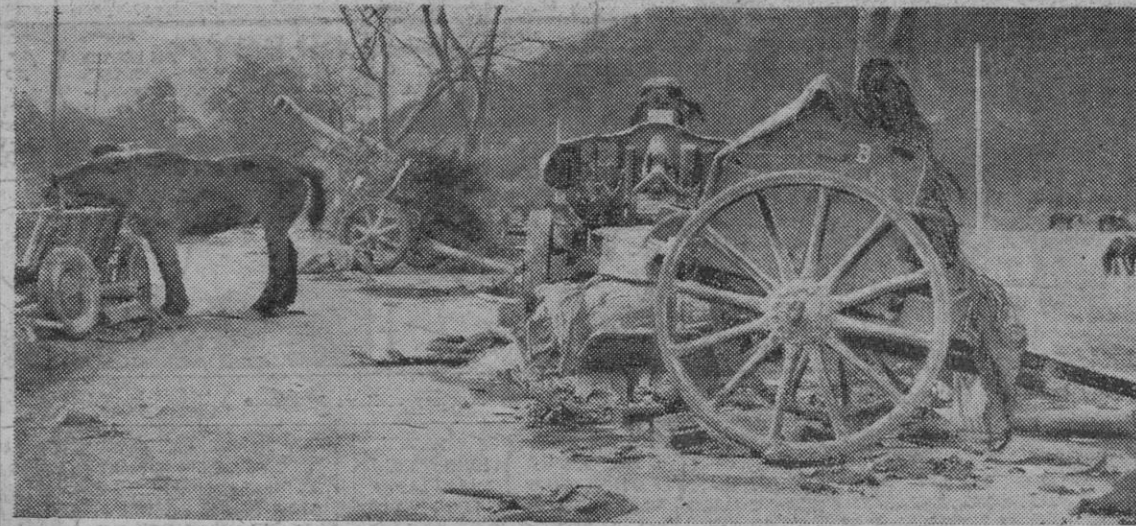
to the application of our forces against the Japanese, including large forces to be redeployed from Europe, taking into account changed conditions resulting from our progress both in the Southwest Pacific and Pacific ocean areas."

Heretofore, the commands had been separated geographically, with land and sea forces operating under MacArthur in the Southwest Pacific, and a similar arrangement for Nimitz in his area.

MacArthur's troops, driving north and west to the Philippines, have been cutting into these geographical boundaries. The Iwo Jima battle in Nimitz' theater was an all-Navy operation, involving only marines on land, but the more recent drive on Okinawa, 325 miles from Japan, and involving Army forces, emphasized the need for a readjustment of command. Nimitz has been in technical command at Okinawa.

The statement of the Joint Chiefs of Staff declared that "rapid

A Survivor Remains Where a German Column Was Smashed



A horse stands amid the wreckage of an enemy wagon convoy destroyed by units of the U.S. Third Army. Equipment lost by Nazis includes two artillery pieces. Three other horses are at the right.

Hongkong Hit Again; Heavies Set Port Fires

MANILA, April 6 (ANS).—U.S. heavy bombers flew across the China Sea on Wednesday to make their second strong attack against the important waterfront area of Hongkong, Gen. MacArthur announced today.

The American planes dropped 168 tons of bombs, setting huge fires in shipyards, oil storage tanks and other waterfront installations. Nine Japanese merchant ships in the harbor were sunk and two merchantmen and a destroyer were damaged.

Japanese fighter planes were sent out to intercept the American formation, but were driven off after a battle. All attacking planes returned.

Other American bombers wrecked six small freighters in attacks from French Indo-China to Formosa and also bombed Indo-China coastal targets at the cost of one plane.

Liberators pounded Borneo, which is only 30 miles from newly won American holdings in the Sulu Archipelago. Fifth Air Force planes gave close support as U.S. troops advanced on all Philippine fronts.

15 Polish Leaders Reported Missing

LONDON, April 6 (AP).—The Polish Telegraph Agency—identified with the Polish government-in-exile here—said today that 15 Polish leaders, including the deputy Prime Minister, had disappeared after accepting an invitation of a Soviet representative to fly back to London from Poland.

"They have so far not returned from their visit and have given no sign of life either to their families or anyone else," the agency charged.

advances in both areas which brought us into close proximity with the Japanese homeland and the China coast and the corresponding change in the character of operations to be conducted are the considerations which dictated the new directive."

British Empire troops have been under MacArthur's direction, while British naval units have been directed by Nimitz in his area of command.

Still open for decision is the selection of a supreme Allied commander for the war against Japan. It is widely believed in Washington military and naval circles that such an appointment will be announced after the end of the war against Germany, and that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, will be the choice of the combined Anglo-American Chiefs of Staff, Reuter said.

These circles cite Eisenhower's knowledge and experience with commanders of Allied armies in Europe who are expected to serve in the Pacific, Reuter added.

Flag Lowered in Reich in '23 Raised There on Army Day

SHAEF, April 6.—"Until the German pride in conquest is mangled beneath our tanks, we shall not find peace," Gen. Omar N. Bradley, 12th Army Gp. commander, declared today at a special Army Day ceremony at Ft. Ehrenbreitstein, Germany.

The same flag which was lowered from Ft. Ehrenbreitstein headquarters, Jan. 23, 1923, when the U.S. Army of Occupation of War I left the Rhineland, was raised.

Soldiers of D and M Cos. of the Eighth Inf. Regt.—the same outfits which participated in the lowering in 1923—brought the flag to the fort. An honor guard of the 69th Inf. Div., captors of the stronghold, raised the standard.

It was especially appropriate to raise the flag on Army Day, Gen. Bradley said, because the flag "symbolizes the daring, the courage and the sense of duty that have made our victories—and this ceremony—possible."

The flag, he said, was a symbol "not only of American, but of Allied might" and a banner of hope "that this time its significance shall endure." He continued:

"Today, on Army Day, I speak for soldiers of the First, Third, Ninth and 15th U.S. armies—and for their comrades—to express our affection and admiration to Allied troops in other theaters of war. We acknowledge with gratitude their hardships and sacrifices and we are encouraged by their magnificent victories. "While victory is in view ahead, let us crush the German armies—confront the German people with the enormity of their crimes."

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Ninth Drives Past Weser, Toward Elbe

(Continued from Page 1)

multiple bridgeheads north and south of conquered Minden.

Advanced elements across the river were 20 miles from Hanover and 70 miles from Hamburg, Germany's greatest seaport on the Elbe River estuary.

In a sudden thrust eastward from Paderborn, an armored task force of Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army drove 22 miles, negotiating blown bridges and overpasses, to reach the vicinity of Bruchhausen, four miles west of the Weser.

Ten miles east of Kassel, Hodges' infantry advanced eight miles through the Hessian Gap—the gateway once forced by Napoleon—and reached the Weser near Hann Munden, where they were locked in battle with last-ditch German defenders.

At the same time, other First Army forces lashed out in the opposite direction along a 70-mile front to crush the Ruhr pocket.

(In Washington yesterday, Secretary of War Henry Stimson estimated the number of enemy troops caught in the Ruhr at 15 divisions.)

55 Mi. from Czech Border

Striking eastward toward the borders of Czechoslovakia, the 11th Armd. Div. of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's US Third Army shot six miles beyond Suhl to Stutzerbach, 20 miles southeast of Gotha and 55 miles from the Czech border.

But it was Patton's infantry which was having its day yesterday. While the tanks got set for new lunges, the doughs of four divisions swept forward 13 miles over a wide front to close up to the armor.

On the right flank of the Sixth Armd. Div., which had liberated 4,000 British prisoners of war, the 65th Inf. Div. drove 11 miles and entered Laucensalza, ten miles north of Gotha. The 89th Inf. Div. pushed 13 miles on the north of Gotha while the 90th Inf. Div. on the right flank of the Fourth Armd. struck ten miles eastward 15 miles southeast of Gotha. In this same area, the 26th Inf. Div. made a seven-mile gain.

Southward, Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's U.S. Seventh Army met bitter resistance from replacement units in the Heilbronn-Wurzburg sector.

Gen. Jean de Lattre de Tassigny's French First Army drove up to the Neckar River on Patch's right flank. The French were also driving southward, reaching the outskirts of Pforzheim, 15 miles south of Karlsruhe.

Reich Marshalling Yards Pounded by Eighth Heavies

Marshalling yards at Halle, Leipzig and Gora, 35 miles southwest of Leipzig, were bombed yesterday by more than 650 Eighth AF heavies which were escorted by more than 600 fighters.

Operating in advance of the American Seventh and French First armies, First TAC fliers yesterday made more than 450 sorties while attacking enemy strongpoints and communications at Gallenkirchen, 21 miles east of Heilbronn.

Bad weather limited Ninth AF activity to 300 sorties against railway yards and enemy communications near Weimar and at Nordheim and Göttingen.

The Allies have seized air bases within 180 miles of the Russian lines. Despite bad weather Thursday, 200 German planes were destroyed in the air and on the ground, SHAEF announced. Thirteen planes were lost.

Quick Way to End ETO War

WASHINGTON, April 6 (AP).—Allied military leaders are reported to have agreed that the quickest way to end the war with Germany is to kill or capture Hitler.

It was disclosed that Gen. George C. Marshall had voiced this opinion to the Senate Military Committee.

Two senators, who decline to be quoted by name, said that Marshall had told the committee that the death or capture of Hitler would contribute tremendously toward the collapse of the already faltering Nazi military regime. It has been contended that Hitler the symbol, if not Hitler the man, is the chief inspiration for the fanatical resistance about which Gen. Eisenhower wrote in a letter to President Roosevelt.