

Tiny Helgoland Is Blasted Off Map By The British Navy

German Isle Ripped Apart By Explosives

Guarded Northwest Flank of Country

By HAROLD GUARD
United Press Staff Correspondent
ABOARD A BRITISH NAVAL VESSEL, April 18.—The British navy blew the tiny German island fortress of Helgoland into the North sea today with a shattering blast from 6700 tons of high explosives.

The explosion was touched off by an electric impulse from a cable ship eight miles away. It smashed the fortress which had protected Germany's exposed northwest flank through two wars.

U. S. Cmdr. Frank Mildred aboard the cable ship Lasso flipped the detonating switch when he heard the first gong of the hourly B. B. C. time signal at 1 p. m. (5 a. m. Indianapolis time).

Haven for Fishermen

The blast was intended to change the red, rocky island—one mile long and one-third of a mile wide which stands off the river Elbe estuary 28 miles from the German mainland—from a fortress into a harmless little haven for North sea fishermen.

Clouds of smoke rose 8000 feet. Submarine pens, anti-aircraft guns, and radar installations were ripped apart. Debris peppered the sea for hundreds of yards around the island.

(A B. B. C. correspondent flying over the scene said the island shot into the air "like the skyscrapers on the New York skyline." He said the smoke column looked like "the Bikini mushroom.")

Concealed in Tunnels

The island was blown up by 3500 tons of explosives hauled to it by German engineers under British direction. There were 3000 tons of explosives left behind by the Germans when the war ended and an undetermined amount of ammunition concealed in the tunnels honeycombing the miniature Bikini.

The first in the series of explosions was small, to scare away the island's teeming bird life. Approximately 2000 inhabitants had been evacuated to Hamburg for eventual settlement on another German island.

German newspapers and radios had warned residents of all coastal towns within a 100-mile radius to open their windows to prevent shattering.

A movie camera was placed in a concrete pillbox on the tiny island of Duna half a mile from Helgoland to record the blast. British naval experts believed its pictures might rival those of Bikini.

U. S. Observation Posts

Dr. John V. Atanasoff of the U. S. naval ordnance laboratories said in Frankfurt yesterday he believed the explosion would displace the earth's layers as far south as Udine, Italy.

Ten American naval observation posts were set up from the North sea to Italy to record the effect.

Admiralty officials said the fortress was blown up under the Potsdam agreement for destruction of German fortifications. There had been moves by both British and German quarters to delay or call off the destruction.

The German base on the island had been source of trouble to the British navy since 1914. Then the kaiser's grand fleet showed its teeth in the battle of Helgoland bight and then retired behind the island's breakwaters.

Frey on Shipping

During the recent war submarines and E-boats based there preyed on North sea and English channel shipping. Radar installations signalled the approach of British and American aerial fleets coming to bomb Germany.

Concrete walls 20 feet thick protected the island's coastal batteries and submarine pens. Storerooms were hewn into rock 180 feet underground.

In Indianapolis

EVENTS TODAY

Indianapolis Times Spelling Bee, semi-finals, 8 p. m. World War Memorial Auditorium.

Indianapolis Home Show, opening, 6 p. m. State Fairgrounds.

Mid-West District Recreation Conference, Hotel Antlers.

Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority convention, Hotel Lincoln.

Mid-West Home Economics association regional meeting, Hotel Washington.

EVENTS TOMORROW

Indianapolis Home Show, state fair, Mid-West district recreation conference meeting, Hotel Antlers.

Mid-West Home Economics association, Hotel Lincoln.

Indiana Teachers of Mathematics meeting, World War Memorial.

Indiana Union League, meeting, Clarendon Hotel.

Indiana Reserve Officers association, meeting, Hotel Sevier.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

John Hayden, 645 W. 28th; Dovie Weeder, 845 W. 28th.

Frederick J. Rieder, R. R. 12, Box 107, Elizabeth Hammond, 2941 N. Delaware.

Newton Yostow, 1223 N. Emerson.

Jack Martin Wardell, Columbus, O.; Betty Jean Rice, Columbus.

Walter W. Monticello; Hermine Hynes, 7212 N. Meridian.

Mary Irene Taylor Jr., 2214 N. Pennsylvania.

R. L. Box 512.

Clara Lewis, 1820 N. Madison.

Ralph William Meyer, 2222 S. Randolph.

Louise Kamp, 245 Roosevelt.

Samuel Doyle Livingston, 1768 Brookside.

Betty Jane Young, 1004 College.



PLAN DANCE—Committee members for the St. Mary's Academy Junior-Senior Prom to be held May 6 in the Indiana Ballroom are (left to right) Rosemary Burkert, Dolores Udovich, and Joan Marshall.

Hickman Attacks Machine Politics

Candidate Opens New Headquarters

Keeping a "crowd of machine bosses from getting control of city hall and the police department" is a major issue in this campaign, declared Roy E. Hickman in a statement today on his candidacy for the Republican mayoralty.

"This primary campaign is much more than just a personal contest between individuals seeking the nomination for mayor," he said.

"It is a continuation of the campaign begun last year to break the hold that the Republican machine had on the law enforcement offices. We succeeded then in nominating and electing Judson L. Stark as prosecutor and Albert Magenheimer as sheriff.

Seek to Hold Ground

"Now, we are engaged in a struggle to hold the ground good government has gained and prevent the same crowd of machine bosses from getting control of city hall and the powerful law enforcement branch of government—the police department," Mr. Hickman said.

The candidate referred to the regular Republican organization headed by associates of County Chairman Henry E. Ostrom and James L. Bradford, former chairman.

"Don't be deceived by the change of front put up by the same gang whom you repudiated last year," Mr. Hickman said. "It's the same gang using the same methods. The only difference is that they have selected a new candidate (William H. Wemmer) to give their repudiated character the appearance of respectability.

Stark Attacks Machine

Speaking at a campaign rally opening the new Hickman-for-mayor headquarters at 40 N. Pennsylvania st., Prosecutor Stark bitterly attacked the "Bradford-Ostrom machine."

"Last year I was forced to fight and defeat the Republican machine—the Bradford-Ostrom machine," he said. "When an organization deserts the people and undertakes to steal elections, it becomes a machine."

"It (the machine) is worse than it was last year because it is unchanged and unrepentant. Believing that it has full newspaper support it is worse than unrepentant, it is arrogant," Prosecutor Stark said.

Few Charges Made

"This Republican machine stole thousands of votes last year and is set up to do the same thing this year," he said. "A few changes have been made, but mostly to consolidate power and arrogance."

Mr. Stark charged that the Republican machine threatened to "stack my grand jury" and resulted in delaying its work for three months.

"Now that I have a grand jury, machine sympathizers think I should wait until after the election to investigate election frauds," he said. "Should I wait until after the election?"

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Wemmer Outlines Campaign Points

Warns Against Vote Frauds

Warning against vote frauds in the May 6 primary election, William H. Wemmer outlined the salient points of his campaign for the Republican mayoralty nomination today.

"I would like to be mayor of Indianapolis but I am sincere when I say that I would rather lose the election than be nominated by fraudulent vote tabulations," Mr. Wemmer said.

He referred indirectly to Prosecutor Judson L. Stark's grand jury investigation into alleged wholesale irregularities in the 1946 balloting a year ago when Mr. Stark charged that the regular G. O. P. organization

attempted to steal votes from him.

Welcomes G. O. P. Support

In an obvious effort to clarify his position in relation to the regular organization, Mr. Wemmer said: "I was not picked by the regular Republican organization" and then added, "but I welcome its support."

In a major speech opening his campaign headquarters at 33 W. Washington st. last night, Mr. Wemmer pledged that if elected mayor he would appoint a "top-notch" staff of city officials and employees.

He further promised:

ONE: Development of the city's health program beyond the mere emergency functions.

TWO: Improved care of underprivileged citizens in order that none might suffer undue hardships through no fault of his own.

THREE: Unrelenting war on juvenile delinquency.

FOUR: Rapid improvement of the Indianapolis housing situation.

FIVE: Elimination of the smoke nuisance.

SIX: Advancement of the grade

crossing elimination system.

SEVEN: Increased efficiency and improved morale of the police and fire departments.

"The police chief must assume full responsibility for enforcement of the laws under the board of safety," he said.

"Above all, the city must have an honest, capable and efficient police force."

at present. But unless such a building is planned now a civic auditorium will never be anything but a dream."

Mr. Schumacher said that as a result of lack of facilities it is necessary for opera companies to travel to Bloomington and Lafayette instead of Indianapolis for performances.

"This city cannot afford to be without an auditorium and something constructive must be done about it at once," he said.

Schumacher Plans Civic Auditorium

Construction of a civic auditorium was listed as a major platform plank by John A. Schumacher, president of the city council, in a statement today on his campaign for the G. O. P. mayoralty nomination.

"I believe that our city should arrange for a civic auditorium to meet the growing needs of the

people," he said.

"He also pledged to eliminate graft and corruption and restore the police department to respectability."

"I will order the discharge of all city employees who accept bribes of any kind," he said.

Mrs. H. P. Dillworth Heads Hickman Club

Mrs. H. P. Dillworth, 2471 E. Riverside dr., has been elected president of the Women's Hickman for Mayor club.

Other officers are Mrs. James B. Malone, vice president, and Mrs. Everett H. Maxwell, secretary. Executive board members are Mrs. George F. Kleider, Mrs. Nellie Martin, Mrs. Mary L. McDonald, Mrs. I. R. Yeagley and Mrs. Ruth Weaver.

The club will organize women voters in support of Ray E. Hickman for the Republican mayoralty nomination.

Dawson to Keep Up Fight on Utility Rates

A. White only—5.00

"A 'militant fight against excessive utility rates' was pledged by James M. Dawson, candidate for the Republican mayoralty nomination in a speech at 1518 W. New York st., last night.

b. Red, blue, green or brown checks—3.50

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Dawson Talks Tonight

James M. Dawson, a Republican candidate for mayor, will speak at a political rally tonight under sponsorship of the Butler university chapter of the American Veterans committee. He will talk at 8 p. m. in the 28th st. branch. Merchants National bank.

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