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France Hit After Biggest Berlin Day Blow

U.S. Radios A Promise Of Freedom

Europe Hears New Unit's First Program; Russian Paper Prods Allies

From troop-teeming Britain to the conquered peoples of Europe, the U.S. sent its own promise last night that their day of liberation was "not far distant."

ABSIE, the American Broadcasting Station in Europe, was opened in London to send American news and entertainment features to the Continent daily in advance of the armed invasion. After the landings on Europe's shores it will be used to broadcast instructions as well.

Robert Sherwood, head of the Overseas Division of the Office of War Information, said in the inaugural broadcast:

"In this great historic year of 1944 the Allied radio will bring you tremendous news. And the day is not far distant when your own radio stations will be free to tell you the truth, instead of the tremendous lies of the Nazis, collaborationists and quislings."

Another official indication that D-day was approaching came from Ernest Bevin, British labor minister. Appealing to labor not to endanger "the agreement as to time and date made between Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill," he said in a speech at Bristol Saturday:

"Remember that from now on the hour-glass is running out. I dare not tell you the exact moment when it will finish, although I know it. I ask you not to think of the bosses, but the men scaling the beaches on the other side."

Meanwhile, the Moscow newspaper Pravda, asserting that the Soviets had fulfilled all their pledges to the Allies, declared that "it is time for a blow from the west."

"In England and the U.S.," the paper said, "many witnesses of intensified preparations of the Anglo-American military forces are wondering what is delaying more decisive operations."

There were also these developments: 1—From Washington a Reuter dispatch reported that "the people of the U.S. are tense with expectancy as the Second Front approaches. No more do you hear scoffers openly expressing their doubts as to whether there will ever be a Second Front. All over the U.S. there is an '11th hour' tenseness and the belief that soon the nation's radio stations will suddenly blare out the great news that the invasion of Europe has begun."

2—Stockholm heard that invasion stand-by orders were issued to the German garrisons on the Jutland area of Denmark and that a "high state of alarm" had been declared; that a German battalion of the Helsingor garrison revolted as a protest against strenuous anti-invasion exercises; and that the Gestapo was making a big sweep for Danish patriots, arresting 800 in Malmoe alone.

3—German correspondents in Stockholm reported that photographs taken by German reconnaissance planes disclosed that more and more ships were being assembled in southern English ports.

4—A rumor that Franz von Papen, German ambassador to Turkey who is now in Berlin, was being charged with the mission of starting peace negotiations with the Allies via Ankara was reported by Reuter from Zurich, attributed to "a well-informed diplomatic source" in Switzerland.

The War Today

Air War—Continuous waves of American heavy, medium and light warplanes range over France, ending a weekend of furious attacks on German targets, chief of them the heaviest daylight pounding of Berlin. One thousand heavies, escorted by as many fighters, left large areas of the capital in flames.

Pacific—Allies, pushing west in Hollandia sector of New Guinea coast, capture another airfield; widespread raiding continues, featured by an attack on Jap-held Guam in Central Pacific.

Russia—Russian aerial attacks on Orsha and other targets in that area believed to be a prelude to a smash at Poland from the central front; violent artillery duels rage at Sebastopol; other fronts quiet.

Yanks Ford a New Guinea Stream



Rifles at high port and their advance covered by the .50-caliber machine-gun in foreground, American soldiers warily cross a jungle stream in their steady push against the Japanese in New Guinea.

Another Jap Airfield Stormed By Allies on New Guinea Coast

American troops have captured Tami airfield, five miles east of the southeastern shore of Humboldt Bay in the Hollandia sector of Dutch New Guinea, it was announced yesterday by Gen. MacArthur's headquarters.

Occupation of the latest of a bevy of Jap airdromes to be seized came as from other newly-taken fields Allied bombers hit Jap positions along the 500-mile coast from Hollandia to the area of Australian-held Madang.

The attacks were seen as a possible prelude to another Allied landing from the west in the area of Alexishafen, from which Australian forces are pushing west.

Only minor skirmishes, meanwhile, were reported as U.S. patrols searched for Jap remnants in the Hollandia and Aitape areas, where the Americans stormed ashore Apr. 22.

At Tami, the speed of the American advance surprised Jap troops still working on the airfield. Fifteen of the Japs were killed.

It was disclosed over the weekend that the force which landed at Tanahmerah Bay was the 24th Division commanded by Maj. Gen. Frederick A. Irving. The Hollandia landings were made by the 41st Division under Maj. Gen. Horace Fuller, while elements of the 32nd Division under Brig. Gen. Jens A. Doe landed at Aitape.

Patrols of the 32nd Division, on the eastern flank of the invasion front, advanced to a point eight miles south of Aitape without meeting any opposition. However, a Jap force was believed to be present 17 miles south of Aitape, at Sisano Lagoon.

Meanwhile, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced the 34th raid of the month on Ponape, in the Carolines, and a Liberator attack on Guam, former U.S. base in the Central Pacific, as well as new assaults on enemy positions 100 miles to the west of the latest landings in New Guinea.

Joseph Savage, founder of the National Association of MacArthur-for-President Clubs, said in Chicago that the clubs would be disbanded immediately. MacArthur's statement, which he did not elaborate, was as follows: "On my return from the Hollandia operations I had my attention brought to a number of newspaper articles professing in the strongest terms a widespread public opinion that it would be detrimental to our war effort to have an officer in a high position on active service at the front considered for nomination for the office of president."

"I have on several occasions announced that I would not be a candidate for the position. Nevertheless, in view of these circumstances and in order to make my position entirely unequivocal, I request that no action should be taken that would link my name in any way with the nomination. I do not covet it and I would not accept it."

Spotlight on Infantryman As Invasion Day Nears

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30 (Reuter)—As invasion day draws nearer, the U.S. is becoming "infantry conscious." After periods of popularity for the Navy and Air Forces, the spotlight of publicity is now turned full on the men who will storm the European Fortress and on infantry landing craft.

Newspapers and magazines extol the footslogger while military commentators emphasize his importance. This trend has been particularly noticeable since the terrific concentration of air power failed to decide the issue at Cassino.

WACs Prefer Khaki

FORT WORTH, Tex., Apr. 30—Although WACs are entitled to be married in the traditional white satin and tulle, most of them prefer to take the vows in uniform, a check at weddings here revealed.

Accident Toll Exceeds War's CHICAGO, Apr. 30—Since Dec. 7, 1941, 220,000 persons have died in accidents in the U.S., nearly five times more than American battle deaths, according to the National Safety Council.

Raids Over Channel Follow Double Thrust From North, South

63 U.S. Heavies Are Lost in Saturday's 2,000-Ton Attack on German Capital; Toulon Struck Hard From Italy

With parts of Berlin leveled by the most devastating daylight air assault it has yet experienced, and with the French Mediterranean port of Toulon smoking from its heaviest attack, the Allied pre-invasion air offensive rolled on yesterday as Fortresses, Liberators, Marauders and Havocs, supported by fighters and fighter-bombers, pounded German airdromes, railway yards and industries in France.

Berlin was bombed Saturday by approximately 1,000 American heavy bombers, which set vast areas aflame with an estimated 2,000 tons of high explosives and incendiaries. Despite their escort of about 1,000 fighters, the heavies met furious opposition from enemy fighters, and 63 Fortresses and Liberators failed to return. Fourteen fighters also were lost. The bomber crews reported having shot down 72 enemy fighters, and the escorting planes claimed 16. Berlin radio claimed 121 U.S. bombers and eight fighters down.

Toulon was hit Saturday from the south in what was described at Allied headquarters in Italy as the greatest attack of the war in the Mediterranean area. For more than an hour Forts and Libs unloaded bomb after bomb on what used to be the main base for the French Mediterranean fleet. An estimated 1,500 tons were dropped on railways, arsenals, ammunition factories, repair shops and port installations. Eleven U.S. planes and 12 German fighters were reported shot down.

Rounding out one of the worst weekends the Germans have gone through, U.S. airmen wrote the following score sheet in widespread operations over France yesterday:

B17s bombed airdromes at Lyon and Clermont-Ferrand, in south central France, while B24s bombed military installations in the Pas de Calais. One bomber and four escorting fighters of the comparatively small forces were lost, and seven German planes were shot down.

Lightnings of the Eighth Air Force hit the aircraft repair plant at Tours without loss.

P47 fighter-bombers of the Eighth Air Force bombed airfields in France, while others of the Ninth struck two railway yards and an airfield in France.

Marauders and Havocs, more than 275 strong, with escort, attacked military objectives in France. One Marauder was lost.

Berlin was the principal target of the weekend, but the joint USAAF-RAF offensive hit many other important targets. Among them were (1) the Kjeller airframes factory at Oslo, Norway, struck by RAF Lancasters Friday night; (2) Hamburg, hit simultaneously by Mosquitoes; (3) Germany's biggest state-owned explosives factory in France, at St. Madard-en-Jalles, near Bordeaux, bombed by Lancasters Saturday night; (4) an aircraft factory at Clermont-Ferrand, also pounded by the RAF, plus widespread airdromes, railway targets and industries pounded by American medium and light planes by day.

Against the mighty armada sent to Berlin Saturday, the Luftwaffe put up some of the heaviest opposition yet encountered on daylight operations. One combat wing reported attacks by at least 200 Nazi fighters, including for the first time the twin-tailed Focke Wulf 189, a plane resembling the Lightning.

"I've never seen it worse," one radio operator reported. "We had terrific flak and enemy fighters at the same time." A Liberator pilot, Capt. Howard W. Slaton, of Courtland, Ala., related that "the enemy fighters attacked us in a running fight that lasted for one and one (Continued on page 2)

Pilot Bags 3 Jerries, Home Front Adds 4th

AN EIGHTH MUSTANG BASE, Apr. 30 (UP)—1/Lt. Fletcher Adams, from Louisiana, returned from the big raid on Berlin yesterday to find a cable announcing that he had become the father of a son.

The cable was sent Monday, when Adams shot down three German planes. The cable was signed "Jerry"—his new son's name.

Adams remarked that he would have to change his Monday score. "It's four Jerries now," he said.

Record Crest Approached by The Mississippi Troops Sandbag Levees; Over a Million Acres Already Inundated

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Apr. 30—The Mississippi River was rising toward one of the highest stages in Weather Bureau annals tonight, swollen by turbulent tributaries which already have inundated 1,120,000 acres in Missouri and Illinois and destroyed crops over an estimated 575,000 acres.

Five hundred soldiers and state guardsmen were sandbagging the levees in a battle to save an additional 6,500 acres of farmland.

The Missouri River halted its flood crest at St. Charles, Mo., at 36.5 feet, one-tenth of a foot under its 99-year record set last May, but more rain was forecast.

Burdened by the Missouri, the Mississippi crept to 38 feet at St. Louis, and forecasters predicted it would reach its maximum height tomorrow only a fraction below the highest flood stage since 1844. Neither St. Louis nor St. Charles was in danger, however.

Danger Areas Evacuated From the mouth of the Missouri for 195 miles southward to Cairo, Ill., the Mississippi exerted heavier pressure against the remaining levees. Engineers said that five levees on the Illinois side in the vicinity of Cape Girardeau, Mo., were the critical points; all families in the danger area were ordered evacuated.

The entire northern half of St. Charles County was threatened with inundation by the Missouri which broke through the cul-de-sac levee and sent its waters rolling along the old flood channel into the Mississippi 25 miles north of its normal confluence.

Meanwhile, the Red Cross reported in Washington that a series of tornadoes which struck 14 Middle Western and Southern states between Apr. 9 and 16 killed 80 persons and injured 721. The tornadoes ripped through 70 counties leaving a trail of damage in the millions. There were 619 houses leveled, 889 others damaged, and 895 barns and other buildings wrecked. Few tornadoes in U.S. history have caused so much devastation.

Gala May Day in Soviet

MOSCOW, Apr. 30 (AP)—A holiday mood prevailed in Moscow today on the eve of the nation's 21st May Day under Soviet rule. Pictures of Marshal Stalin adorned buildings all over Russia.

Coup Nipped in Bolivia; Ex-Leader to Be Exiled

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30—Bolivia, torn by political rivalries arising from next July's national elections, was under a state of siege today following discovery of what a government communique described as a plot to overthrow the government.

A number of politicians were arrested, and Gen. David Toro, a former president of Bolivia who returned to the capital several weeks ago, presumably to become a candidate again, took refuge in the Chilean embassy to avoid arrest.

The government said he would be allowed to leave the country, probably to go into exile in Chile.

Your Stripes are OK, Sarge; It's the Limeys' Upside Down

British NCOs were told by London's Sunday Dispatch yesterday that they were wearing their stripes upside down, and that the American NCO wore his stripes in the "heraldically correct" manner.

"His stripes, which seem to you idiotically fixed the wrong way up, are really correct," The Dispatch declared.

The British War Office explained to The Dispatch that stripes were originated as insignia by the French Army of Louis XIV, and were worn right-side up, as

Americans and French now wear them. "We don't know exactly why, but our Army chose to wear them in the reverse fashion. Maybe the idea was just to be different," a War Office spokesman said.

The American Army probably had the same idea—to be different—when it adopted its "heraldically correct" manner of wearing stripes not long after 1776. The first American soldiers used to wear their stripes the British way. After the American Revolution there was a quick reversal.

Mail-Order Co. Seizure May Go To High Court

Test of FDR's War-Time Powers Seen; Congress Moving for Inquiries

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30—The government's seizure of the Montgomery Ward and Co. plant in Chicago brought moves for at least three congressional investigations today, while government officials and businessmen expressed the view that the case might eventually wind up as a Supreme Court test of the President's war-time powers.

Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D.-Va.), seeking a Senate investigation, asked Chairman William H. Davis of the War Labor Board for "full details as to the seizure and the legal authority you relied upon for such action." Chairman Pat McCarran (D.-Nev.) of the Senate Judiciary Committee sent an investigator to Chicago. The House Rules Committee already has approved a resolution for a House investigation.

Meanwhile, congressional resistance to extending the President's property-seizing powers developed. The House Military Affairs Committee deferred action on two Senate-approved bills dealing with wartime requisition of private property.

In reply to Byrd's letter, Davis declared that the Montgomery Ward strike had "epidemic potentialities" which fully justified the WLB in taking jurisdiction.

"We cannot expect to confine strikes to non-war establishments and keep war plants strikeless," Davis wrote, "any more than we would let a fire rage unchecked in a non-war plant on the theory it might not leap the fence to the war plant next door."

Davis also reminded Byrd that the mail-order firm, in its affiliated Hummer Manufacturing Co., makes carburetors, propellers and gun mounts for warplanes.

Troops which seized the plant were removed following a temporary federal injunction restraining company officials from interfering. Commerce Department officials remained in charge of the plant.

Supply Crimps Nazis in Italy

All north-south railway lines in Italy have been cut since Mar. 24 and Allied bombing has caused the Germans to run short of truck parts. Allied headquarters there announced yesterday.

Continued aerial pounding of Italian ports on the Ligurian Gulf, highlighted by the second heavy-bomber attack in 24 hours on Genoa, brought Axis suggestions that the Allies might be preparing for a new "leap-frog" landing on the west coast.

Raiding Genoa a few hours after some 500 Fortresses and Liberators hammered Toulon, RAF Halifaxes and Liberators carried out a heavy night attack on Genoa's inner harbor, used for loading supplies and ammunition bound for Axis troops in the Anzio bridgehead. Wellingtons attacked Spezia and Leghorn.

At Anzio, German raiding parties in platoon strength attacked Allied positions south of Cisterna and a mile west of Carano, but artillery broke up the attack. Similar small attacks launched against Allied positions around Cassino were driven off. German mortars and artillery were active on the Adriatic front.

'Seabees' Premiere Draws 1,500 Yanks, Huge Street Throng

Fifteen hundred American servicemen, headed by Adm. Harold R. Stark, attended the British premiere of "The Fighting Seabees" Friday night, and London's special police reserves had to be called to keep order as one of the West End's greatest war-time crowds flocked to the environs of the Regal Theater, attracted by all the pageantry of a Hollywood first night.

In attendance also were swarms of American MPs, who earlier had searched every foot of the theater, every seat of which was reserved by the Americans for the motion-picture tale of the Navy's construction battalions.

The thoroughness of the white-helmeted MPs as they went over the theater from cellar to roof so impressed the Regal's manager that he saw "nothing to worry about" in the future "if this is a small-scale idea of how the Americans will organize their share of the Second Front."

Arnold Lauds 9th AF In Promotion Messages

"The Ninth Air Force in Britain under your direction is adding new glory to your impressive war record," Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the USAAF, told Maj. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton yesterday in a cable congratulating him on his nomination by President Roosevelt to the rank of lieutenant general.

Gen. Arnold also sent a congratulatory message to Brig. Gen. Elwood R. Quesada, Ninth Fighter Command chief, nominated simultaneously for promotion to major general.

'Twould Take Several Nissen Huts to Accommodate Her



Biggest pinup girl in the world is "Mabel," a 124-foot reproduction of a Varga drawing, advertising a new Broadway musical show. Manhattan cops are worried lest pedestrians looking up at Mabel may forget such mundane things as oncoming automobiles. Sign is on the Winter Garden, Broadway, between 50th and 51st.

British Planes Fire 4 Vessels

3 Hit in Convoy Off Port In Norway; Canadian Destroyer Sunk

Three German supply ships, in a convoy of four, were left on fire after British naval planes bombed the convoy last Wednesday near Bodo, in northern Norway, the Admiralty announced yesterday. Another supply ship was set afire when naval planes bombed it in Bodo Harbor. Five planes were lost in the operations.

Light forces of the Canadian Navy, in an offensive sweep in the Channel, drove an enemy destroyer ashore near Ushant and left it on fire Saturday, the Admiralty also announced. Hits were scored on another destroyer, which escaped. One Canadian destroyer was torpedoed and sunk, but some survivors were picked up.

Knox to Be Buried Today In Arlington Cemetery

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30—Col. Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, who died of a heart attack Friday at the age of 70, will be buried tomorrow in Arlington National Cemetery.

Flags of the Navy's ships and shore establishments all over the world were lowered to half-staff in mourning. Ships of the British and Canadian fleets also are flying their colors at half-mast.

Memorial Service Here

A memorial service for Col. Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, who died Friday, will be held at noon today at St. Mark's Church, North Audley St., London, W.1. Capt. F. H. Lash, USN, staff chaplain of the U.S. Naval Forces in Europe, will officiate, assisted by the Rev. K. H. Thorneycroft, Vicar of St. Mark's, and Chaplain F. R. Williams, USNR. High ranking officials of the Allied services have been invited to attend.

Prime Minister Churchill has sent a message of sympathy to President Roosevelt on behalf of the British War Cabinet and Admiralty on the loss of "this distinguished statesman and war administrator."

Daughter for Alice Faye

SANTA MONICA, Cal., Apr. 30—Alice Faye, the film star, has given birth to her second child, a daughter.

Photo Pilots the Kit Carsons Of 1944, Says Col. Roosevelt

Scout-plane pilots who bring back photographic evidence of what bombers do were described by Col. Elliott Roosevelt last night as this war's Buffalo Bills and Kit Carsons, who have a major role in the invasion setup.

"They will stand up with the best fighter and bomber pilots in any air force in the war," said the commander of a photo reconnaissance wing in a radio interview broadcast to the States by Columbia Broadcasting System.

"You have to be more than a specialized photographer to succeed in photo reconnaissance. You have to be as good as the best pilot in the world and you have to be as steady and accurate as the best bomber pilot and navigator in the world. And you have to do the job with no more protection than a jack rabbit."

"My boys are the Buffalo Bills and the Kit Carsons of this war and we in-

Nazi Radio Entertains Yanks Raiding Berlin

AN EIGHTH MUSTANG BASE, Apr. 30—It was "music while you work" for the "Jones Boys" over Berlin yesterday.

Through a fluke pick-up, men of the Mustang squadron led by Maj. Edward W. (Jonesy) Szaniawski, of Scarsdale, N.Y., heard the strains of Jan Garber's orchestra wafting over their combat radios.

The recording, broadcast from a German station, was preceded by the announcement, "The Luftwaffe will be up to knock the Americans and British from the skies."

Then, as the Mustang pilots watched the bombs going down on the center of Berlin, they heard the announcer continue reassuringly, "Nothing of importance is being hit."

Catholic Priest And Stalin Meet

MOSCOW, Apr. 30—Moscow newspapers devoted a third of their front pages yesterday to pictures showing Marshal Stalin meeting the Rev. Fr. Stanislaw Orlemansky, of Springfield, Mass.—the first time Stalin has been shown with a Roman Catholic priest.

Fr. Orlemansky, who describes himself as organizer and honorary secretary of the Kosciusko League and a self-appointed good-will envoy between Russia and Poland, was summoned to the Kremlin while attending a theater.

"This will cause a rumpus in America," he told newsmen at a press conference after the meeting. He said he planned to return to the U.S. shortly to launch a campaign for a democratic Poland friendly with the Soviet government.

Security Must Precede Disarmament—Halifax

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30 (UP)—Neither Britain nor America will disarm after this war "except on a proved and established basis of security," Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the U.S., said last night in a speech before the American Society of International Law.

Halifax said that any program for lasting peace demanded "the existence of a force in some form which can, if necessary, be invoked."

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"My boys are the Buffalo Bills and the Kit Carsons of this war and we in-

Heavies Batter France Again

Channel Thrusts Resumed After Record Berlin Day Raid; Toulon Is Hit

(Continued from page 1) half hours, but we didn't get a single bullet hole. My plane got two enemy fighters."

The resistance met by the various elements of the massive bomber fleet varied widely. One Fortress pilot, 2/Lt. Martin D. Rupert, of Farrell, Pa., had his ship shot full of flak holes, but did not see a single German fighter; a waist gunner on another Fort, S/Sgt. Harold G. Cleary, of Syracuse, N.Y., said at least 200 fighters attacked his combat wing.

"They were coming right through the formation ten at a time," he recounted, "and with 40 or 50 below and a like number above attacking simultaneously. It was the most ferocious attack I've ever seen. After the second attack my tail gunner counted 98 fighters getting together in formation again, and that was after we had destroyed a good number of them. We got three of them ourselves."

"The flak was terrific," S/Sgt. Mayer Brudner, of Brooklyn, N.Y., Fortress ball turret gunner, reported. "We must have had it for two hours of the nine-hour flight. Berlin must have flak guns in every street, every house, every apartment."

Likewise, some bombardiers encountered thick cloud over their target, while others had a clear view.

21 Locomotives Shot Up

Five pilots of a Thunderbolt group went on an anti-train rampage and shot up 21 locomotives, 1/Lt. Charles H. Hipsher, of Mount Carmel, Ind., and 2/Lt. Edward C. Maslow, of Plymouth, Pa., destroyed or damaged seven apiece.

The bombing raid was concentrated on the city proper, instead of the outskirts of Berlin, and even the Nazi radio reported "heavy damage in the city, with numerous fires, especially in the center and in several outlying districts."

The bombs blew the official German News Agency into the day before. Its transmitting system was thrown so badly out of gear that in the confusion it transmitted Friday's news instead of Saturday's.

Meanwhile, fighter-bombers of the Ninth Air Force attacked airfields, shipping and other targets, while fighters made offensive sweeps and patrols. Three German planes were destroyed and two of our fighters lost.

The RAF announced that Lancasters attacked for the first time a German airframe factory on the outskirts of Oslo, Norway, Friday night on a gruelling 1,500-mile flight, without loss of a plane.

Swiss Protests to U.S.

BERNE, Apr. 30 (Reuter)—The Swiss Minister in Washington has been instructed to protest against the violation of Swiss neutrality by a number of U.S. bombers on Apr. 24. A protest has also been handed to the British Minister here concerning violations by the RAF during the nights of Apr. 24/25 and Apr. 27/28.

6 Italians Shot by Allies As Spies for Germany

ALLIED HQ, Italy, Apr. 30 (Reuter)—Six Italian spies who entered the Allied lines in Italy on missions for the Germans have been shot, it was disclosed today. All six confessed. It was the first published case of Allied execution of spies in Italy.

Russian Smash Into Poland in Center Sighted

Soviet Planes Hammering Targets in Orsha Area; Guerrillas Active

Except for violent artillery duels at Sebastopol, uneasy quiet prevailed yesterday on the Russian front, but aerial softening-up on the central sector east of Mogilev and Orsha suggested the Red Army was preparing still another offensive aimed at Poland.

Moscow dispatches said the weather was continuing to improve on the central front, gradually drying out the roads leading across Poland to the German frontier.

Not only has the Red Air Force carried out major attacks on Orsha and another unidentified enemy airfield within 48 hours, but guerrillas have been increasingly active in the Mogilev sector, leading Moscow observers to forecast that Gen. Konstantin Rokossovsky's armies soon would break the lull.

Except for reports telling of a steady massing of Soviet tanks and guns, there was almost no Soviet news from the Rumanian front. Berlin reports spoke of a violent artillery duel north of Jassy.

Around Sebastopol, the Russians were said to be steadily wearing down the German defenses and wresting new strongpoints.

Capt. Ivan Filatov, writing in the Moscow News, said the Soviet sea and air forces were taking a heavy toll of German evacuation ships, sinking in 15 days 61 enemy vessels totaling more than 55,000 tons—24 of them transports.

He said German shipping had lost all organization. "Convoys are made up with whatever boats are available, from fast freighters to sluggish schooners."

Plan for a 'U.S. Of Europe' Set

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30 (Reuter)—Count Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi, president of the Pan-American Union, said yesterday a draft constitution for a United States of Europe had been submitted to Prime Minister Churchill, President Roosevelt, Marshal Stalin and heads of the other Allied governments.

The document was drawn up by the Pan-European Conference and the New York University Research Seminary for European Federation.

The count said the draft followed the constitutional pattern of the Swiss Confederation, guaranteeing to member states a high degree of national independence. He said military strength "would be organized something like the French Foreign Legion. No state would have more than ten per cent of the total strength." The armament industry also would be supervised by the Union.

Italian P/Ws Storm MP Post Hoping for A Change Into ODs

AN EIGHTH MUSTANG BASE, Apr. 30—A dozen Italian prisoners of war tried to join up with "Signor Sam" at this base, and it took most of the local MP detachment to convince them that no more enlistments could be accepted here.

The Italians, working in a near-by field as prisoners of the British, suddenly besieged the post guarded by Pfc George Pennoyer, of Providence, R.I. Their excited yelling and gestures were finally interpreted by Pvt. Nicholas R. Straniero, of Cleveland, who speaks Italian, as an offering of their services to the U.S. Army.

"We got 'em back to their jobs, all right," said Capt. Donald J. Zimmerman, of Shamokin, Pa., commander of the detachment, "but we sure had a tough time explaining that we couldn't accept any more enlistments."

Stettinius, 2 U.S. Envoys In N. African Conference

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30—Edward R. Stettinius Jr., undersecretary of state, arrived in Marrakesh, Morocco, today to confer with W. Averell Harriman, ambassador to Moscow, and Robert Murphy, the President's representative in North Africa, the State Department announced. The subject of their talks was not disclosed.

Stettinius stopped in Marrakesh en route home from his conferences in London with Anthony Eden, British foreign minister.

Nazis Forced to Salvage Bearings of Allied Planes

Germany's ball-bearing industry has been hit so hard by Allied raids that special collection depots have been set up to salvage bearings collected from Allied craft shot down over the Continent, Karl Zeppelin, German Overseas News Agency correspondent, disclosed yesterday.

Phil Baker to Wed

HOLLYWOOD, Apr. 30—Actor Phil Baker and dancer Irmgard Erik announced plans to marry May 8.

Experts Patrol U.K. for Defects In Camouflage

Army Checking to Insure Its Invasion Installations Are Well Concealed

The Army has organized motorized patrols of highly trained camouflage experts to spot and correct any defects in concealment of invasion installations.

Lt. Col. William Paxton Moss, of Farmingdale, L.I., N.Y., commanding officer of a U.S. Army Engineer camouflage unit, said the patrols would ride with Military Police and watch for improperly draped camouflage nets, tell-tale tire marks and other violations here and "over there" when the time comes.

Ninety per cent of the enlisted men in Col. Moss' unit are non-commissioned officers, specialists in their lines. In civil life they were artists, architects, mechanical and civil engineers, paint experts, scenery builders, stage designers, carpenters and color experts.

Camouflage seldom is a matter of total concealment, except in the case of a very small installation such as a headquarters structure, Col. Moss explained.

"Our main objective is to reduce visibility—tone down outstanding features—so that an installation is not readily apparent to an observer, particularly from the air," he added. "This is accomplished by blending, so that the terrain appears undisturbed."

"Shadow is the most difficult feature to conceal. Texture—the roughness or smoothness of a surface—also is a most important consideration. Color, contrary to popular belief, is the least important from our point of view."

"The human eye is unable to discern color from a great distance. That is why our Army vehicles are painted olive drab. On close observation they may not seem to blend well, but at a distance they are difficult to pick out."

The camouflage experts also know that roads, even though black, reflect considerable light, and appear white to the aerial observer. Forests, on the other hand, even though thick with green foliage, appear black.

The Little Flower Blooms Perpetually In Hearts of Foggia

NAPLES, Apr. 30—As a good Bronxite and former student in the College of the City of New York, S/Sgt. Ralph Martin, of The Stars and Stripes, has learned the enormous power of the name of "F. H. LaGuardia" in the town of Foggia, where the Mayor is Virgilio Guarducci. Martin went into Foggia City Hall and happened to mention he was from New York. Mayor Guarducci at once wrung his hand and exclaimed, "Any friend of Fiorello's is a friend of mine."

Before Martin could explain that the closest he had ever gotten to LaGuardia was at Yankee Stadium, where the Mayor threw out the first ball, Guarducci had announced that LaGuardia was a "wonderful guy," who had just been awarded honorary citizenship in Foggia.

Court Reverses Turf Wire Ban

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 30—Publications featuring horse racing are not illegal and denial of telephone and teletype service to such papers is not justifiable, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has ruled, reversing the State Superior Court. Service will be resumed, the Public Utility Commission said.

AFN Series to Feature Instruction in German

A week of German lessons will be featured on the American Forces Network beginning today at 11:50 AM. It will be the second foreign language brought to American troops in this theater via AFN. French lessons were concluded Friday. The new series will contain popular German phrases which might come in handy in the future.

On Your Dial
1375 kc. 1402 kc. 1411 kc. 1420 kc. 1447 kc.
234 Int. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.1m.

- Monday, May 1
- 1100—Soothe on Louis Prima.
 - 1115—Personal Album—Anita.
 - 1130—Novatime.
 - 1150—German Lesson—No. 1.
 - 1200—Noon Edition.
 - 1205—Barracks Bar.
 - 1300—World News (BBC).
 - 1310—Melody Roundup.
 - 1330—Dinah Shore.
 - 1400—News Headlines—BBC Scottish Orchestra.
 - 1430—Visiting Hour.
 - 1500—Music While You Work (BBC).
 - 1530—Off the Record.
 - 1630—Ira Wolfert interview—Highlights of events in the Pacific.
 - 1650—Songs by the Four Belles.
 - 1700—Rainbow Rhythm and Program Resume.
 - 1730—Midland Light Orchestra (BBC).
 - 1755—Quiet Moment.
 - 1800—World News (BBC).
 - 1815—GI Supper Club.
 - 1900—Seven O'Clock Sports.
 - 1905—Red Skelton—with Harriet Hilliard and Ozie Nelson's Orchestra.
 - 1930—Command Performance.
 - 2000—News From Home.
 - 2010—Fred Waring Program.
 - 2025—This Week in Science.
 - 2030—Contented Host—Josephine Antonio, Chorus and Percy Faith Orchestra.
 - 2100—World News (BBC).
 - 2115—Front Line Theater—"Please forgive me" with Charles Boyer.
 - 2145—Ranch House.
 - 2200—Village Store—with Joan Davis and Jack Haley.
 - 2225—One Night Stand.
 - 2255—Final Edition.
 - 2300—Sign off until 1100 hours Tuesday, May 2.

Repair Job Cut from 16 Hrs. to 1 Min.

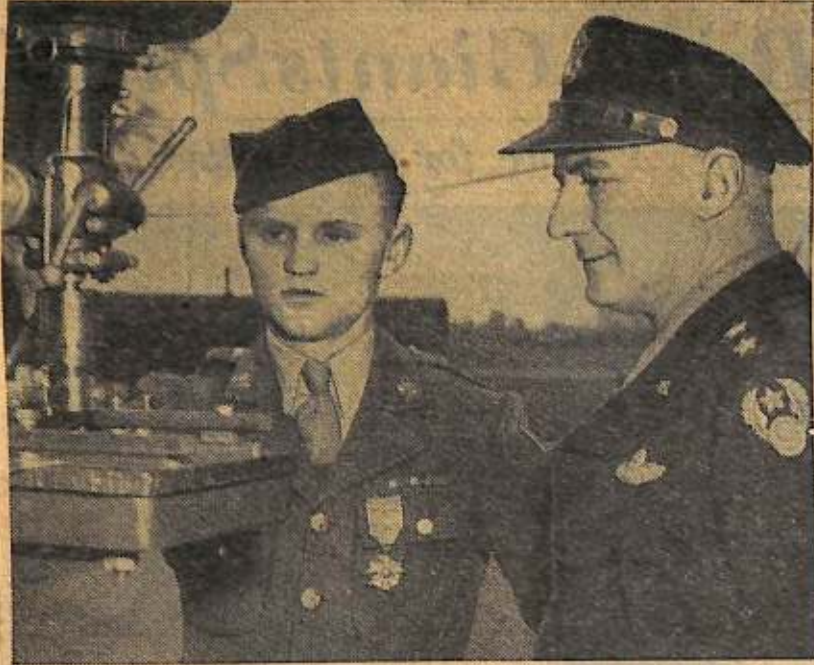
Inventive Sergeant Gets Award for New Tools

Battle-damaged planes of the Ninth Air Force are returning to action in record time because of the inventive genius of a young machinist from Sandusky, Ohio, whose contrivances have cut the time of some repairs as much as from 16 hours to 60 seconds.

The machinist is T/Sgt. Richard J. Schmieder, 26, whose award of the Legion of Merit was announced over the weekend. Schmieder, first member of Ninth Service Command to win the decoration, received the award from Maj. Gen. Henry J. F. Miller, commanding general.

Among Schmieder's inventions is a self-centering saw which standardizes the size of all flak holes. Because of it, damaged planes can fly again six hours sooner than they could before. Another reduces from six hours to one minute the time required for cutting precision slots for mounting gunsights. A third invention permits spark-plugs to be removed from an engine without taking out the cylinder—and the job takes 10 minutes instead of eight hours. His new punch press, contrived from scrap iron, enables unskilled workers to make vents in engine nacelles in 60 seconds—it used to take highly-trained technicians 16 hours.

The citation accompanying his award read: "By his mechanical skill, ingenuity and perseverance, T/Sgt. Schmieder developed instruments which were improvements over existing devices, reduced the expenditure of valuable time and materials, and, by their simplicity of



T/Sgt. Richard J. Schmieder, 26, wearing Legion of Merit he just received from Maj. Gen. Henry J. F. Miller, shows the Ninth Air Service Command chief his device for cutting flak patches, one of dozens of instruments and methods of his invention which are used daily to cut time in repairs and maintenance:

design and operation, made possible the utilization of unskilled and semi-skilled labor."

Schmieder was a machinist in civilian life, but had no experience with aircraft until he entered the Army in May, 1942.

Here is a box-score of his inventions to date:

A punch press (vent cutter), which

reduced time from 16 hrs. per plane to 60 secs.; a self-centering circular saw, from 1 hr. per flak hole to 4 to 5 mts.; a special torque wrench, from 20 mts. per bolt to 4 mts.; a lord-mount jig, from 45 mts. to 3 mts.; a gun-sight jig, from 6 hrs. to 60 secs.; and a broken spark-plug remover, from 8 hrs. to 10 mts.

British Walrus 'Taxi' Service Saves 8 From Ditched Fort

A FORTRESS BASE, Apr. 30—After drifting and bailing for 12 hours on two life rafts in heavy seas, eight U.S. airmen were rescued from the North Sea by a British Walrus seaplane which had to taxi its load through strong headwinds almost to shore before delivering the men to two patrol boats.

The two waist gunners were killed when fire compelled Capt. Perry L. Huie, of Urbana, Ill., to ditch the B17 Liberty Ship while returning from a North Sea flight. The Fortress sank in 30 seconds and only one dinghy could be inflated.

While Huie and four crewmen clambered into the life raft, three others treaded water for three hours before succeeding in blowing up another raft by lung power.

In their 12 chilled hours adrift they watched an armada of Fortresses high in the sky headed for another bombing attack and saw two Mustangs, but were unable to attract attention.

At dusk they were sighted by the two RAF fliers in the Walrus. Just as the eight Americans had been jammed aboard, a German Ju88 came nosing in at 1,000 feet and started to circle the rescue plane, but two British fighter planes chased it away.

Other members of the crew were: 1/Lt. William Y. Satterfield, Indianapolis, co-pilot; 1/Lt. Cecil M. Penstock, Cincinnati, Ohio, navigator; 1/Lt. William A. Toth, Cleveland, bombardier; T/Sgt. Fred F. Canfield, Mantion, Mich., top turret gunner; T/Sgt. Donald T. Jervais, Antigo, Wis., radio operator-gunner; S/Sgt. John P. Ische, Brooklyn, ball turret gunner, and S/Sgt. Edwin A. Lecorchick, Uniontown, Pa., tail gunner.

Invasion to Start Battle Of Materials, Nazi Says

STOCKHOLM, Apr. 30 (AP)—When the Allies land on the continent, one thing is sure—"They will come with great power and will precipitate the greatest battle of materials."

That is the opinion of the German military analyst Ritter von Schramm writing in Berliner Borsen Zeitung and quoted in a dispatch to the Stockholm Dagens Nyheter.

Von Schramm said it was still too early to tell whether the Allies would try a surprise landing or set the stage first with an enormous aerial bombing.

'Armored Bible' Sellers Run Afoul of U.S. Charge

WASHINGTON, Apr. 30—The Federal Trade Commission has accused the Arthur Vonsenden Co. Inc., of Pittsburgh, of "falsely representing" that its "armored Bibles" and "heart-shield Bibles" could deflect bullets, shrapnel or bayonets.

On the contrary, the FTC said, the metal cover added to the danger because a bullet passing through it would be distorted and would cause a more serious wound than a bullet of normal shape.

Help Wanted Turns Up 200 Syrians

Ad Does It After French, Iraq, Turkish Envoys Find Only an Arab

By Bill Hennefrund

Stars and Stripes Unit Correspondent
"Syrians Wanted—Contact Virginia." That ad, inserted in The Stars and Stripes Help Wanted column by a Red Cross worker of the Washington Club in London, turned up more than 200 Syrian inhabitants of the ETO for T/Sgt. Halden P. Rotty, of Stratford, Conn., Ninth Marauder photo lab technician "with a Syrian background."

Previous appeals to the Fighting French, the Turkish Embassy, the Iraq Embassy and the English Speaking Union uncovered one lone Arab and a suggestion that William Saroyan "might do."

It all started when Rotty walked into the Washington Club with The Problem. He was tired, he explained, of such mundane and transient things as pubs and movies. What he wanted was to meet a nice Syrian family.

To redheaded Virginia Brown, of Georgia, the request was not unusual, but she came to learn the nationality was apparently, With determination, Virginia tackled the task. She picked up the telephone.

"I have a Syrian boy who would like to meet . . ." she'd say.

But the other Red Cross clubs, it appeared, had plenty of everything but Syrians. One of them suggested Pfc William Saroyan, the writer. But Rotty, who knows his Asiatic countries like you know your first sergeant, shook his shaggy dark head sadly.

"Saroyan," he explained patiently, "is an Armenian, and therefore not Syrian."



T/Sgt. Halden P. Rotty, Stratford, Conn., looks over some of the mail from his 200 Syrian correspondents.

Virginia went to work in earnest. She called, among others: the Fighting French, Turkish Embassy, Iraq Embassy, Arabic Embassy, and the English Speaking Union. In between the calls she added to her knowledge of Syrian lore.

"Is it in Thrace?" she asked. Rotty pulled down a map. "It's south of Turkey, on the Mediterranean."

"What do they look like?" Rotty said they were either very handsome or very ugly, nothing in-between. The girls are knockouts. They all have black hair. They usually marry only Syrians. They are intense patriots.

Now They Get Together To Eat Kibbe (Raw Meat and Cereal)

Not a single Syrian, not even a doubtful one, had the afternoon's work produced. Box score: One Arab.

"Well, I guess I might as well forget about it," said Rotty who, after all, just wanted a simple afternoon with a nice Syrian family.

"Oh, no! I'm going to put an ad for Syrians in The Stars and Stripes," returned Virginia. An ad appeared a few days later:

"Syrians wanted—contact Virginia." A few weeks later Rotty again left his hypo and developer to return to London. He called on Miss Brown.

"There you are!" she yelled. "I've been looking all over for you. Look!" She pointed at the bottom drawer of her large desk. It was crammed with letters. "All from Syrians!" she exclaimed proudly. There were over 200 letters.

All week long, it seemed, Syrians had been telephoning Virginia or walking right in the office.

"The letters hit every grade from private to captain," Rotty said. "And even one WAC. I—uh—answered that one first."

Rotty, with one of the Syrian writers, Lt. R. L. Ashker, and Miss Brown, brought order to the chaos. A dinner party was arranged, and the photographer was given a two-day pass by his CO, Col. Wilson Wood, of Chico, Texas.

So Rotty, although he didn't get the quiet afternoon with a nice Syrian family, was able to sit down to dinner with over 100 Syrians, all with black hair, all happily eating Kibbe—a good Syrian dish of raw meat and cereal.

Orphans' Fund Is Enriched by £5,169 in 5 Wks.

Drive Is Well on Its Way Toward New Goal Of £100,000

The Stars and Stripes War Orphan fund experienced its biggest climb since the fund was inaugurated 19 months ago in the last five weeks, when American servicemen poured £5,169 into the kitty to aid Britain's blitzed and orphaned kids.

The fund, well on its way to a new goal of £100,000, today stands at £55,169 3s. 2d.

In answer to numerous queries from recently-arrived U.S. units in the ETO, here is the usual formula for sponsoring an orphan:

1—Get permission from your CO to undertake the sponsorship.

2—Appoint a committee of one or more men to supervise the drive.

3—Raise £100, necessary to aid one orphan for five years. The money is used for educational and domestic advantages otherwise unavailable for the child.

4—Send or deliver the money to The Stars and Stripes War Orphan Fund, 37 Upper Brook St., London, W.1. You are free to request a particular type of child, boy or girl, age, etc. The fund administrators—officials of the American Red Cross—will endeavor to comply as far as possible with the request.

The unit sponsoring a war orphan will be furnished with a case history, picture and periodic reports on the child.

Sponsors have used various methods to raise funds, including collections on payday, dances, orderly-room collection boxes and even crap-game percentages, and have used soldier-drawn posters for publicity purposes. A Fortress squadron raised £100 by having each member of a combat crew contribute 2s. for every bomb dropped on enemy territory. A P47 fighter group charged each pilot and crew chief a pound for every enemy fighter destroyed by the pilot. An infantry regiment waited until each company raised £100, then turned over £1,200 to the fund for the aid of 12 orphans.

Briefly-Wed Fliers Asking Furloughs Invoke the Bible

A U.S. AIR BASE, Sardinia (delayed) (AP)—Two captains and a major in the Air Force had been overseas some 18 months, which they considered sufficient if not too long.

All three were married but not one had been married even half a year before leaving his wife. So they went before the high authorities and stated their case, but were merely advised to see their chaplain, a semi-subtle system of saying "No."

The chaplain, somewhat weary of having soldiers sent to him simply for solace, remembered something in the Bible. Night after night he hunted and eventually came upon it. So now the higher authorities have been presented official applications, each citing as authority the 24th chapter and fifth verse of Deuteronomy, which reads:

"When a man hath taken a new wife he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business; but he shall be free at home one year and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken."

U.S. Naval Officer Wins High British Decoration

Lt. John Brand, U.S. naval officer from Walakoneta, Ohio, now on duty in the ETO, has been awarded the Member of the British Empire (Military Division) medal for hazardous service in recovering enemy mines off the coast of Halifax last year while serving temporarily with the Royal Canadian Navy. Third American naval officer to receive the award, Brand was decorated by Right. Hon. Vincent Massey, high commissioner for Canada. Capt. George W. Bauernschmidt, of Baltimore, has received the Legion of Merit for outstanding service in organizing and establishing a U.S. Navy supply depot at Oran. Bauernschmidt was decorated by Adm. Harold R. Stark, commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe.

Buzzing Nazi Cut Into Pieces by 3 P51 Saws

A MUSTANG BASE, Apr. 30—"Watch Me Boys, I'm a Hot Pilot," or "Stunting Don't Pay," should be the headline of this story.

Going down to strafe a German airfield recently three Mustang pilots saw a Ju83 starting a buzz job. When the German reached his low point, about 20 feet from the ground, the American pilots sent the 88 buzzing both low and high—in pieces.

"That pilot won't do any more buzzing" was the comment of Maj. George E. Preddy, of Greensboro, N.C.; Lt. John P. Kessler, of Pelham Manor, N.Y., and Lt. Duncan Donahue, of Flushing, L.I., N.Y.