

THE STARS AND STRIPES

MEDITERRANEAN

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TWO LIRE

IT'S ALL OVER

OVER HERE

Victory in Europe is ours. After more than five and a half years of the bitterest and bloodiest fighting that this continent has ever known, the armed might of Germany, the Wehrmacht and the Nazi party has been defeated--finally and utterly.

Today will be treated officially as VE-Day, it was officially announced last night. There will be broadcasts from the chiefs of state of the Big Three this afternoon at 3 PM, according to Reuter's. King George VI is expected to broadcast to the British and Commonwealth peoples at 9 PM.

As the entire world waited anxiously all day yesterday for the VE-Day proclamation, there were reports, unconfirmed officially by SHAEF, that the Germans had signed an unconditional surrender agreement at 2:41 AM yesterday.

While SHAEF declined to confirm the report of unconditional surrender, the Associated Press carried a report from Rheims, France, where General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters is located, giving details of the signing of the surrender documents.

According to this report, Nazi Germany surrendered unconditionally to the United States, Britain and Russia. The signing took place in the red schoolhouse that has been SHAEF headquarters. General Eisenhower was not present at the signing but immediately afterward met the German delegates.

The report of the signing of the surrender documents at Rheims, however, spread throughout the United Nations, and everywhere there were spontaneous celebrations. In New York ticker tape and torn telephone books were flung from skyscraper windows; traffic stopped on Times Square. In Washington news reporters crowded the White House where President Truman was conferring with high military and diplomatic aides.

In London where there was an air of great expectancy, loudspeakers were set (Continued on page 2)

The War's Over -- Over Here

(Continued from page 1)

up to carry the Prime Minister's announcement. The streets were bedecked with flags. People shouted joyously at each other.

The surrender document, according to AP, was signed for the German Government by Col. Gen. Gustav Jodl, new chief of staff. Lt. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, chief of staff to General Eisenhower, signed for the Allies.

Jodl and his fellow delegate, General Admiral Hans George Freideberg, were asked, in the presence of General Eisenhower, whether they understood the surrender terms imposed and whether they would be carried out by Germany. The two German representatives answered, "Yes."

Jodl, after putting his signature to the full surrender, said he wanted to speak. When he was given leave to do so, he declared, "With this signature, the German people and armed forces are, for better or worse, delivered into the victors' hands."

The Soviet Union's representative who signed the surrender document was Maj. Gen. Ivan Susloparoff, who was formerly in Rome as Russian delegate to the Advisory Board of the Allied Commission. General Francois Sevez signed for France.

Yesterday's final capitulation came after three major battlefield surrenders. On May 2, the German forces in Italy and western Austria laid down their arms. On May 4, enemy forces in The Netherlands, northwest Germany and Denmark gave up. On May 5, the German army group facing the Allied 6th

everywhere. This broadcast came a little after 2 PM yesterday.

Schwerin von Krosigk said:

"German men and women: The High Command of the armed forces has today at the order of Grand Admiral Doenitz declared the unconditional surrender of all fighting German troops.

"As leading minister of the Reich Government, which the Admiral of the Fleet has appointed for dealing with war tasks, I turn at this tragic moment of our history to the German nation. After a heroic fight of almost six years of incomparable hardness, Germany has succumbed to the overwhelming power of her enemies.

"To continue the war would only mean senseless bloodshed and futile disintegration. The Government, which has a feeling of a responsibility for the future of its nation, was compelled to act on the collapse of all physical and material forces and to demand of the enemy a cessation of hostilities."

Earlier in the day there were reports over the Free Danish radio that, all German troops in Norway had surrendered and would probably be interned in Sweden.

An AP report from SHAEF said that the end of hostilities in Europe had apparently come to an end by this morning. For the first time since June last year not a single field operation of General Dwight D. Eisenhower's armies was discussed at the regular forenoon press conference at SHAEF.

Breslau Falls To Red Army As War Ends

In what may be Marshal Stalin's last Order of the Day in the European war, he announced last night the capture of Breslau, Germany's eighth largest city. Breslau, surrounded and bypassed weeks ago, was taken by Marshal Ivan Koniev's forces. More than 40,000 prisoners were seized.

An article in Pravda, leading Moscow newspaper, today stated that Himmler was held directly responsible for the crimes perpetrated in the German concentration camp of Auschwitz. "More than 4,000,000 people were exterminated at Auschwitz," Pravda said. "Among them were Soviet citizens, Poles, Frenchmen, Belgians, Dutch, Czechoslovaks, Yugoslavs, Rumanians and Hungarians." The camp was set up directly by the German Government and organized by Himmler, who inspected it personally and acquainted himself with the methods of mass extermination and himself gave instructions for the bloody, barbaric business.

The German ports of Emden and Wilhelmshaven and the area around them, as well as the Frisian Islands, were surrendered in a formal way last Friday night, according to a delayed Reuter's dispatch. General Erich von Straube signed the agreement for the Germans with Lt. Gen. Guy Simmonds, commander of the Canadian II Corps in charge for the Allies. Discussions went on for two hours at the little holiday resort town of Swischenahn, eight miles from Oldenburg. The German general was described "as most cooperative."

Heinrich Himmler ordered that the concentration camps be evacuated on April 14. He also required that every inmate be exterminated rather than allow their testimony.

three major battlefield surrenders. On May 2, the German forces in Italy and western Austria laid down their arms. On May 4, enemy forces in The Netherlands, northwest Germany and Denmark gave up. On May 5, the German army group facing the Allied 6th Army Group in southern Germany and Austria capitulated.

But these were not the first surrenders of German troops. Ever since the June 6 landing in Normandy, enemy troops had been surrendering in droves. They surrendered in enormous numbers at Stalingrad early in 1943, and even more gave up to the Allied armies in Tunisia in May, 1943.

There were tension and anxious waiting during the morning and afternoon yesterday as reports and rumors kept pouring in that the V-E Day proclamation would be announced shortly.

Speaking over the radio station at Flensburg, near the Danish border, Count Ludwig Schwerin von Krosigk, Foreign Minister in Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz's "government," asked the Germans to lay down their arms

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to an end by this morning. For the first time since June last year not a single field operation of General Dwight D. Eisenhower's armies was discussed at the regular forenoon press conference at SHAEF.

The entire attitude of every one at headquarters was of confidence and expectancy for the most important development of the war—complete and unconditional surrender in Europe.

Communique No. 394, surely one of the last to be issued, told of the liberation of Pilsen, Czechoslovak industrial city and home of the Skoda munitions works, by the U. S. 3rd Army. But nobody at SHAEF seemed to care. Nothing mattered except the news of the final surrender.

In Washington, London and Moscow the wires and telephones were kept hot, and Churchill presided at a full cabinet meeting.

But even as the people of the United States and Britain waited for the biggest news of our generation, they were mindful that victory in Europe did not mean an end of the bloody carnage in the Pacific fighting.

Early yesterday it was disclosed that Admiral Doenitz had ordered all German U-boats into port—the logical preliminary to a final surrender.

Despite the official signing of the German surrender, there was still the danger that some minor mopping up might be needed on the continent. Nazi diehards might refuse to obey Doenitz's orders. The German-controlled Czechoslovak radio broadcast a statement yesterday that the German commander in Czechoslovakia would not recognize a surrender by Doenitz.

miles from Oldenburg. The German general was described as "cooperative." **UCLA** Asian American Studies Center

Heinrich Himmler ordered that Dachau, the last of the Nazi concentration camps be evacuated on April 14. He also required that every inmate be exterminated rather than allow their testimony of Nazi inhumanity to fall into Allied hands. In an official statement from the Allied 6th Army Group reported by AP, it was reported that Dachau's commandant suggested to Himmler that the camp be turned over to the Allies. Himmler forbade such action. The Allied forces arrived in time to prevent carrying out of Himmler's orders.

The Nazis' V-bomb experimental station at Peenemunde near the Baltic has been seized by forces of Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's 2nd White Russian Armies. This capture was reported yesterday in a Stalin Order of the Day that told also of the seizure of the bypassed Swinemunde naval base and the island of Rugen, which is 80 miles northwest of Stettin.

As if in confirmation of headlines in the British press that VE-Day was only a few hours distant, AP reported from London, Red Army officers were seen yesterday strolling near the Soviet Embassy with arms linked, singing lustily. This was in contrast to the dignity of the Russians' customary demeanor in London.

AP in Paris Is Penalized For Carrying Big News

NEW YORK, May 7 (AP)—International News Service and United Press said that they had received dispatches from Paris saying that the filing privileges of the Associated Press bureau had been suspended.

The reason for the reported suspension was not stated.

After receipt of Edward J. Kennedy's dispatch from Rheims, telling of the German surrender, only two minor dispatches were received in New York from Paris up to 12:30 EDT.

Holiday

AFHQ, May 7—VE-Day will be a holiday for all troops in the Mediterranean Theater. It was announced here tonight.

War Spawned Deadly Techniques; Cost In Lives And Dollars Tremendous



Before the United Nations could destroy Hitler's armies, they first had to reach them, and reach them the hard way—invasion from the sea, a method perfected in this war. Each of the major European campaigns, except those on the Russian fronts, was preceded by an amphibious invasion. The silhouetted troops above are typical of those who came out of the dawn to invade Africa, Sicily, Italy and France.

Secret Battles, Underground Warfare, Air Power Helped To Stop Hitler's Struggle For World Conquest

Germany's dream of world conquest has come to a shattering end with the crushing defeat of the Reich which Adolf Hitler once boasted would endure a thousand years. Ended now is the European phase of the second great war of the century, a war which is estimated to have cost one trillion dollars and the lives of more than 10,000,000 men.

Germany's collapse had long been foreshadowed. Events such as the overthrow of Benito Mussolini nearly two years ago, the gradual retreat of German armies in Italy, success of the two French invasions, the unrelenting Russian advances across Poland and eastern Germany—

all had suggested an approaching debacle. With surrender last Dec. 30 of Hungary, last of his five European allies, Hitler had been left alone against the might

the Atlantic Charter were used to combat Nazi ideology.

A war fought in the extremes of weather and terrain, from Africa to the Arctic, in the world's worst bogs and jungles and most inaccessible mountains

thousand yards near Saarbrücken. They preferred to sit behind their Maginot Line, and their "offensive" never developed.

This was what people came to call "the phoney war," or the "sitz-

three days German tanks surprised the French, seized Sedan and were racing for the English Channel, with fleets of motorcyclists spreading fire and terror ahead of the armored detachments.

The Germans reached the Channel at Abbeville on May 21, and King Leopold announced the surrender of his Belgian army a week later.

Dunkirk, the British epic of the war, in which a strange armada of 900 warships, skiffs, tugs and yachts rescued an army of 300,000 men from the beaches, was over by June 4. For four years the Kaiser's armies had fought to win control of the Channel ports; Hitler got them in less than a month.

In vain General Maxime Weygand, called upon to defend France at the last minute, set "mouse-

haystacks and hedgerows. Hurriedly importing hunting rifles, old tanks and World War I guns from America, Prime Minister Winston Churchill hunched his head down between his great shoulders and declared, "We will fight on the beaches and the landing grounds, in the fields, in the streets, on the hills. We will never surrender . . ."

Grimly, 700 valiant Spitfires and Hurricanes opposed the entire German air force. British fighter planes mounting eight guns and radar, which gave warning of coming raids, probably saved the British in the aerial battle that lasted from August, 1940, to May, 1941, when Britain gained uncontested control of the skies.

In September and October the Germans were assembling their invasion fleet of 3,000 barges and 4-

Great Allied Campaigns Brought Defeat To Nazis

Mighty decisive campaigns in the air, at sea and on land over a period of nearly six years preceded Germany's collapse.

In the air—

Beginning Aug. 24, 1940, Britain's RAF battled phalanxes of Nazi planes for 84 days over the British homeland. Although far outnumbered, the RAF downed 2,375 enemy planes to a loss of 600, and smashed Hitler's fleet assembled for invasion of England. The Battle for Britain was an aerial Waterloo for Hitler.

On the sea—

It was a war of supplies, and during 1942 and most of 1943 British and American navies fought U-boats all the way from the American east coast to the coasts of England, Africa and the Russian port of Murmansk.

On the land—

The war turned at El Alamein on Oct. 23, 1942, and Rommel's Afrika Korps found itself backing away from Suez across Libya and Tunisia. Chased by Montgomery's 8th Army, it ran into Eisenhower's American forces. It made a North African exit in May, 1943.

Across Sicily and up Italy, the Allies chased the foe for some of the bitterest battles of the war. They knocked out Italy on Sept. 3, 1943, liberated Naples, Rome and Florence, pushed on toward the Brenner Pass.

In the east, the war turned at Stalingrad on Nov. 22, 1942, when the Russians began a two-and-a-half month battle which annihilated the Nazi 6th Army and started the Russian advance to Berlin.

In the west, the war turned on June 6, 1944, when the Allies landed in Normandy and rushed across France to join a southern invasion force which landed on Aug. 15. By September, the war was at Germany's door—and the end was a matter of months. It took only one more big push to cross the Rhine into Inner Germany.

Germany's collapse had long been foreshadowed. Events such as the overthrow of Benito Mussolini nearly two years ago, the gradual retreat of German armies in Italy, success of the two French invasions, the unrelenting Russian advances across Poland and eastern Germany—an and suggested an approaching debacle. With surrender last Dec. 30 of Hungary, last of his five European allies, Hitler had been left alone against the might of the United Nations.

When casualty figures are completed, the war may turn out to be Europe's most deadly and most devastating.

At the start, it looked to the world, grossly underrating German preparations, like the gamble of a mad adventurer. It turned out that the Allies snatched victory only after several hairbreadth escapes from defeat.

Hitler opened it in 1939 with sinister showmanship—razzle-dazzle of propaganda, secret weapons, paratroops, fifth columns, bombing armadas. Before his defeat, merged with the Asiatic war, it had become a grim affair fought on all oceans and continents.

"In this war," Hitler had threatened, "there will be no victors and losers, but merely survivors and annihilated." Accordingly, he set a pace for ruthlessness and cruelty unprecedented in the history of wars.

That conflict became:

NEW WEAPONS USED

A war of secret battles: long, silent struggles to smash the German invasion fleet off Britain, to master the submarine which imperiled the U. S. as never before, to crush robot bomb launching sites in France.

A war of secret weapons in which the Allies outdid Hitler with radar, a brand new conception of massed fleets of invasion barges, the technique of mass bombing through the clouds, and a host of inventions.

A war in the air, in which whole armies of millions engaged. For the first time the capitals of great nations and scores of other cities were marked for methodical destruction.

A war of cities: Stalingrad, Leningrad, Odessa, Sevastopol, Cassino, whose streets and houses were turned into trenches and fortresses. A new technique of battle in the rubble of cities developed. London was blitzed, and Berlin was shattered. Hamburg was nearly leveled.

A war underground between the quislings and the armies of resistance, and a war of psychology in which the Four Freedoms and

the Atlantic Charter were used to combat Nazi ideology.

A war fought in the extremes of weather and terrain, from Africa to the Arctic, in the world's worst bogs and jungles and most inaccessible mountains.

Here was a war which saw the advent of the flying bomb and many different rocket weapons, the blockbuster, rapid-firing guns which made artillery barrages more intense than ever, mass mobility of tanks and vehicles, the airborne army, the flying battleship, amphibious invasion on a grander scale than ever before.

GERMANY INVADES POLAND

All this started at 4:45 AM Friday, Sept. 1, 1939, when German armies smashed across the Polish border. Despising the Poles too much to declare war formally, Hitler announced only that he was answering "force with force."

With smug conceit, he declared, "I am putting on the uniform (the field gray of the German army), and I shall take it off only in victory or death."

Hitler planned a blitzkrieg—lightning war—and probably never expected that England and France would do more than wage a token war when they saw the uselessness of trying to save their ally.

Amazing armored spearheads sliced through the Polish cavalry divisions to the Vistula, trapped a huge army in the Kutno area west of Warsaw and another at Radom to the south. In 18 days Hitler boasted of victory in a speech at Danzig, though it was not until Sept. 27 that Warsaw, battered to a pulp, finally surrendered.

Acknowledging the British prediction of a long war—three years, London said—Hitler declared he was ready for seven years of war. The same day Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop arrived in Moscow and two days later concluded with the Soviet Union the fourth partition of Poland and an agreement to bring pressure on Britain and France to make peace.

CALLED A 'PHONEY WAR'

Great Britain and France served an ultimatum on Germany on Sept. 1 and declared war on Sunday, Sept. 3. London hastily evacuated her children and waited breathlessly for the first bombs to fall. But none fell.

The French announced on Sept. 3 that their army had come "in contact" with the Germans, but the French invaded for only a few

thousand yards near Saarbrücken. They preferred to sit behind their Maginot Line, and their "offensive" never developed.

This was what people came to call "the phoney war," or the "sitzkrieg."

This "phoney war" ended April 9, 1940, when Hitler's troops slipped into Denmark and invaded Norway by sea and air. A few goose-stepping soldiers and a military band marched in and took Oslo. Soldiers hidden in the holds of previously-arrived ships seized Narvik, Bergen, Stavanger, Trondheim and other Norwegian coastal points.

The British, caught napping, landed a few thousand Allied troops on both sides of Trondheim and later at Narvik, but eventually they were forced to withdraw. Hitler on April 30 proclaimed a complete victory.

The great blow in the west fell on May 10 in Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and France. The fate of Germany would be sealed for a thousand years by the outcome. Hitler told his soldiers. Swarms of parachutists descended on the airports near Rotterdam. The Hague and Amsterdam, seized the bridge at Moerdijk, south of Rotterdam. The highly-touted Dutch "water line" proved ineffectual, and Holland fell in four days.

The Nazis overwhelmed the Belgian fort, Eben Emael, and rushed their columns across the vaunted Albert Canal near Maastricht. In

war, in which a strange armada of 900 warships, skiffs, tugs and yachts rescued an army of 300,000 men from the beaches, was over by June 4. For four years the Kaiser's armies had fought to win control of the Channel ports; Hitler got them in less than a month.

In vain General Maxime Weygand, called upon to defend France at the last minute, set "mouse-traps" for tanks along the Somme. Turning south on June 6, Hitler brushed aside the French army. The Maginot Line was turned. The French Government evacuated Paris June 10, the same day Mussolini committed his "stab in the back" and sent troops across the border of southern France, where they merely dug in without any attempt to help Hitler clean up.

Taking over the French Government, Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain announced on June 17, "with a broken heart," that he had been compelled to ask Hitler, as one soldier to another, for an honorable armistice. The highpoint of the war until then, for Hitler, came at Compiègne on June 22 in the same railway car where Marshal Foch had dictated peace terms to Germany in 1918: here he forced France to sign his armistice.

'BLOOD, SWEAT, TEARS'

The most popular song in Germany in 1940 was "We're Sailing Against England," for Britain seemed helpless. She had lost all but a few score of guns and tanks in the Dunkirk evacuation. The RAF was outnumbered by the Luftwaffe.

Britain fell back on hastily organized home guards to fight from

man air force. British fighter planes mounting eight guns each, radar, which gave warning of coming raids, probably saved the British in the aerial battle that lasted from August 1940, through May, 1941, when Britain gained uncontested control of the skies.

In September and October the Germans were assembling their invasion fleet of 3,000 barges and 4-900,000 tons of ships. Not until 1944 did Churchill disclose the reason that the Germans never did invade England—the invasion fleet was smashed by the RAF's Bomber Command before it could ever leave port.

AXIS INVADES BALKANS

Meanwhile Mussolini believed the Greek generals had been bought off, and so he invaded Greece from Albania on Oct. 28, 1940, just three hours after a 3 AM ultimatum.

From this developed one of the big surprises of the war. Instead of wilting, or "throwing" the war, the Greeks fought, and fiercely.

Hitler, who had not been informed of Mussolini's plans, let his partner sweat it out through the winter. One by one, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria had fallen into the Hitler line-up—Rumania on Oct. 8, 1940, when German troops moved in following the Iron Guard's ouster of King Carol; Hungary on Nov. 20, when she joined the Axis; and Bulgaria on March 1, 1941, when she signed the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo pact.

Now the screws were put to Yugoslavia. But an uprising upset the Yugoslav pact with Hitler, and on Sunday morning, April 6, the Fuehrer launched his Balkan campaign with a ferocious bombing of Belgrade. Striking from Bulgaria, the Germans broke across the Vardar Valley in three days, severing the links between Greece and Yugoslavia, and reached the Aegean, seizing Salonika.

In vain a tiny British force which had been rushed in from Africa made a stand at Thermopylae. The Nazi mechanized divisions rolled into Athens on April 27 and again the British carried out a costly evacuation.

The swastika had floated over the Acropolis only about three weeks when Hitler struck his most audacious airborne blow, invading Crete on May 20. Ten days later the British admitted loss of the island.

TIDE TURNS IN AFRICA

For three years the battle of Africa swept back and forth across the Libyan Desert, but in the end the Germans couldn't win because they didn't control the Mediterranean.

Italy's Marshal Rudolfo Graziani
(Continued on page 4)

Six Down, Two Axis Partners Remain To Be Put Out Of War

Germany is the sixth Axis power to collapse; and only two—Japan and Thailand—out of one-time eight Reich partners remain in the war.

At the crest of his power, Hitler's Axis consisted of Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Rumania, Japan and Thailand.

Italy, his No. 1 European ally, was the first to quit. On the same day the Allies began invasion of the Boot—Sept. 3, 1943—the Italians signed an armistice and a short time later joined the Allies as a co-belligerent against Germany.

The others fell as result of Russia's swift campaigns during the summer and fall of last year.

Bulgaria signed an armistice with Russia on Sept. 9, 1944 and with Great Britain and the United States on Oct. 28.

Rumania signed an armistice Sep. 12, 1944 with all United Nations. Finland signed a truce on Sept. 19 of that year; and Hungary asked for peace on Dec. 30.

Since the remaining Axis partners, Japan and Thailand, were overly busy in the Pacific, Hitler had fought alone in Europe since the Hungarian collapse.

ONE WAR: GLOBAL WAR

Strategic Geography Set Pattern Of Victory

United Nations Succeeded In Preventing Junction Of Nazis And Japs

The United States became on Dec. 7, 1941, the final link in a chain of war that belted the earth. The next two years saw the development of several major fighting fronts in a world-wide conflict, each separated from the other by hundreds, even thousands, of miles. Success or failure on any one front affected the struggle on any other front—it was all one war.

The over-all design of our war against the Axis was the product of strategic geography and of geopolitics. And the outstanding feature of this geographical set-up was the separation of Nazi Europe and the Japanese Empire. Between these two Axis fortresses stood two massive land barriers: one extended from the Arctic Ocean southwest through Asia and Africa to the Atlantic; the other, which blocked an Axis junction from the other direction, was the American hemisphere.

One of the major aims of Axis strategy was to break through those barriers and join hands. It was an equally important objective of the United Nations to maintain those barriers and thus keep our enemies isolated.

By 1944, United Nations strategy had licked Axis strategy. The Nazis were frustrated—they'd failed to join with the Japs to push through their plan of world-wide conquest in unison. Germany couldn't send machine tools and military equipment to Japan. The Japs, on the other hand, besieged by Allied naval power, couldn't deliver any large amounts of rubber, tin and other war materials which the Germans desperately needed.

ALLIES MAINTAIN LINKS

In sharp contrast, the armed forces of the United Nations deployed millions strong across the globe, were linked together and to their sources of supply by a far-flung network of communications

Alamein Marked Start Of Germany's Defeat

The beginning of Adolf Hitler's defeat can be traced to August, 1942, when his vaunted Afrika Korps failed to smash the British 8th Army line at El Alamein, in Egypt. Montgomery's crushing victory there two months later marked the end of the Allied crisis in the Mediterranean Theater.

More significant, the initiative at that point passed once and for all to the United Nations. From that time until their final defeat, Hitler's armies never again won the initiative. And from that time on, Hitler's land empire never stopped shrinking.

wings of thousands of bombers overhead. In the Pacific, Japanese communications were harried with incessant submarine and air attacks.

In these battles for supply lines, the Axis had certain strategical advantages over us. Within their respective spheres, Germany and Japan each occupied a central military position. Each was at the hub of a wheel, surrounded by enemies on the rim. Axis supply lines ran along the spokes of the wheel. Those of the United Nations lay outside that rim. The shorter inside lines of the Axis were, in the beginning at least, a real advantage.

AXIS IMPRISONED

But by 1944 the Axis powers had become prisoners within their respective wheels. Both Hitler's Europe and Tojo's Japan were besieged fortresses, surrounded by enemies and potential enemies. The Allies were laying siege to the European fortress on three fighting fronts, a sort of massive triangle:

1.—The Atlantic side of the triangle extended from the North Cape to the Bay of Biscay.

2.—The southern side, or Mediterranean front, reached from the Pyrenees in southwestern France to the Black Sea.

3.—The eastern side, or the Russian front, ran from the Baltic Sea

Allies Maintained Contact By Far-Flung Network Of Communications

tion, facing both Nazi Europe and Japan. With our own entrance into the war at the end of 1941 the role of the U. S. swiftly developed into one of dominating importance.

By 1944, our large and mechanically apt population had made us one of the main reservoirs of military manpower as well as of civilian workers. The government reached its program of 10,500,000 in the armed forces by the end of 1943, and the number of men overseas topped 5,000,000 by July, 1944. We had men in every combat zone, and on all the seas.

HOME ARMY GREAT

Behind the Army, Navy Marine Corps and Coast Guard stood a much larger army of workers who sweated on the farms, in the factories and in the skyways of the U. S. About 10,000,000 men and women were employed in the munitions industries, and an average of 10,000,000 in farming. Transportation and utilities employed over 4,000,000 more. Without their tireless energy, the heroic deeds of the United Nations' fighting men might well have been fruitless, for it was the home army that sent them the planes, tanks, guns and food.

Thus by 1944 the U. S. had become the world's greatest manufacturer of war supplies. We were sending our own armed forces the latest weapons, and we were sending the same materials to our Allies through Lend-Lease. Our monthly plane production crowded 10,000. In 1943 alone, American shipyards built about 19,000,000 tons of shipping—more than one-half of all the tonnage the United Nations owned in 1939.

And the U. S. was not only the most productive arsenal in the world—it was the most secure. Work went on without danger of serious interruption from enemy air or sea attack.

NEEDED ADVANCE BASES

Hitler's Strong-Arm Boys



It's hard to tell what they could have been smiling about, for this shot was taken in June, when the Nazis were already staring at defeat. Hitler, on an inspection tour, greets three of his top killers: from left to right, Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, at that time army chief of staff; Admiral Karl Doenitz, navy chief, and Heinrich Himmler, head of the Gestapo.

Secret Battles And Weapons Helped Check Hitler's Drive

(Continued from page 3)

began an attack against Egypt on Aug. 6, 1940, simultaneously with an invasion of British Somaliland. He got no farther than Sidi Barrani, where the British under Wavell started a lightning comeback in December, reaching beyond Bengasi.

But the British fell back even faster in the spring of 1941 when they were forced to send troops to Greece. Again in November, 1941, the British launched an offensive which relieved Tobruk shortly before the last Italian stronghold in Ethiopia surrendered.

The next month brought Pearl Harbor and Hitler's declaration of war on the U. S. His ultimate ex-

pression against Russia and the Ukraine.

Before the summer campaign was done, Hitler had trapped one huge "kettle" of Soviet soldiers after another, thrown an iron ring around Leningrad, reached the suburbs of Moscow, captured Kharkov.

"Russia never again will rise," he declared in October as he launched a "final assault" on Moscow. Another "final assault" was ordered in November. Still Moscow did not fall.

Then, at the right time, the Russian counter-offensive was launched. The Germans were caught in the worst Russian winter in years, and the retreat along the Napoleonic road to disaster was on its way.

other hand, besieged by Allied naval power, couldn't deliver any large amounts of rubber, tin and other war materials which the Germans desperately needed.

ALLIES MAINTAIN LINKS

In sharp contrast, the armed forces of the United Nations deployed millions strong across the globe, were linked together and to their sources of supply by a far-flung network of communications. By maintaining these lines of supply, the chief Allies—Great Britain, the Soviet Union, China and the U. S.—made up for their geographical separation.

To cut these lines, vital to the conduct of mechanized and aerial warfare, the Nazis threw the full weight of their submarines and surface raiders into the Battle of the Atlantic. Only by breaking the sea links between the United Nations, could they prevent the huge war production of Great Britain, and the even greater war production of the U. S. and Canada from reaching the fighting fronts.

Similarly the Japs hoped to break our supply lines in the Pacific, thus disrupting the flow of men and materials to the Allied fronts in the Far East. They too failed.

Now the other side: to cut the Nazi communications the United Nations threw a tight chain of blockade around Europe and spread the

Allies were laying siege to the European fortress on three fighting fronts, a sort of massive triangle.

1.—The Atlantic side of the triangle extended from the North Cape to the Bay of Biscay.

2.—The southern side, or Mediterranean front, reached from the Pyrenees in southwestern France to the Black Sea.

3.—The eastern side, or the Russian front, ran from the Vistula Sea to the Arctic Ocean north of Finland.

Each of the major Allies had a unique and essential part in the whole world-wide struggle against the Axis on the three European fronts and on two others in the Pacific. Great Britain and the British Empire were fighting on all fronts except the Russian. That front was well taken care of by the Soviets who had chosen meanwhile to remain neutral in the war against Japan. China, most isolated of the Allies, was engaged on the Asiatic front.

The U. S. was fighting on the Pacific's two fronts and on two of Europe's fronts: in fact the Yanks even pitched in on the third European front when they established shuttle bases in the Soviet Union last June for bombers flying from Italy and England.

In this line up, the American continents occupied a central posi-

1943 alone. American shipyards built about 19,000,000 tons of shipping—more than one-half of all the tonnage the United Nations owned in 1939.

And the U. S. was not only the most productive arsenal in the world—it was the most secure. Work went on without danger of serious interruption from enemy air or sea attack.

NEEDED ADVANCE BASES

Our fortunate geographical position, on the other hand, limited the strategic role that the U. S. alone, without our Allies, could play overseas. Our country, with all its manpower, raw materials, factories and human skills, couldn't fight Japan and Germany effectively without advanced bases on the rim of the Axis defense lines. With the Allies holding those bases, however, the U. S. was in a position to contribute mightily to the global strategy of the United Nations.

All of the strategic routes to Europe, Africa and the Indian Ocean and to the Pacific were, by 1944, in the unshakable grip of the United Nations. Our enemies held no advanced bases within striking distance of our own mainland and they lost one by one the few remaining positions from which they could effectively harass Allied planes and ships carrying men and munitions to the fighting fronts.

gasi.

But the British fell back even faster in the spring of 1941 when they were forced to send troops to Greece. Again in November, 1941, the British launched an offensive which relieved Tobruk shortly before the last Italian stronghold in Ethiopia surrendered.

The next month brought Pearl Harbor and Hitler's declaration of war on the U. S. His ultimate extermination began to loom then, for he had turned on the spigot which was to produce a flood of Allied war materials and men.

But there still were some black days ahead for the Allies, and Sunday, June 21, 1942, ranks with the blackest of them all. That was the day Marshal Erwin Rommel's swift-striking Afrika Korps took Tobruk in a surprise thrust which carried him to within 60 miles of Alexandria. A junction of German and Japanese forces on the shores of the Indian Ocean was threatened. The Germans were preparing the summer offensive which might break the Soviet Union and which was to take them from Kharkov to Stalin-grad.

The Allies had lost Singapore, the Philippines, Burma, the Dutch East Indies and parts of the Aleutians. Australia still was menaced, despite two Japanese air-sea defeats in the Coral Sea and at Midway in May and June.

Allied air and tank forces rushed to Africa eventually turned the tide, permitting General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's British 8th Army to score its historic victory at El Alamein in Egypt on Oct. 23, 1942, and begin its great march to meet the American and British forces of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, which landed in Morocco and Algeria on Nov. 8, 1942.

Trapped on Cap Bon in Tunisia, the Germans and Italians finally surrendered on May 13, 1943, ending the battle of Africa. Axis casualties in Tunisia were placed at 341,000, and the Afrika Korps was wiped out. The stage was now set for the invasion of Italy.

HITLER MEETS BLITZ

Everything was going well with Hitler's war until Sunday morning, June 22, 1941. That was the day he began his invasion of Russia.

Joined by Finland, Rumania, Hungary and Italy, Hitler boasted of the greatest front in history—2,000 miles from the Arctic to the Black Sea. Stories from Berlin said the Nazis believed they would crush the Soviet Union in from three to six weeks. Swiftly the German armies sliced through the Russian-annexed territories of Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Karelia,

"Russia never again will rise," he declared in October, as he launched a "final assault" on Moscow. Another "final assault" was ordered in November. Still Moscow did not fall.

Then, at the right time, the Russian counter-offensive was launched. The Germans were caught in the worst Russian winter in years, and the retreat along the Napoleonic road to disaster was on its way.

In August, 1942, the Germans reached their highwater mark of conquest at Stalingrad, 1,300 miles from Germany's eastern border, 2,200 miles from Hitler's western front on the French coast. The great Red counter-offensive began Nov. 22, 1942, at Stalingrad, wiping out the German 6th Army by February, 1943, and it never stopped after that.

ALLIES INVADE EUROPE

The Allied invasion of Europe began with the attack on Sicily by Eisenhower's British and American forces on July 10, 1943. Fifteen days later Mussolini was ousted in Rome—the first serious break in the Axis structure.

The Sicilian campaign was over in 38 days. Striking swiftly on Sept. 3, Montgomery's 8th Army troops invaded the toe of Italy. Six days later Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's 5th Army landed at Salerno.

Clark's invasion came almost simultaneously with announcement of the surrender by the government of Marshal Pietro Badoglio, which had succeeded Mussolini's. The first of the big three in the Axis had been knocked out of the war. Indeed, on Oct. 13, 1943, Italy declared war on Germany and joined the Allies as a co-belligerent.

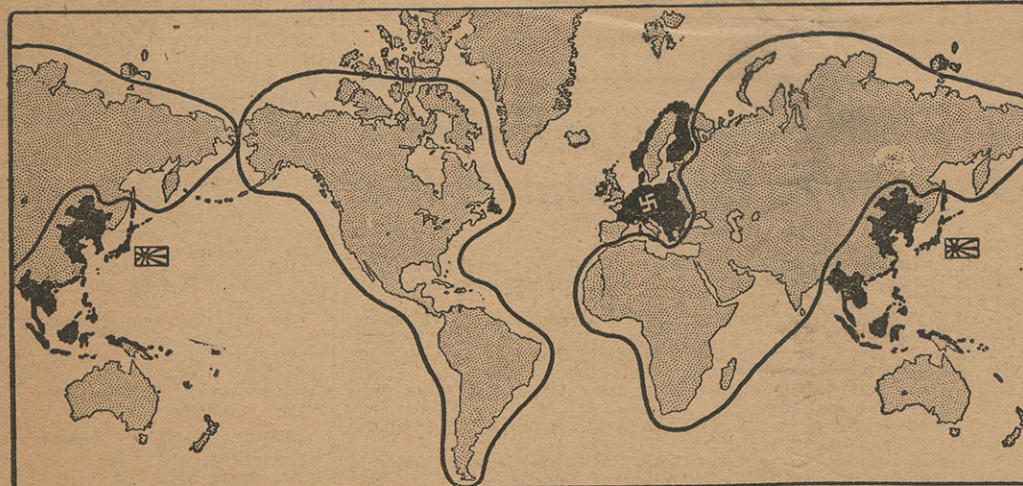
Through a bitter winter campaign, the Americans and their Allies—British, Canadians, New Zealanders, French, Poles and others—made but slow progress beyond Naples, fought the bloody battle of Cassino, established the beachhead at Anzio. Finally, on May 11, 1944, they launched the powerful offensive which swept them into Rome on June 4.

Two days after the first liberation of an enemy-controlled capital, the greatest amphibious invasion force of all time touched land in Normandy. The D-day for which American factories had been turning out weapons by the ton had finally dawned. Despite the strength of the Germans' Atlantic Wall, the invasion of June 6 stuck.

And on Aug. 15, pressure on the Germans came from a new direction—a massive Allied invasion of southern France, with landings on the Riviera and thousands of airborne troops coming in several miles behind the coastline.

Fortress Europe had become a rat trap.

The Fateful Separation Of The Axis



The main geographical disadvantage confronting Germany and Japan was their separation by these two massive land barriers—one extending from the Arctic Ocean southwest through Asia and Africa to the Atlantic, and the other, the American hemisphere, blocking an Axis junction from the other direction. The battle in North Africa was essentially a struggle for the Suez Canal at the eastern end of the Mediterranean, and the Germans in 1942 very nearly captured the canal to threaten a junction with the Japs on the shores of the Indian Ocean.

Top Nazis As Neurotic As Hitler Himself

Fuehrer Liked To Provoke Feuds Among Subordinates

Adolf Hitler surrounded himself with a fantastic array of men, each of whom was as warped and as neurotic as the Fuehrer himself. No top Nazi was psychologically normal or sincere. They were cruel, hysterical and ruthless. And frequently, before their rise to prominence as Nazis, they had been failures or misfits.

Hitler's education minister, Bernard Rust, for example, was fired from his teaching job because he was incompetent. His director of "public enlightenment" was a cripple with a malignant envy of the physically healthy. Goering, the No. 2 Nazi, was a man of the most violent and unstable passions and a gaudy exhibitionist.

Hitler once told an interviewer that he didn't like yes-men. He deliberately chose to surround himself with blustering spirits who often disagreed among themselves. He seemed to have made a definite policy of playing one sub-leader against the other.

Rivalries were many and vicious. The best known, of course, was between Goering and Goebbels, but the Goebbels-Rosenberg feud was no love feast, either. Goebbels and Schacht were enemies. There were, too, the Goering-Ribbentrop and Goebbels-Himmler combinations. And everyone disliked Rosenberg, the Nazi "philosopher."

Let's have a look at Hitler's men, one by one.

Fat Man

Gusty Hermann Wilhelm Goering was born in Bavaria in 1893 of Prussian parents. He came of a good family—his father was Governor General of German Southwest Africa—and his schooling was good, but this only served to emphasize his bad taste.

Weighing 300 pounds or more, Goering was known for his lion cubs, gargantuan appetites, brilliant uniforms, jewelry and rouge. His bellowing laughter gave the impression of a jolly, good-natured soul, different in every way from the sadists who made up Hitler's circle. But that was deception. His buffooneries were as calculated and as deadly as anyone's.

It was Goering who preferred guns to butter. It was he who built up the Luftwaffe to be the spear-

hatred of all radicals—a hatred which motivated much of the Brown Terror of later years. He was severely wounded in the Munich beer hall putsch of 1923.

Goering held a galaxy of jobs and wore a greater array of uniforms, which gave birth to hundreds of jokes. One story was that he donned an admiral's uniform to take a bath, wearing rubber duplicates of all his medals. Once, while visiting a steel mill, he was hoisted to the ceiling by an electro-magnet which attracted his medals. Another time, the story has it, Hitler dozed off during a performance of "Lohengrin." Der Fuehrer's eye opened just as a knight in shining armor took the stage.

"Hermann!" Hitler shrieked. "Now you are going too far!"

The classic story, though, concerned his cruelty: Goering arrived late at a Berlin luncheon where he was to meet a certain Englishman. He apologized for his tardiness with the explanation that he'd been out shooting.

"Ah," the Englishman remarked without batting an eye, "animals, I presume?"

Man Of Words

Probably the most important thing about Dr. Joseph Paul Goebbels is that he was born with a clubfoot. His crippled foot sharpened his ambition, and his hatred of the healthy. He was the most virulent man in the Nazi party, and the best educated. He won his Ph. D. on a working scholarship at Heidelberg.

Goebbels was born in 1897 in the Rhineland. His family was devoutly Catholic, but he himself was ferociously anti-religious. The little doctor "got religion" of another sort in 1922, when he first

the German mind. Thus the flaming decorations, the loudspeakers, the elaborate build-up for Hitler's appearances, the parades, the uniforms. He engineered the book burning and organized the phoney winter relief plan.

His supreme achievement was making a national "hero" out of Horst Wessel, a pimp and hoodlum. The "Horst Wessel" became Nazi Germany's national anthem.

Indispensable Hess

The story of Rudolf Hess was one of the war's most fascinating. Although definitely not brilliant, he seemed nevertheless to be a steady, sober character.

Born in Alexandria, Egypt, he had his eye on the Mediterranean as a likely spot for Nazi penetration.

He was the Fuehrer's personal deputy and as such the actual day-to-day leader of the Nazi party. He had no ambitions other than to be Hitler's deputy. A flying officer in World War I, he was the first "gentleman" to enter the Nazi party, and he became Hitler's personal secretary in 1923.

Hess helped Hitler write "Mein Kampf." He was always the devoted servant to Hitler, with a simple, honest devotion to his leader. He had few original thoughts of his own, usually parroting what he'd heard from Hitler.

It was Hess who made one of the biggest news stories of the war. The then No. 3 Nazi flew a Messerschmitt to Scotland and baled out.

His mission, it turned out, was to propose an anti-Russian peace with Britain. The British promptly clinked him as a prisoner of war.

'Gentle' Heinrich

Heinrich Himmler wore pince-nez glasses and looked like a gentle schoolmaster, but that's where the similarity abruptly stopped. As commander of the entire German police, including the dreaded Gestapo, he was Nazidom's most sinister personality.

Born in 1900 at Munich, Himmler belonged, like so many of his colleagues, to a nationalist gang of guerrilla fighters. Like them, he

Nazis Will Be Tried For Their Atrocities

President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Joseph Stalin announced last October, at the end of the conference of their foreign ministers at Moscow, that German officers, soldiers and Nazi leaders responsible for atrocities throughout Europe would be tried in the countries they had outraged with their "monstrous crimes."

The joint declaration also provided for punishment, "by the joint decision of the governments of the Allies," of those whose crimes cannot be measured in geographical terms. Thus this provision takes care of Hitler, Goering, Goebbels, Himmler and all of their satellites to whom the blood bath of the last five years can be attributed.

in the manner of a waiter asking how he wanted his eggs served: "Well, Excellency, how would you like them this morning—machine gunned or gassed?"

Champagne Salesman

Joachim von Ribbentrop was virtually unknown in the early 1930s, but by 1939, as Germany's Foreign Minister, he had a tremendous influence on Hitler.

By 1938 he was certainly one of the most conspicuous public men in Europe, and many lovers of peace believed he was probably the most dangerous man alive because he persistently told Hitler that Great Britain would not fight under any circumstances. Hitler trusted him, and completely.

Born in 1893 in the Rhineland, the son of a colonel, Ribbentrop had an excellent education, part

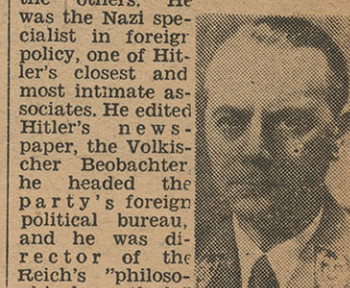
of it in England and Switzerland. He learned to speak French and English almost faultlessly, something which Hitler admired. Young Ribbentrop emigrated to Canada at 18, but he fled to avoid internment at the outbreak of the first World War

failure but Hitler promoted him anyway to Foreign Minister.

He was the most important man in guiding Hitler. Even Count Galeazzo Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister who made many trips to Berlin, often complained that he could never "get to" Hitler or talk to him while Ribbentrop was around.

Philosopher

Alfred Rosenberg, "the philosopher with the sour stomach," was for a time almost as important as the others. He was the Nazi specialist in foreign policy, one of Hitler's closest and most intimate associates. He edited Hitler's newspaper, the Volkischer Beobachter, he headed the party's foreign political bureau, and he was director of the Reich's "philosophical outlook."



Rosenberg wrote a ponderous volume of nonsense called "The Myth of the 20th Century." Like Hitler, he was a bachelor and a "moral athlete."

Hitler got half or his ideology from Rosenberg, which was based on a crazed, intense hatred for the Soviet Union. A native of Estonia, he went in 1919 to Munich, where so many other riff-raff of the wars assembled. It was he who intoxicated Hitler's imagination by his dream of a German empire in the East, and he became the chief prophet of German expansion at the expense of Russia.

Jew Fancier

Of all the leading Nazis, Julius Streicher was the most violent. This rapacious anti-Semite, Reichskommissar for Franconia, was beady-eyed, barrel-chested, shaven-headed—in appearance the very personification of brutality. A sadist of the most gruesome sort, he continually invented new indignities and cruelties. Once he ordered 250 Jews to pluck grass out of a field with their teeth.

He was behind most anti-Semitic excesses, particularly through his newspaper, Der



Goering was known for his non-cubs, gargantuan appetites, brilliant uniforms, jewelry and rouge. His bellowing laughter gave the impression of a jolly, good-natured soul, different in every way from the sadists who made up Hitler's circle. But that was deception. His buffooneries were as calculated and as deadly as anyone's.

It was Goering who preferred guns to butter. It was he who built up the Luftwaffe to be the spearhead of Germany's assault on Europe. In Poland, Holland and England he personally directed the bombing of non-military objectives, and it was by his orders that low-flying planes strafed French roads packed with fleeing men, women and children.

It was Goering who was credited with setting fire to the Reichstag as an excuse for the days and nights of terror in 1933, and it was he who brought the headman's axe from the Middle Ages for the execution of Nazi victims. By his own boast, he "widened" his instructions during the bloody 1934 purge, assassinating men guilty of no other crime than standing in his way.

Under his regime as general of police (before this office was transferred to Heinrich Himmler), thousands of Jews and disloyal "Aryans" were sterilized, hounded out of the country, "shot while attempting to escape," condemned to concentration camps.

In his position as overlord of all industry, Goering also thieved on an unparalleled scale. His personal palace became a virtual museum filled with art treasures looted from captured lands. His huge Karinhall, built on a confiscated estate, was another storehouse for his loot. Everything in it was stolen.

At the time of his second marriage in 1935, not only did the state pay for his spectacular wedding, but Goering, a shrewd man with a Reichsmark, netted a handsome profit from the sale of seats in the cathedral.

His fortune in recent years was estimated at 10,000,000 dollars, and a large part of it was reported to be carefully stowed away in countries safer than Germany. Cynically enough, he planted this money through the medium of a Rumanian Jew. In fact his anti-Semitism was entirely insincere. Asked once why he appointed to his staff a man with Jewish blood, Goering brusquely replied, "It is I who decides who is a Jew."

Goering shot down 23 Allied planes in World War I and, as a squadron leader at the end of the war, refused to surrender his planes. They had to be destroyed. A brush at a Socialist gathering left him foaming with rage and a passionate

clubfoot. His crippled foot sharpened his ambition, and his hatred of the healthy. He was the most virulent man in the Nazi party, and the best educated. He won his Ph. D. on a working scholarship at Heidelberg.

Goebbels was born in 1897 in the Rhineland. His family was devoutly Catholic, but he himself was ferociously anti-religious. The little doctor "got religion" of another sort in 1922, when he first heard Hitler speaking in a Munich meeting hall.

Converted quickly to Nazism, he served at first as a party organizer. But with his quick tongue, his soaring words, he eventually became—next to the Fuehrer himself—the most valuable orator in the movement. He founded the great rabble-rousing newspaper *Der Angriff* and, by 1930, he headed the Berlin Nazi machine—next to Munich's the chief stronghold of the Hitlerites.

As Reichsminister of Propaganda and Public Enlightenment, he was the undisputed dictator of the nation's press, radio, cinema, music, culture and even scientific activities. He made the Reich a cultural prison, a Nazi vacuum, a country in a mental strait-jacket.

He was the party's stage manager, the one who invented the tremendous mass meetings which helped so cardinal to bring Hitler votes. His tactics were simple: "Propaganda," he once wrote, "has only one object—to conquer the masses."

He planned the strategy of incessant, unrelenting attack against

Heinrich Himmler wore pince-nez glasses and looked like a gentle schoolmaster, but that's where the similarity abruptly stopped. As commander of the entire German police, including the dreaded Gestapo, he was Nazidom's most sinister personality.

Born in 1900 at Munich, Himmler belonged, like so many of his colleagues, to a nationalist gang of guerrilla fighters. Like them, he participated in the 1923 putsch. His SS troops were the pick of the pick, with extraordinarily strict standards of discipline and with an ingrained brutality that was encouraged. No SS man could marry until Himmler's eugenics bureau certified him and his bride-to-be as irreproachably pure Aryan.

Between them, the Gestapo and the SS were unbeatable. The police arrested the victims and the SS "guarded" them in the concentration camps. Himmler could arrest, guard and execute, which he often did. He was reputed to have a dossier on every big-wig in the party and he could bring the heat on anybody who spoke out of turn.

"Gentle Heinrich" was Europe's most celebrated murderer, on the big scale as well as on individual assignments. It was his men who leveled Lidice and wiped out whole sections of Warsaw, Kharkov and other conquered cities. The story goes that Himmler, arriving to supervise a mass execution one day in a Czechoslovakian town, was asked by the local gauleiter much



Ribbentrop

He learned to speak French and English almost faultlessly, something which Hitler admired. Young Ribbentrop emigrated to Canada at 18, but he fled to avoid internment at the outbreak of the first World War. He was an officer on the eastern front.

He went into the wine business after the war, and in 1920 he married Anna Henkel, heiress to Germany's biggest champagne manufacturer. His "von," by the way, came through adoption by a titled aunt from another branch of the family, a woman who had no heirs.

Though not a Nazi at first, he was an ardent nationalist. He met Hitler and the Fuehrer liked him. It was Ribbentrop who helped engineer the meeting between Hitler and Franz von Papen in January, 1933. It was that meeting which made Hitler's Chancellorship possible, and he was grateful to the champagne salesman.

In 1936 he was appointed ambassador to London, where he had a difficult and trying time. He had to explain the extremities of German behavior to the British and, through misguided zeal, he often put his foot in his mouth—notably the time he gave King George VI the Nazi salute. His mission was a

cation of brutality. A spirit of the most gruesome sort, he continued to invent new indignities and cruelties. Once he ordered 250 Jews to pluck grass out of a field with their teeth.

He was behind most anti-Semitic excesses, particularly through his newspaper *Der Sturmer*, which was solid with vicious, revolting and often pornographic propaganda. Once, before the war, he issued a "ritual murder" edition which caused such a storm of protest in the outside world that even Germany suppressed it.

Everywhere in his bailiwick the terror against Jews proceeded with ferocious intensity. The masterpiece of which he was proudest was clearing one Franconian district, Hersbruck—an area of 36 villages and 22,000 inhabitants—of all its Jews. Not one remained.

Money Wizard

One of the ironic things about Hitler's finance minister was that his father, who greatly admired the American tradition, named his son Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht. Dr. Schacht entered banking in his youth, a trade at which he was extremely adept.

Not only was he Hitler's money man for many years, but he was the indispensable link between Hitler and the whole of German economic life. He began to slip in 1937, when he was replaced by Goering as economic dictator.

Schacht was the wizard who managed to make German industry survive despite unfavorable foreign trade, who exploited ersatz material to the fullest.

Financial juggling with internal loans bled the banks white. He exploited Germany's position as a great debtor and made it "the most successful fraudulent bankrupt in the history of the world."

He performed complex miracles in the field of barter. One system was rooking smaller countries of gold. He used the gold to buy goods from other countries which wouldn't trade on a straight barter basis.



Streicher

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Schacht

A Rogues' Gallery Meets Its End



Hermann Goering

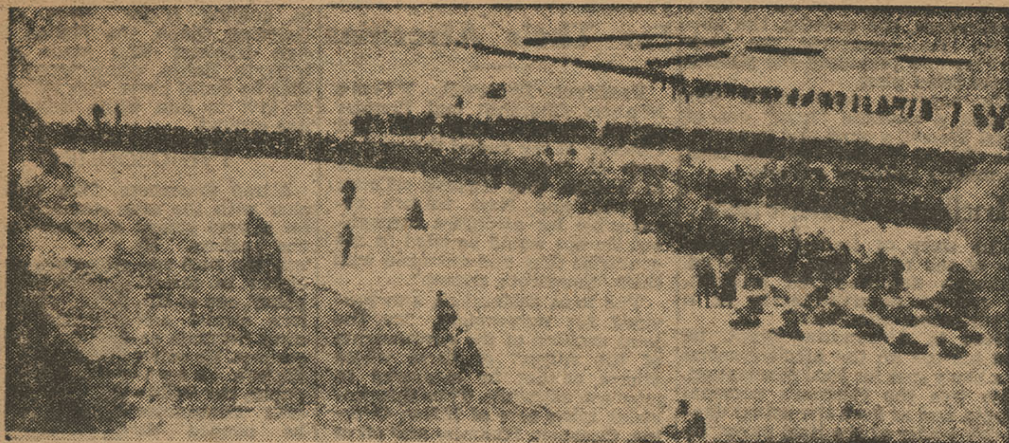


Joseph Paul Goebbels



Heinrich Himmler

1940 Marked Darkest Period For Allies



The Belgians' surrender on May 23, 1940, left the British Expeditionary Force stranded in Flanders, forcing the British to leave the Continent and abandon tremendous stores of equipment. The heroic evacuation of 300,000 troops from Dunkirk was one of the epics of the war. While the vastly outnumbered RAF prevented the Luftwaffe from cutting these vulnerable, disarmed troops to ribbons, the men sweated out their transportation to England aboard every conceivable kind of vessel which could be mustered in that critical emergency—a curiously-assorted armada of 900 warships, skiffs, tugs and yachts.



These sorry-looking specimens of Nazi supermen were among



This Belgian mother and her youngsters, bewildered but unbowed after a brutally indiscriminate Luftwaffe raid wrecked their home in May, 1940, typify the fate of Europe's children—one of the greater tragedies of the war.



These sorry-looking specimens of Nazi supermen were among the few left alive at Stalingrad, where the German 6th Army was wiped out in the historic Soviet counteroffensive which began Nov. 22, 1942, and never stopped rolling afterward.



Miraculously unharmed during the blitz of London, the twin spires of St. Paul's Cathedral still stand, the spiritual heart of England and the Empire. The Battle of Britain cost the lives of 50,000 Britons from August, 1940, until May, 1941, when the RAF won uncontested control of the air.



Gloating Nazi chieftains gave history a tail twisting on June 22, 1940, when they compelled representatives of a beaten France to accept their severe Armistice terms in a French railway car in the Compiègne forest—the same one in which the 1918 Armistice was signed.



American landings in North Africa on Nov. 8, 1942, brought new pressure on the Afrika Korps, this time from the west. Here Yanks clean out snipers in Algiers soon after their landing.

Tuesday, May 8, 1945

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Page 7

it sez here
by Sgt. Ed Nixon

The sun-bathers along Cauliflower Row are reviving that fascinating pastime of dreaming up a successor to T-Sgt. Joe Louis as king of the heavyweights. They say you would be surprised at some of the names that are bandied about, most of the nominees proving that the fight guys have lost their perspective from not having seen Louis in action for so long.

One of the latest heirs to Joe's throne is Elmer (Violent) Ray, a



RAY

boy who has run up a string of 25 or so quick knockouts. Violent Ray's name is placed in nomination by none other than Julian Black, one of Louis' managers. Black insists that Ray constitutes the most dangerous threat to the Dark Angel's postwar plans and if that is the case, then most observers back home are sure that Louis hasn't a thing to worry about when he returns to the ring.

Like Langford?

Some observers have likened Ray to Sam Langford and Violent Ray's severest critics are willing to string along as far as bodily contours and complexions are concerned, but the latter school of thought holds that in ring generalship and style Ray stacks up with the Boston Tar Baby like a cow on skates compares to Sonja Henie.

The principal factor in Elmer's favor is that he is a rough-tough guy who can take a lot of mauling while dealing out a bit of sharp punishment himself. But it is doubtful Elmer has been called upon to take anything like the left hooks and rights to the chops that Louis used to dish out.

As for his brawling tactics, Louis once refused to meet Elmer in an exhibition bout in Chicago, claiming that Ray "wouldn't know how to box an exhibition bout. He's too rambunctious," said the champ. "Somebody might get hurt."

Joe Overweight

Records Shattered As N. O. Pelicans Top Nashville, 32-0

NEW ORLEANS, May 7 (ANS)—The New Orleans Pelicans performed a major operation on the Southern Association's record books here yesterday when they defeated Nashville, 32-0, in the first game of a doubleheader.

The shutout, achieved on 28 hits, erased the League's old 21-0 record made by the Pelicans against Chattanooga in 1930. Another record that fell to the Pelicans was the winning team's total of 29 runs made by the Memphis Chicks against Little Rock in 1921.

The Pelicans tied the Birmingham Barons' record by sending 20 men to bat in the fourth inning and also tied a mark held jointly by Birmingham and Little Rock when 16 men scored in that inning. The Pelicans had 67 official at bats in eight turns at the plate to wipe away the previous record of 58 for nine innings held by Nashville.

Nashville bounced back as though nothing had happened to win the second game, 3-1.

Little Guys Looking To Postwar Football

CHICAGO, May 7 (AP)—College football will have to make room after the war for the little fellows—the kids who proved in foxholes and jungles that brawn isn't everything, said Kenneth L. (Tug) Wilson, new Western Conference athletic director.

He thinks that returning servicemen will not be content to sit in the grandstands, no matter how pint-sized they may be.

"We're going to see some 135-pound youngsters who will be plenty tough and accustomed to physical contact, regardless who dishes it out," declared Wilson as he took over the Big Ten job.

"Maybe those lightweights won't be able to crowd 200-pounders off the varsity, but I think it's the job of athletic administrators to see that they get a chance to compete to their hearts' content in regular fashion."

Baseball Standings

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
New York	12	4	.750	—
Brooklyn	9	6	.600	2 1/2
Chicago	8	6	.571	3
St. Louis	8	6	.571	3
Boston	7	8	.467	4 1/2
Cincinnati	6	7	.462	4 1/2
Pittsburgh	6	7	.462	4 1/2
Philadelphia	3	13	.188	9

Sunday's Results

New York 4-1, Boston 3-1.
Cincinnati 3-1, Pittsburgh 1-5.
St. Louis 6-5, Chicago 2-1.
Brooklyn 7-10, Philadelphia 5-7.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Chicago	9	3	.750	—
New York	10	5	.667	1 1/2
Detroit	9	5	.643	1
Washington	9	7	.563	2
Philadelphia	6	9	.400	4 1/2
St. Louis	5	8	.385	4 1/2
Boston	6	10	.375	5
Cleveland	3	10	.231	6 1/2

*Standings incomplete.

Sunday's Results

Boston 5-0, New York 0-2.
Detroit 3-1, St. Louis 0-0.
Chicago 3-6, Cleveland 2-4.
Philadelphia 3, Washington 2.
Second game score Washington-Philadelphia not received by press time.

Minor Leagues

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION

Sunday's Results

Atlanta 5-5, Little Rock 1-3.
Chattanooga 2-4, Memphis 1-2.
Birmingham 8-7, Mobile 7-2.
New Orleans 32-1, Nashville 0-3.

PACIFIC COAST

Saturday's Results

Oakland 4, Seattle 2.
Portland 10, Hollywood 4.
San Diego 5, Los Angeles 4.
San Francisco 8, Sacramento 5.
Other minor league scores not received by press time.

Dempsey Returns From Okinawa Area

MIAMI BEACH, May 7 (ANS)—The old Manassa Mauler, now Coast Guard Commander William Harrison (Jack) Dempsey, returned yesterday from the invasion of Okinawa and a couple of dozen way points.

Giants, White Sox Win, Stay In Lead

Weintraub, Lombardi Homer For Ottmen; Hockett, Cuccinello Star For Hose

NEW YORK, May 7 (ANS)—The New York Giants increased their National League lead to two and a half games yesterday by defeating the Boston Braves, 4-3, in the first game of a doubleheader and playing a 1-1 tie in seven innings of the second game. Cincinnati and Pittsburgh split, the Reds winning the opener, 3-1 and the Pirates the second game, 5-1. The Cardinals beat Chicago twice, 6-2 and 5-1, while the Dodgers took over second place with 7-5 and 10-7 victories over Philadelphia.

In the American League, Chicago defeated Cleveland, 3-2 and 6-4, to stay out in front by half a game. Detroit beat St. Louis twice, 3-0 and 1-0; the Yankees and Red Sox traded shutouts, Boston winning the first 5-0, and the Yankees coping the nightcap, 2-0. The Philadelphia Athletics broke a five-game losing streak by defeating Washington, 3-2, in the first game of a doubleheader.

SCHNOZZ, PHIL HOMER

Ernie Lombardi and Phil Weintraub pulled the Giants' opener out of the fire with homers in the ninth inning to give Bill Voiselle his fourth straight victory. Nate Andrews blew a 3-2 lead with two gopher balls in the home half of the ninth. The second game was called in the seventh when rain interrupted a pitching duel between Al Javery and Andy Hansen.

Ed Heusser pitched eight-hit ball for the Reds in the first game and personally settled his affair with Max Butcher in the ninth inning when his triple broke a 1-1 tie. Heusser scored the extra run himself a moment later on Dain Clay's double. Rip Sewell's ephus ball got the better of Bucky Walters in the second game. Sewell gave up six hits and the only run he allowed was unearned. Walters allowed all five runs and eight hits and was removed in the sixth when the Pirates scored three runs.

Al (Red) Schoendienst, the Cardinals' shortstop, was injured in the first game and will be out of action for about ten days. Dr. Robert F. Hyland, club physician, said Schoendienst dislocated his right shoulder fielding a grounder in the first inning.

CARDS CLOUT CHIPMAN

Max Lanier allowed seven hits

GREETED



Lou Boudreau, manager of the Cleveland Indians and the American League's 1944 batting champion, has received his notice to report for induction into the armed forces and is expected to leave within three weeks.

Stewart for 14 hits. The teams traded runs in the first inning and Kurowski's homer in the fifth decided the game. Wyse was the loser.

The Dodger-Philadelphia doubleheader was loosely played. Philadelphia scored five runs off Ben Chapman in the first inning and Whitlow Wyatt seemed off to an

once refused to meet Elmer in an exhibition bout in Chicago, claiming that Ray "wouldn't know how to box an exhibition bout. He's too rambunctious," said the champ. "Somebody might get hurt."

Joe Overweight

It is conceded that Louis' sojourn in the Army has not improved his boxing prowess, but once he goes back into training it will still take a pretty good fighter to lift his title. When he toured Italy he was about 20 pounds over his prewar fighting weight and it shouldn't be too hard for him to work back down. Joe will be 31 this month, so he can't be dismissed as a broken down old man. As fighters go, 31 isn't such a terrible old age and in the case of a fighter who has lived as cleanly as Louis, it probably wouldn't make any difference at all.

Getting back to Violent Ray, The Florida boy is 28 years old, stands five feet 11 inches and weighs in at around 195. He got his early ring experience around New Orleans, fighting in battles royal. It is said that he emerged triumphant in 61 of these quaint free-for-alls. Elmer sports a neatly trimmed mustache, but they say that on him it doesn't show.

Leahy At St. Mary's

MORAGA, Calif., May 7 (ANS)—Lt. Frank Leahy, Notre Dame football coach on leave in the Navy, has been assigned to St. Mary's Preflight after a tour of duty in the Pacific. Leahy was voted "Coach of the Year" in '41 and '43.

"Maybe those lightweights won't be able to crowd 200-pounders off the varsity, but I think it's the job of athletic administrators to see that they get a chance to compete to their hearts' content in regular fashion."

Patty Trounces Minch For Florence Net Title

FLORENCE, May 7 — Pvt. Edward J. (Budge) Patty won the Florence Allied Area Command singles tennis championship here yesterday at the 15th Army Group sports center by overwhelming Capt. Edward Minch, 6-1, 6-1, 6-0. Patty, 1941-42 national junior singles champion from Hollywood, is now serving in the public relations section of headquarters 12th AAF.

Col. W. H. Alston, commanding officer of the Florence Allied Area Command, presented both players with awards in an informal ceremony following the contest.

Doubles competition gets under way Tuesday.

Fight Results

PHILADELPHIA—Ossie Stewart, 164, Pittsburgh, outpointed Burt Daniels, 170, New York, (8).

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Oscar Goede, 176, Trenton, N. J., outpointed Jackie Caparell, 164, Boston, (10).

WORCESTER, Mass.—Johnny Cool, 136, Worcester, outpointed Steve Ballus, 134, Rochester, N. Y., (8).

MIAMI BEACH, May 7 (ANS)—The old Manassa Mauler, now Coast Guard Commander William Harrison (Jack) Dempsey, returned yesterday from the invasion of Okinawa and a couple of dozen way points.

"Don't think I wasn't scared," he commented, "everybody was. It's



DEMPSEY

not the actual fighting, it's the suspense beforehand, the waiting," observed the one-time world's heavyweight champion who went ashore on Okinawa the morning after the invasion got under way.

Dempsey, now in charge of the Coast Guard's physical fitness program, chuckled. "Kids nudged each other when they saw me getting ready to go," he recalled, "hey, the old man's going along, guess this isn't going to be as tough as we thought," they told one another."

From Okinawa "which got plenty tough," and other pin-point toe-holds of Americans in the Pacific, Dempsey brought glowing accounts of soldiers, sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. "They know what might be ahead but they go in there fighting. American fighting men can handle five or six of those Japs."

Asked if he had seen any heavyweight material during the three-months tour, Dempsey laughed: "They all look like heavyweight stuff to the Japs."

in the first game and will be out of action for about ten days. Dr. Robert F. Hyland, club physician, said Schoendienst dislocated his right shoulder fielding a grounder in the first inning.

CARDS CLOUT CHIPMAN

Max Lanier, allowed seven hits in the first game while the Cardinals descended on Bob Chipman for six in four innings, including five for extra bases. Johnny Hopp started it with a homer in the first, Whitey Kurowski hit a double in the second to knock in a run and in the fourth doubles by Kurowski, Augie Bergamo and Del Rice and a walk to Emil Verban were good for three runs and finished Chipman. Claude Passeau finished and allowed one run. Mort Cooper coasted to victory in the second game while the Cardinals were blasting Hank Wyse and Mack

Stainback Really Knows What A Break Means

NEW YORK, May 7 (AP)—Tuck Stainback, reserve outfielder of the Yankees, has had three breaks during his career, but, says Tuck, "all were good, clean breaks."

The former Chicago Cub was hit by a pitched ball when he broke into organized ball with Los Angeles in 1932. The ball broke his left cheekbone.

In 1943 with the Yankees he tried to stop a pitched ball with his right hand. It was broken.

"Just to be different," says Tuck, "I broke my right leg sliding last season."

Kurowski's homer in the fifth decided the game. Wyse was the loser.

The Dodger-Phillie apnea double-header was loosely played. Philadelphia scored five runs off Ben Chapman in the first inning and Whitlow Wyatt seemed off to an auspicious start against his old mates. But the Philadelphia infield fell apart and Brooklyn scored three unearned runs in the fourth and two runs in each of the next two innings to kayo Wyatt. Charlie Schanz and Andy Karl finished for Philadelphia and Clyde King and Les Webber for Brooklyn with Webber getting the victory.

Louis Olmo delivered four hits including a homer in the second game to lead Brooklyn's ten-hit assault on Ken Raffensberger, Charlie Sproull, Chet Covington and Karl. The Phillies were still in the game until the ninth when Brooklyn scored twice. Buster Adams and Coaker Triplett hit homers in the eighth inning for Philadelphia and produced three runs.

HOCKETT HITS HARD

The Indians had tied the score, 2-2, with single runs in the sixth and seventh innings and Oris Hockett knocked in the clincher for the Sox in the bottom half of the seventh with a single after Wally Moses had doubled. Ed Lopat was the winner over Jim Bagby, both pitchers going the distance. In the second game Tony Cuccinello's eighth-inning homer with two men on base brought the Sox from behind and gave Joe Haynes the verdict over Steve Gromek.

Roy Cullenbine, recently obtained in a trade with Cleveland, produced the only run of the second Detroit-St. Louis game with a ninth-inning homer to give Al Benton his fourth straight victory. Tex Shirley allowed the Tigers only four hits. Benton had it in the clutch, however, and left 12 Brownies on the bases. Luke Sewell, Browns' manager watched the second game from the grandstand after being chased from the opener by Umpire Joe Rue for protesting too strenuously.

(Further details were not available at press time.)

Railways Play Aces

ROME, May 7—The tie for first place in the RAAC (National) softball League between the Railways and the Aces will be broken Tuesday afternoon when the teams meet on the Aces field at 6 P.M. Pfc. William Mayberry (4-0) will hurl for the Aces and T-5 Felix Kendziora (4-1) will toe the mound for the Railways.

DICK TRACY

(Courtesy Chi. Trib.-New York News Syndicate, Inc., distributed thru CNS)



Tuesday, May 8, 1945

Yanks Rescue Famed Enemies Of Hitler

Blum, Schuschnigg Found In Group Of 133 Prisoners

By Sgt. STAN SWINTON
Staff Correspondent

AT LAGO DI BRAIES IN THE ALPS, May 6 (Delayed)—The bold men and women of Europe who defied Adolf Hitler—133 of them—have been freed by the 339th Infantry Regiment of the 5th Army's 85th Division.

Their names are the names which made modern history. Their number includes Kurt Von Schuschnigg, the Austrian chancellor who refused to accede to the Anschluss; Prime Minister Leon Blum of France; Pastor Niemöller of Berlin; Hjalmar Schacht, the financial wizard who directed Germany's Reichsbank, and scores of others from 22 nations of the world.

Secret orders for the execution of the most famous personalities among them had been issued days ago by the Gestapo. Only the intervention of the Wehrmacht and the swift arrival of 5th Army doughboys saved them.

Tonight at the luxurious hotel Praga, where the group has been held since it was brought from Dachau concentration camp five days ago, they told their stories.

It reads like fiction at its most fantastic, but each word is true. Some were kidnapped from neutral countries or from the sanctuary of neutral embassies. Others were arrested by Gestapo agents who broke into their bedrooms at night. All said there was no physical torture—only the threat of violence eternally flung in their face. All were in surprisingly good health after their long confinement but for Blum, who is suffering from lumbago and bronchitis.

SCHUSCHNIGG SPEAKS

Kurt von Schuschnigg, who defied Hitler's demand for Anschluss in 1938 and long had been reported dead, had not spoken to anyone but his immediate family for seven years until a few days ago.

"I was forbidden even to hear my name," the white-haired Austrian Chancellor told us. "They listed me as a deserter."

Orders had been given to murder von Schuschnigg during an Allied air raid on Munich and then lay the blame on the bombers. Somehow the orders were never carried out.

"I never knew when the Gestapo

finement in a fortress before I had even been tried," Blum reported.

Pastor Niemöller, who defied Hitler at his parish of Dahlem in Berlin, greeted us Bible in hand.

"I was treated 'correctly,'" the famous Lutheran minister said. "Never did they touch me but for four years I was in solitary confinement. Never did I beg a single favor of them. The Nazis approached me a few times—very seldom and very cautious attempts to make me join the party. I refused."

TWO AMBITIONS

Since last Christmas he has been permitted to conduct religious services for his fellows in the concentration camp. He has two ambitions.

"I hope to return to my congregation if anything is left of it," the pastor said. "First I must get my family together—those who are alive. Then I plan to visit church friends in the United States and Britain. I believe that only a connection between the Christian people of Germany and the Christians of the United States and Britain—particularly the Protestants—can find a way through the next few months of starvation and peril."

Perhaps the greatest surprise of all was to find Hjalmar Schacht, Hitler's financial adviser, in the camp. He was in his bedroom drinking schnapps with General Thomas, deposed Wehrmacht commander who became German Army economic czar, and willingly agreed to be interviewed.

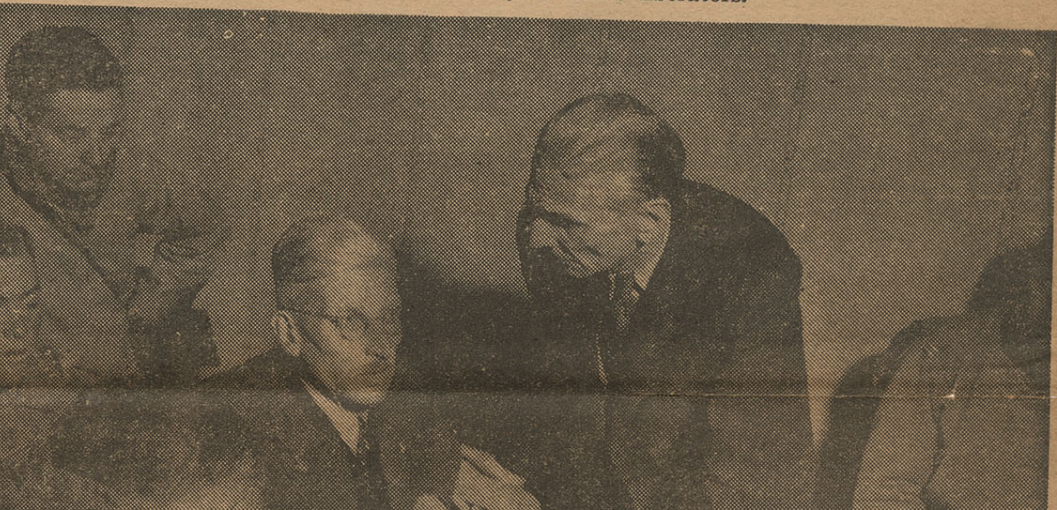
"I don't know why I was imprisoned," the white-haired, keen-faced Schacht said. "I guess it was for general political reasons. Hitler and I both knew I was in opposition. The Gestapo broke into my bedroom the night of July 2, 1944. I was in night clothes and they made me dress while they were in the room. They gave me no reasons."

"Last September, when I was last questioned, they asked me of the attempt on Hitler's life but I was cleared. I did not even know about it. I had not seen Hitler since February, 1941, when I asked permission to remarry after my wife died. In January, 1939, I had been released as Reichsbank president

Three Men Who Defied Adolf Hitler



Leon Blum, with his famous bushy mustache, poses with his wife in the Alpine concentration camp where Allied armies freed him. The one-time Socialist premier of France shook hands energetically with his liberators.



his immediate family for seven years until a few days ago.

"I was forbidden even to bear my name," the white-haired Austrian Chancellor told us. "They listed me as a deserter."

Orders had been given to murder von Schuschnigg during an Allied air raid on Munich and then lay the blame on the bombers. Somehow the orders were never carried out.

"I never knew when the Gestapo would use physical violence," he said. "Always they gave the impression it might come at any moment. From May 1938 until November 1939 I was in solitary confinement at the Hotel Metropole in Vienna. Never once did I have even a breath of fresh air. The guards would take out their guns and practice shooting before me.

"In December 1938 Himmler visited me and said I would be tried in 1939. What was I charged with? They never told me. Anyway the trial never took place."

Today Chancellor Schuschnigg has only one desire: "To be an Austrian—to remain an Austrian. Never have I changed my views. I want an independent, democratic Austria free from Nazi pressure. I want an Austria of peace, prosperity and stability."

Sick man that he is, Premier Blum still bubbled with energy. "C'est magnifique," he said as correspondents entered the bedroom where he and his wife had been resting. He insisted on shaking hands with each man.

"De Gaulle is the great, great good fortune of France," he said. "De Gaulle means a guarantee of a United France."

LISTENED TO BBC

For five years Blum has been secretly listening to the BBC. The Germans provided a radio adjusted to Nazi station wave lengths. His wife, who never before attempted anything mechanical, worked on it until Allied stations could be received.

Blum, still wearing the familiar horn rimmed spectacles and boasting his bushy moustache, disclosed that he was a prisoner in France until March 1943. Then the Gestapo took him to Germany with Daladier and General Gamelin.

Once American troops were within 40 miles of Buchenwald where he was guarded by 20 SS men with specially trained police dogs. "I spent days and nights listening for American cannon," he said.

"I have never been contacted by Hitler and the only time I ever heard from Petain was when the Marshal ordered my perpetual con-

I was in night clothes and they made me dress while they were in the room. They gave me no reasons.

"Last September, when I was last questioned, they asked me of the attempt on Hitler's life but I was cleared. I did not even know about it. I had not seen Hitler since February, 1941, when I asked permission to remarry after my wife died. In January, 1939, I had been released as Reichsbank president and in January, 1943, I was removed as minister."

Schacht still remained somewhat the apologist for Germany, although his dislike of Hitler was obvious.

"Hitler was a big hater," he said. "He didn't understand finance a bit—he didn't know what money is or what it could do. But in some respects he was a genius—an evil genius. Diabolic. With that man everything is possible. He had ideas—he was by no means unintelligent but he had a total disregard for facts he didn't like. I don't think Hitler ever took my advice. There was no one who could stay with him and think for himself. They were all slaves and all afraid, beginning with Goering."

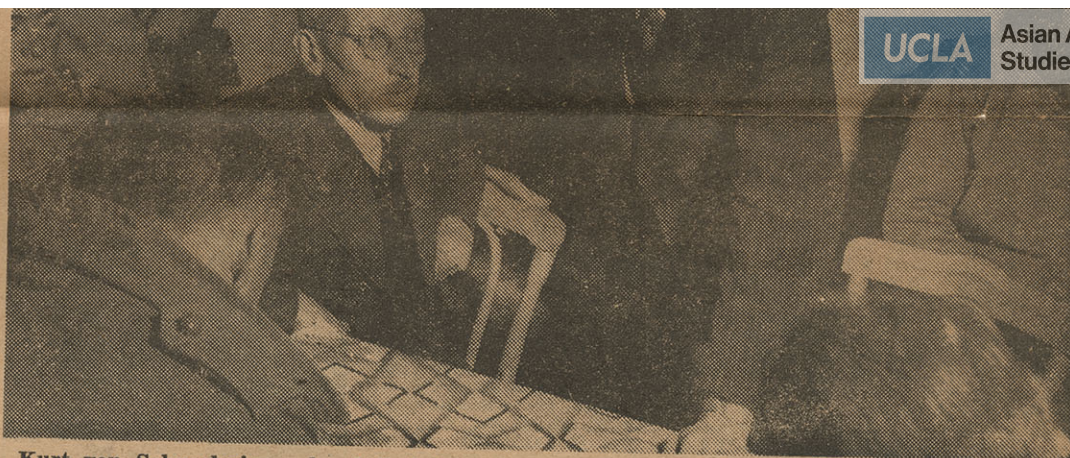
TALKS FREELY

Schacht talked freely. "Whether it is Hitlerism, Bolshevism, Socialism or Plutocracy, the problems are the same. Hitler couldn't solve Europe's problems. Now if you can't, someone else will attempt. There are too many Europeans to live on the soil of Europe. That is the fundamental problem. The millions who died in this war will provide temporary relief. I am sorry to say the solution is in colonial expansion—the United States and Britain have never understood that.

"The attitude of the German people will remain exactly the same. They are an excellent people if anyone gives them order. Hitler and the Hohenzollerns failed. If anyone is able to bring order to Europe the Germans will be the easiest people of all to govern. But if they do not have enough to eat, there will be social trouble.

"Their spirit is unchanged. The trouble is they did not know what was going on in the world. There were martyrs against Hitler—hundreds but they disappeared and so nothing was ever said of them. Hitler lied and betrayed Germany. You cannot imagine how it was. Five people could not collect together. If you wrote a word you disappeared. Five hundred people died for the attempt on Hitler's life."

Elements of Co G and the Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon of the 339th Infantry liberated the



Kurt von Schuschnigg, who defied Adolf Hitler's demand for Anschluss in Austria in 1938, talks to the press in the concentration camp in the Alps after his release. For seven years, Schuschnigg talked only to his family.

camp, located in the town of Alb in the Dolomite Valley in the shadow of snow covered Alpine mountains. They reached the camp at 0615 hours May 4 and had the area cleared, 150 German prisoners under guard and the concentration camp freed 45 minutes later. Lt. Melvin A. Asche of Omaha, Neb., and Lt. Charles Anderson of Brooklyn led the force.

Only the protection of the Wehrmacht had saved the prisoners from execution, it was revealed by Sigismund Dayne-Best, British agent who was kidnapped from neutral Holland by Dutch agents on Nov. 9, 1939 along with a Major Stevenson. He disclosed that the group had met in Dachau, then been taken under guard of 30 SS men and 21 Gestapo agents to Innsbruck. General Thomas made contact with a Wehrmacht divisional commander near the present camp and after Von Vietinghoff had been notified and gave consent, a Wehrmacht company was sent to guard the hostages from the SS and Gestapo. Best called in the Gestapo commander and informed him he—Best—was taking over command and that if the Gestapo offered resistance, the Wehrmacht would meet it. The Gestapo man gave in.

Later General Garibaldi said Partisans were going to stage a raid and liberate the whole camp. After a stormy interview, this raid was cancelled and for two days before U. S. troops arrived the prisoners were virtually free, awaiting American forces under Wehrmacht protection. The Gestapo and SS men fled.



Thin and wan after long months of solitary confinement, Pastor Niemoller, the plucky Lutheran pastor who would not let Hitler shout him down, tells his story to the free world after the Allies released him from the concentration camp at Lago di Braies in the Alps. The newsman at the desk is Sgt. Stan Swinton, Stars and Stripes.

(Staff Photos by Pvt. Joe Redmond)