

We Must Win the War!
All Else Is Chores!
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DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER IN ADAMS COUNTY

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Decatur, Indiana, Saturday, April 21, 1945.

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RUSSIAN SIEGE ARMIES STORMING BERLIN

Allied Armies Hit For Nazis' Last Redoubt

Three Armies Hit For Nazi Redoubt In Bavarian Alps

Paris, Apr. 21—(UP)—Three allied armies struck for Nazi's last redoubt in the Bavarian Alps today. In the north, British armored divisions developed Bremen and stormed the suburbs of Hamburg. Striking in the war's decisive hour to prevent the Nazis from flying the broken armies for a prolonged stand in the Bavarian Alps, the American third and seventh and the French first armies wheeled against the mountain citadel along a twisting battle line extending northeastward from the Swiss to the Czechoslovak borders.

Gen. George S. Patton's American third army rammed a German armored spearhead up the Alpine front. The French first army struck from the south and southeastward from Nuremberg within less than 20 miles of Munich, northern anchor of the Nazi Bavarian line.

The French closed in from the west to a point barely 30 miles from Lake Constance, western border of the Bavarian redoubt. The French and the U. S. seventh army also sent converging columns racing around Stuttgart from the southwest and north to envelop that stronghold, 100 miles from the city of the Reich.

At the top of the western front, the British second army seized control of a 20-mile stretch of the river's west bank southeast of Hamburg and fought their way to Harburg, west bank suburb of the great port.

Units of the British seventh army moved division through the streets of Harburg within sight of Hamburg, and their big guns began pounding the battered city.

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Memorial Sunday For Pfc. Merle C. Dick

Memorial services for Pfc. Merle C. Dick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dick of this city, who was killed in Germany on February 26, while serving with General Patton's third army, will be held Sunday afternoon at the First Baptist church in Bluffton.

The Dick family recently moved from Geneva, Pvt. Dick was employed in Fort Wayne prior to entering the army in December, 1942. His grandparents live in Bluffton.

Purple Heart Award Received By Mother

Miss Elma May Hahnert, of Monroeville, has received the Purple Heart award to her son, Staff Sgt. Carl G. Hahnert, 23, who was reported missing over Berlin, Germany on March 8, 1944 and "presumed to be dead" a year later.

Pfc. Hahnert was a gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber and was killed in action when the plane was shot down. He had been on regular missions to his credit.

Previously he had received the air medal with three oak leaf clusters. The young man enlisted in the army air corps in October, 1942.

DECATUR THERMOMETER
TEMPERATURE READING

8:00 a. m.	51
10:30 a. m.	51
11:30 a. m.	51

WEATHER
Partly cloudy and cooler tonight with scattered light frost. Temperatures tonight ranging from 33 to 40 in the north, to 40 above freezing in the south portion. Sunday morning cloudy with occasional showers. Warmer in north and central portions.

Clothing Receiving Station Open Tonight

The used clothing receiving station in the old Peoples Restaurant building on South Second street, east of the court house, will be open this evening to receive donations. Mrs. William Bowers, chairman of the women's volunteer committee in charge of the depot, announced.

Phil Sauer, city street commissioner and chairman of the waste paper salvage drives, has volunteered to spend the evening at headquarters so that persons who cannot bring their used clothing during the day, may have the opportunity in the evening.

Already several hundred pounds of good clothing have been received at the station and it is being sorted and carefully packed by the women volunteers from the Red Cross and church organizations.

Big Italian Gateway City Falls To Allies

American, British Troops In Capture Of City Of Bologna

Rome, Apr. 21—(UP)—American and British troops today captured Bologna, big Italian gateway city to the German-controlled Po plain.

Troops of the American fifth and British eighth armies smashed into the great Italian stronghold from three sides.

The city's capture will enable the Allies to use their great superiority in armored forces in the battle for northern Italy.

Doughboys of the fifth army already were astride the Nazis' main escape road northwest of Bologna and hundreds of Allied tanks and armored cars spilled out into the flat floor of the Po valley for the dash northward.

American fifth army troops continued their attack across the Bologna-Modena highway into the Po valley, cutting off any German escape from Bologna to the northwest.

The fifth and eighth armies' advance was aided by South African troops who smashed into Casalecchio, three miles southwest of Bologna.

Finish Conquest Of Central Philippines

Last Jap Resistance Shattered On Cebu

Manila, Apr. 21—(UP)—American troops shattered the last Japanese organized resistance on Cebu to complete the conquest of the central Philippines today.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said the sweep through the central Philippines liberated at least 6,400,000 persons on more than a score of islands.

He promised that the resources of the freed area, measuring nearly 33,000 square miles, would be used for the rehabilitation of the Philippines and for prosecution of the war against Japan itself.

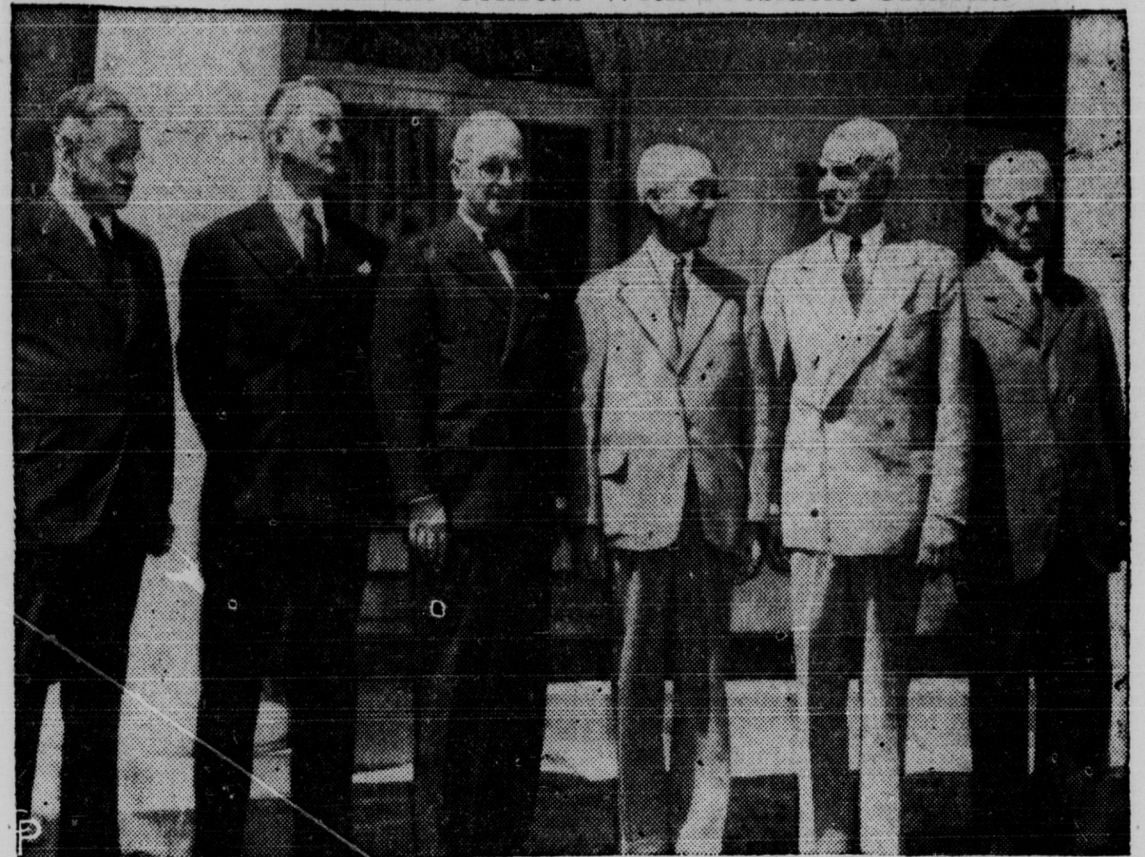
Japanese losses on Cebu amounted to approximately 5,000 dead as veterans of the American division burst through the last defenses in wide enveloping moves to complete the campaign. A few enemy stragglers scattered through the hills to become prey for Filipino guerrillas.

The conquest of the central islands in the Archipelago enabled the Americans further to concentrate on the offensives on Luzon and Mindanao.

On Mindanao eighth army forces were pushing out rapidly from the beachhead on the Moro Gulf and sent an additional column thrusting 16 miles inland along the main road to Davao.

At the northern end of the beachhead, other American troops advanced 15 miles northeast of Malabang and reached the shore of Lake Lanao, a scant 25 miles across the narrow neck connecting Zamboanga peninsula with the main part of Mindanao.

President Truman Confers With President Osmena



DURING A CONFERENCE between President Harry S. Truman and the president of the Philippines, Sergio Osmena, the two high officials posed in front of the White House with U. S. cabinet members. From left to right are secretary of interior Harold L. Ickes, secretary of navy James V. Forrestal, President Truman, President Osmena, secretary of state Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., and secretary of war Henry Stimson.

Board Members Are Appointed By Judge

Six Are Appointed By Judge Fruchte

Judge J. Fred Fruchte of the Adams circuit court today appointed four members to the Adams county tax adjustment board and two members to the county board of review.

In addition to the court's appointees to the tax adjustment board, three persons will serve by virtue of their office. They are, Mayor John B. Stults, Henry Dehner, representing the county council, and one man representing the township trustees.

The court named Fred Schulte and Arthur R. Holthouse of this city and Otis Hocker of Monroe, as the Democrat members and Ernest Reicheldeffer of Geneva, as the Republican member. The tax adjusters will convene during the second week in September and serve without compensation.

Two women were named to the county board of review, which will convene on June 4. They are, Miss Bertha Vogelewede and Mrs. George Buckley of this city. The ex-officio members of this board are, E. J. Worthman, county assessor, Roy Price, county treasurer and Thurman I. Drew, county auditor.

The board of review is in session for 26 days and reviews all personal property assessed and makes whatever adjustments are considered necessary.

Flying Forts Batter Munich Area Targets

Rail And Airfield Targets Are Blasted

London, Apr. 21—(UP)—Over 300 Flying Fortresses smashed rail and airfield targets in the Munich area today following a night-long RAF assault on besieged Berlin.

An American communiqué said the heavy bombers were escorted by about 400 P-51 Mustangs and P-47 Thunderbolts in attacks on rail-yard facilities at Munich and Ingolstadt and the airfield at Landsberg, 30 miles west of Munich.

British Mosquitos raided Berlin six times during the night, dropping block busters and other bombs into the fires raging through the Nazi capital.

German airfields also were attacked by British planes during the night. All planes returned safely.

An American announcement revealed 25,693 tons of explosives on Berlin since the opening of the daylight air offensive against the capital March 4, 1944.

A secret source with access to details of damage to aircraft industry plants in Berlin reported to the Allies that by April 25, 1944, alone,

Jury Rules Preacher Is Father Of Child

Hollywood, Apr. 21—(UP)—The Rev. Cecil L. King, pastor of the Sunland Wayside chapel, said today that he would appeal a jury verdict naming him the father of a choir singer's nine-month-old son.

Throughout the entire trial, the husky preacher insisted his relations with Mrs. Bonnie Allen, wife of a serviceman overseas, were only "those proper between a minister and one of his flock."

A jury of nine women and three men took just 59 minutes yesterday to decide it believed Mrs. Allen's story that she became a mother as a result of moonlight trysts with the pastor after prayer meetings.

To Consider Boost In Pay Of Officials

Commissioners To Meet Here Monday

The county commissioners will meet in special session Monday to consider a schedule of appropriations for per diem allowance to certain county officials and deputies' salaries, for the balance of 1945, which, following their approval, will be submitted to the county council for allowance.

The recent session of the Indiana general assembly passed laws granting per diem allowances to county officials, in view of the increased cost of living and war time conditions. Emergency clauses, were attached to the laws and at a district meeting of county auditors held at Columbia City, which Thurman I. Drew, county auditor attended, Otto Jensen, chief of the state board of accounts, informed the auditors to compile the allowances payable from April 1 to December 31, 1945, so that the scale would be uniform throughout the state.

The county council will probably meet on May 5, or the first of the following week to consider the requests. However, the appropriation body doesn't have much choice in the consideration of the increases, as the laws specify that they "shall" be made.

Locally the county auditor, treasurer, recorder, assessor and clerk are entitled to an increase of \$1.75 per diem, based on six days a week and excluding holidays. On this compilation, the increase for the nine months totals \$402.50 to December 31.

The sheriff is entitled to more days as he is subject to call every day of the week. The \$1.75 per diem for him is estimated at \$481.25.

In the case of the judge of the circuit court, whose yearly salary is paid by the state, the \$1.75 applies to every day that court is in session and for days that he serves in court during vacation. The estimate on this allowance is \$385, which, unlike the yearly salary, must be paid by the county.

Special allowances are also made

Two Escaped German Prisoners Caught

Alert Jewelers At Gary Nab Prisoners

Gary, Ind., Apr. 21—(UP)—Two escaped German prisoners of war, captured because of two alert jewelers, were questioned by Gary police and an FBI agent today to learn how they made their way from Alhambra, Ont., where they escaped March 3.

The Germans were Lt. Klaus Konrad, 27, a bomber pilot of Hamburg, and Lt. Heinz Meuche, 29, member of the Afrika Korps.

Police Capt. Peter Billick said that the Germans were dressed in civilian clothes, carried a suitcase and had in their possession a large map of the United States and a detailed map of the Calumet steel mill area. They also had forged Canadian draft cards.

Having only a Canadian dime, Konrad and Meuche entered a jewelry store late yesterday and attempted to pawn a German watch. The store refused to pur-

Anti-Trust Trial Is Recessed To Monday

Suit Against A.P. Company In Recess

Danville, Ill., Apr. 21—(UP)—The anti-trust trial against the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co. recessed today until Monday, when government attorneys will introduce additional evidence designed to show that the chain store organization is guilty of price-fixing operations.

Horace L. Flurry assistant U. S. attorney general, presented letters and minutes of A. & P. meetings yesterday which, he said, showed that the company 20 years ago began a policy of meeting competition with a high volume of business and a low percentage profit.

The government has charged A. & P. and 28 of its subsidiaries and officials with monopolistic operations to undersell its competitors and force them out of business.

Flurry read minutes from the firm's files in which John A. Hartford, A. & P. president, stated that the company "must be the leader in keeping prices as low as possible."

At another meeting, Flurry said, Hartford expressed "apprehension" at anti-chain store legislation under consideration in various states.

A letter was introduced from an Atlanta, Ga., A. & P. employee referring to a Tennessee state law requiring chain stores to sell articles at a uniform price in each locality.

"Apparently this bill is aimed at A. & P. as usual," he was quoted as saying. "We are the boys guilty of having two price structures in the same city."

500 Pounds Clothing Collected At Dance

Approximately 500 pounds of old clothing and several pairs of shoes were collected Friday night at the dance at "The Den," for which the admission price was clothing. The articles collected are for the used clothing collection drive now being held in this city as part of the nationwide campaign for clothing for war refugees.

Moscow Dispatch Says Entry Into Capital Is Expected Over Weekend

B-29s Blast At Fields Of Suicide Planes

15 American Ships Reported Lost In Battle Of Okinawa

Guam, Apr. 21—(UP)—Upwards of 300 superfortresses today blasted the Kyushu bases of Japanese suicide planes blamed for the sinking of some of the 15 American war vessels lost in the battle of Okinawa and Japan during the past month.

On Okinawa itself, three American divisions thrust deeper into the enemy's last-ditch defense line less than three and a half miles north of Naha, capital of the island, on the third day of the greatest ground offensive of the Pacific war.

Advances of up to a mile were reported all along the four-mile line extending across the southern end of the island yesterday. Swarms of planes and the big guns of warships joined massed land artillery in an unprecedented supporting bombardment.

(A Tokyo broadcast recorded by the FCC said Japanese planes sank an Allied destroyer in an attack on warships and transports west of Okinawa before dawn today.)

The big fleet of superfortresses bombed nine airfields altogether on Kyushu, southernmost of the Japanese home islands. The raid was the third in five days on the suicide-plane bases, but two of the airfields—Usa, near the north-east coast, and Kushira in the south—were hit for the first time.

A 21st bomber command announcement said the attacks covered the "length and breadth" of Kyushu.

There was no mention of opposition and it was indicated that both fighter and anti-aircraft reaction by the Japanese was negligible.

A Japanese broadcast said approximately 200 B-29s had raided airfields on Kyushu for four hours this morning. Damage to ground installations was slight, the broadcast claimed.

A Pacific fleet communiqué listed for the first time American naval losses in operations off Okinawa and Japan between March 18 and April 18. Against 15 American ships sunk, the Americans destroyed at least 100 Japanese vessels during the period, all previously announced.

American losses were:

Five destroyers—Halligan, Bush, Colhoun, N. L. Abele, Pringle.

Two mine craft—Emmons, Skylark.

One destroyer transport—Dickerson.

Five smaller warships—one gunboat, one LST, one LCI, one LCS, one LCT.

Two ammunition ships—Hobbs, Victory, Logan Victory.

The 100 Japanese ships sunk included a Yamato class battleship, two light cruisers, five destroyers, five destroyer escorts, four large cargo ships, 18 medium cargo ships and 28 smaller cargo ships. In addition, 2,569 Japanese aircraft were destroyed.

The communiqué said the

Killed On Luzon



Cpl. Albert Brunner, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Brunner of Decatur route two, was killed in action on Luzon (Philippines) on March 31, the parents were notified by the war department last evening.

An overseas veteran of nearly two years, Cpl. Brunner had served in the army in Australia, New Guinea, the Admiralty islands, Leyte and in Manila. He went overseas in July, 1943, following his induction into the army on Nov. 27, 1942.

Cpl. Brunner was born in this county and attended the Pleasant Mills high school. He received his military training at Fort Riley, Kan., and Fort Bliss, Tex. Besides his parents he is survived by two brothers, William and Lester.

Civil Air Patrol To Be Organized Here

Meeting Is Planned Thursday Evening

A civil air patrol, an auxiliary of the U. S. army air forces, will be organized here next Thursday evening at a meeting of aviation enthusiasts at the Lincoln school building, it was announced today.

Capt. Don White of group 523 CAP of Fort Wayne, will attend and explain the purposes of such a unit. Capt. White will also answer questions which local persons may wish to ask in connection with the civilian air corps.

Membership in the CAP is entirely voluntary and is restricted only to those who are interested in furthering the war effort, one of the spokesmen for the meeting explained.

An invitation is extended to all persons from 15 to 60 years of age to attend the organization meeting.

Following the formation of the local organization, a ground training course will be given, which, upon completion, enables a member to pass the written examination required for a civilian pilot license. In addition, the international Morse code, military courtesy and discipline and drill will be taught.

Thursday's meeting is expected to bring out a number of persons who are interested in aviation and obtaining a CAP for Decatur, and discussions on establishing a temporary airfield will possibly be one of the additional subjects to be brought before the body.

Members will be enrolled and courses of training will be outlined for succeeding meetings, which will be held every week, the committee stated.

Blazing Assault Arc Clamped On Capital From Three Sides; Fighting Violent

London, Apr. 21—(UP)—Russian siege armies stormed Berlin today, clamping a blazing assault arc against it from the south, east and north, and a Moscow dispatch said the final breakthrough was expected this weekend.

Nazi broadcasts said Red army assault forces had reached the suburbs of Berlin, the built-up fringe of the metropolitan area, violent fighting raged at Koenigs-wusterhausen, three miles from the southeastern edge of the city, at Bernau, four miles from the northeastern edge, and a number of other points at Berlin's gates.

One Russian army, by Nazi account, broke through Berlin's southeastern defenses in the Cottbus area and wheeled northwest against the capital. It plunged a spearhead into Zossen, 11 miles due south of the city.

London newspapers quoted a Nazi broadcast as saying the Russians had battered within two miles of Berlin at the ring motor road around the city.

The German high command gloomily conceded that "in the great battle between Stettin, Lagoon and the Sudeten mountains" the Russians had "torn open the front line at several points" and "in the depth of the battlefield" the Germans were struggling to stem powerful Soviet onslaughts.

The Nazi communiqué said the Germans were locked in fierce defensive fighting northwest of Goerlitz, where the Russians had smashed within less than 20 miles of Dresden, toward which the American third army was driving.

The communiqué acknowledged that the Russians drove tank spearheads to the area of Kamenz, 19 miles northeast of Dresden, as reported by the Soviet high command in an earlier announcement.

Between Spremberg and Cottbus, powerful Soviet armored forces raced northwestward to outflank Berlin from the south in a lightning thrust to the area of Juelteberg, 30 miles southwest of the city.

The attack extended to the lower Oder, where the Soviet command said the Russians were trying to break across the river between Stettin and Schwedt.

10-Year Old Youth Confesses To Fires

Started Fires To Laugh At Firemen

Springfield, Ill., Apr. 21—(UP)—Confession of a 10-year-old boy that he had a desire to see the flames, hear the fire engines and laugh at firemen "for being such fools" today had cleared the mystery of seven incendiary fires.

The boy is William Rowden, Jr., who, according to state's attorney John W. Curren, admitted setting fire to his parents' home and others "just for the excitement." Curren said the boy also confessed to starting a fire which almost cost the lives of an aged couple.

City health commissioner Harry Eileson quoted young Rowden as saying "I like to see the flames and hear the fire engines. And I like to laugh at the firemen for being such fools, running to the fires."

The confession—brought to an end a wave of hysteria which had been mounting since March 16 when four incendiary fires were reported in one day. All the seven blazes he is said to have confessed to were in the Rowdens' neighborhood.

One Thursday night, nearly cost the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lairson, 82 and 65, respectively. Their being saved was credited to

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