

RED UNITS AT THRESHOLD OF REICH CAPITAL

RUSSIANS LESS THAN 7 MILES FROM BURNING BERLIN

LONDON, April 21.—(UP)—Red armies stormed the last defenses of Berlin today and a Moscow dispatch said they were expected to break into the burning capital over the week-end.

By United Press
Russian troops reached within 10 miles of Philadelphia today. The Philadelphia in this case is a German town 12 miles south-east of Berlin.

LONDON, April 21 (UP)—The Red Army laid siege to the city of Berlin today, storming the capital's last defenses from positions seven miles or less away.

(A German transoceanic broadcast reported by the FCC said the eastern front had moved "within the immediate vicinity of Berlin" with gun flashes of both Soviet and Nazi guns visible in the city. Another Nazi broadcast said the Soviets had captured Muencheberg, 16 miles east of Berlin, after throwing a new tank corps into battle.)

Thousands of Soviet guns and planes were pouring a steady rain of steel and explosives into the devastated city. The muffled thunder of their explosions was audible to American ninth army troops along the Elbe river, 45 miles west of Berlin.

The Germans freely admitted the situation was deteriorating rapidly. Both their primary and secondary defense lines east of the capital had been shattered. Berlin's days appeared numbered.

Johannes Steel, an American radio commentator broadcasting from Paris, said an agreement had been reached that the Red Army would be the first to enter Berlin. He predicted the Russians would by-pass the city and enter it from the south.

MRS. ROOSEVELT HAS LEFT THE WHITE HOUSE

BIDS GOODBYE TO HER MANY FRIENDS ON THURSDAY

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has moved from the White House and has left nothing undone for her successor, Mrs. Harry S. Truman, who is expected to occupy the mansion Monday.

Mrs. Roosevelt was on schedule to the last minute, thereby completing the fastest exit any retiring First Lady ever made, with the exception of Dolly Madison, who was running from a fire set by the British.

Mrs. Roosevelt held her last press conference Thursday afternoon over tea in the softly lit state dining room. She couldn't say, said, without bidding goodbye to the friends she had met so regularly for so many years.

She told her all-female audience that she is going directly to New York, where she has an apartment on Washington Square, then to Hyde Park on Sunday.

First off she will dispose of Mr. Roosevelt's belongings. She revealed that she expects to keep on writing, though her definite plans will not be made until she is settled again. She resumed her syndicated column, "My Day," last Tuesday.

She stated definitely that she doesn't aspire to public office.

20 Years Ago IN GREENCASTLE

Dave Braden was in Russellville on business. Work was started on the old brick stable building on north Jackson street owned by W. D. James and John A. James. The structure will be made into a modern garage.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Taulman were visitors in Indianapolis.

ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL MONROE TOWNSHIP HOME



This is the beautiful country home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Giltz in southern Monroe township. It is also the center of activity of 360 acres of fine, fertile soil in the township which Mr. Giltz and son operate, producing mostly grain and fat cattle.

Receives Silver Wings From Wife

NAPIER FIELD, ALA.—Mrs. Mary May, honor guest of Napier's 34th graduating class, 45-B, pinned his silver wings on her husband, 2nd Lieutenant Turner Dunning, here Sunday morning, April 15.

Lt. May was chosen as honor carrier on the basis of excellence in flying, ground school studies, physical fitness, and military bearing.

The graduation ceremonies were held in the field house at Napier Field with Lt. Colonel George E. Kiser, Deputy Commander, officiating. The graduates were sworn in as officers by Lt. Eleanor E. Moffie, Post Adjutant.

In addition to his wife Mary, Lt. May had as his guests his two children Turner Dunning, III, six year of age, and Jane Lynn who is four months old, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Turner Dunning, Sr. who live at 411 South B. Street, Arkansas City, Kansas. Mr. Turner is a locomotive engineer for the Santa Fe Railroad.

Prior to entering the service, Lt. May attended Arkansas City Senior High School, and worked for ten years for the Shell Oil Co., Inc., 50 West 50th St., New York City. He started there as an office boy and worked up to assistant chief pipe line dispatcher.

Mrs. May is now living with her grandmother, Mrs. Mary H. Hartley, 713 South Locust Street, Greencastle, Indiana.

FOURTH IN FAMILY TO BECOME MARINE

With three brothers already serving as Leathernecks, Charles Cooper, of Stilesville, Ind., is the fourth son of Mrs. Goldie Cooper to enlist in the United States Marine Corps.

A 17-year-old volunteer, young Cooper joined the Marines Tuesday, April 17 at Indianapolis. When called to active duty, he will receive recruit training at the Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.

His Marine brothers are Lieutenant Colonel Harlan Cooper, 37, First Sergeant Louis Cooper, 22, and Corporal James Cooper, 28. Colonel Cooper, who has 20 years service in the Corps, is stationed somewhere in the Pacific. Enlisted as a private, he was advanced through the ranks and now is attached to a quarter-master unit.

Louis is first sergeant of a Marine Detachment aboard a naval vessel. He has been in the Corps five years.

James, also with five years as a Marine, is serving in a motor pool at Parris Island.

The four brothers all attended Stilesville High School. The Cooper family's home is at Rural Route 2, Stilesville.

HINTS RETIREMENT

PRISTOL, Eng., April 21.—(UP)—Prime Minister Churchill hinted today that he might retire—or be retired—after the defeat of Germany.

In a speech accepting the freedom of this city, he said that he "or whoever stands in my place" would have to ask war-weary Britain "for a new leap forward, for a new lifting of the soul and body" to defeat Japan.

SPECIAL TRAIN GOES THROUGH THIS CITY

Delegates to the San Francisco conference, traveling on a special train—the Del-Mar—in two sections, are scheduled to pass through Greencastle this afternoon about 4:15 o'clock on the New York Central Railroad. Approximately 250 of the 1,800 delegates to the conference will be on the trains, it was said.

Delegates aboard the train are reported to be diplomatic missions and members of the judicial conference.

Bartletts To San Francisco

Dean Edward R. Bartlett of DePauw University will accompany Mrs. Bartlett to San Francisco this week-end, where Mrs. Bartlett will be a representative of the Women's Division of the Methodist Church at sessions connected with the United Nations' Security Conference.

Dean Bartlett, who plans to be off the campus until May 12, expects to visit DePauw alumni in California and to attend meetings of the San Francisco and Los Angeles alumni groups. The San Francisco group will meet in Oakland, Calif., on May 1 and the other group will meet on May 5. Dean Bartlett is taking color movies of the DePauw campus and activities with him to the meetings.

NO SUGAR BLANKS UNTIL FIRST OF MAY

Since the schools of Greencastle have given out all of the rationing sugar applications allotted to them, consumers are asked not to make further inquiry at the schools until May 1 when the next shipment of applications is expected.

A consumer may write to the Putnam County War Price and Rationing Board office, asking that an application be mailed to him. The Board does not have applications at this time but an application blank will be mailed as soon as the next shipment arrives.

STATE PARKS OPEN MAY 5; BROWN CO. LODGE OPEN

INDIANAPOLIS, April 21.—May 5 has been set as official "opening day" for Indiana's 13 state parks, although the properties operated by the Indiana Department of Conservation have already drawn thousands of visitors.

Brown County Lodge and cabins opened Saturday and the Arcade hotel and pavilion at Dunes State Park open May 19. Opening dates for other hotels operated by the department have not been set.

Despite the May 5 opening date for the parks, visitors are welcome before that time. Milton Matter, department director, pointed out that the opening date merely signifies that admissions will be charged at the gates beginning at that time.

Truman's Choice?



ROBERT HANNEGAN, above, is being mentioned in Washington as President Harry S. Truman's choice for one of two positions, observers speculating that the Democratic national chairman may succeed Postmaster General Frank Walker or he may be selected by Truman to play a role similar to that of Harry Hopkins in the administration under Roosevelt. (International)

EMACIATED BRITISH TOMMIES LIBERATED BY YANKS



THESE EMACIATED soldiers of the British armies, who were held prisoner by the Germans from four to five years, were liberated by the Second division of the U. S. First Army, when the Yanks took the German town of Gettlingen, location of a German prisoner of war hospital. This is a U. S. Army Signal Corps photo.

220 Starving Political Prisoners Were Burned By Nazi SS Troopers

A CONCENTRATION CAMP NEAR LEIPZIG, April 21 (UP)—Twelve German SS troopers and a Gestapo agent lured 220 starving Allied political prisoners into a big wooden building at this camp two days ago, sprayed them with inflammable liquid and burned them to death.

I saw the blackened, rotting bodies today. A little Czech prisoner told me the story.

He said that, altogether, 300 prisoners were enticed into the building on the promise of getting soup for a noon meal. Then the slaughter began. About 80 escaped.

The prisoners were "trusties" from the Buchenwald camp at Weimar, and most of them were Russians, Czechs, Poles and French.

The Czech who told the story said he was Karl Tykal of Prague, captured while acting as a "trustee" in the Buchenwald camp.

21ST ARMY GROUP HQ., April 21. (UP)—Eighteen hundred allied airmen were beaten and bayoneted by Nazi guards on a torture march they dubbed "The Stettin Jaunt," a Canadian survivor said today.

The Canadian Warrant Officer Armand Joseph Pambrun, Bonifide, Manitoba, an airforce navigator, said the victims included a thousand Americans.

Pambrun said that during the two mile march, which took place last July, German marines clubbed and jabbed the fliers to tempt them to escape. If they tried, they were mowed down with machine guns by other marines.

member of an underground organization. Wednesday at noon, he said, the Germans cooked up a batch of soup. They called all the prisoners into one big barracks to eat it. Some of the prisoners, who had learned from Tykal of the plans to execute them all, had hidden under buildings, but the smell of food forced them out.

As soon as all had gathered in the building, the SS men moved in. They splashed some highly inflammable liquid over the assembled prisoners, locked the doors, covered the windows and then tossed in incendiary grenades. In a few seconds the frame building was a roaring furnace, cooking human flesh.

Victims screamed in agony, some dived headfirst into the filthy, stinking ditches which they had used as a latrine. I saw some of their scorched bodies still lying there this afternoon.

I saw other naked men hanging on the barbed wires of their enclosure where they had died when they tried to break out.

The SS men stood outside the building armed with machine guns when the fire broke out. Some of the screaming victims, human torches, broke through the windows. They were shot down.

Others were picked off by a German tank stationed in a nearby field.

The bodies of the slain were still lying around the camp, blackened by the fire, rotting under today's hot sun.

Tykal said that he was camp barber, and that an SS man who talked too much while in his chair gave him a hint of plans to execute the prisoners. The Czech informed some of his mates and they short-circuited the high tension electric wires which were woven through the barbed wire surrounding the camp on Tuesday night. But most of the prisoners were too weary to even try to escape.

The men killed in the stampede to get out of the building probably were fortunate. At least they didn't suffer the tortures endured by the men whose bodies we saw, faces twisted, legs burned to stumps, flesh blackened. This wasn't just something someone told us. We saw the corpses.

One Russian among the 80 who escaped was here this afternoon. He sat beside the body of his brother and wept. He did not talk. His brother's body lay near the fence and how he recognized it I will never know.

The sitting man jerked convulsively when he looked up. I wish he had not. For almost an hour I had noticed him sitting there, not moving, saying nothing, and I know now why he was silent. Most of his face seemed burned.

He was alive, but he would have been better off dead.

The little Czech who told us the story had fled the camp before noon Wednesday and had set up a first aid station of sorts for those who managed to get away.

Thursday, when American armor and vehicles rolled into this part of Leipzig, the little Czech and other survivors kissed the hot sides of the tanks.

GETS PURPLE HEART

Pictures coming out of Manila show a Hoosier foursome being honored. One appeared in today's Star and in it was Lt. John F. Fisher, one of four being awarded a Purple Heart decoration by Lt. Col. William E. Lobit, regimental commander.

1. A new attempt by Britain, Russia and the U. S. to agree on a broadened Polish government in time to seat Poles for at least the last stages of the United Nations conference.

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3 ALLIED ARMIES AIMED AT LAST NAZI CITADEL

STRIKE TOWARD HITLER'S HIDEOUT IN BAVARIAN ALPS

By United Press

A BEC broadcast said today that American and Russian patrols were only 25 miles apart in an unidentified sector. The report was attributed to "messages reaching Moscow."

PARIS, April 21.—(UP)—Three allied armies struck for Nazism's last citadel in the Bavarian Alps along a front of more than 200 miles today. In the north, British armored divisions enveloped Bremen and stormed into the suburbs of Hamburg.

Striking in the war's decisive hour to prevent the Nazis from rallying 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 northward from the Swiss to the Czechoslovak borders.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army rammed a half-dozen armored spearheads up to and across the Czechoslovak border on a front looping in to within 55 miles of Pilsen and 98 miles or less west of Prague, the last main escape corridor between northern and southern Germany.

The U. S. Seventh Army struck south and southeastward from captured Nuremberg within less than 70 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 shoulder of the Bavarian redoubt.

Jap Resistance On Cebu Ends

MANILA, April 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 5,400,000 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.

FOUR NAMED TO HIGHWAY POSTS

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 21.—Appointment of the three division heads within the State Highway Commission has been announced by John H. Lauer, commission chairman.

Carl E. Vogelzang of Indianapolis was made chief engineer, replacing Ray Eower of Atlanta who resigned.

Fred Kellam of Speedway City was re-appointed engineer of bridges.

State Representative Charles T. Miser of Garrett was named superintendent of maintenance, replacing Norman F. Schafer of Indianapolis, now a member of the Commission.

Mr. Lauer also announced that J. T. Hallett, Indianapolis city traffic engineer, has accepted the post of engineer of road design, the position formerly held by Mr. Vogelzang.

Today's Weather and Local Temperature

Fair north and partly cloudy south today and tonight with an occasional shower or thunderstorm near the Ohio River. Clearer north tonight and Sunday.	
Minimum	57
6 a. m.	58
7 a. m.	58
8 a. m.	57
9 a. m.	65
10 a. m.	65