

DEATH OF ROOSEVELT

Germany Is Finished— Montgomery

SUPREME ALLIED H.Q.,
Friday.
IN a speech to five hundred of his men behind the front, Field-Marshal Montgomery today refused to prophesy when the war in Europe would end.
He said: "The Germans have been well and truly defeated. They have no possible hope of doing any more good in this war. The Germans are completely and utterly finished. But the German military machine which is in the hands of the Nazi Party will never surrender—they will just go on fighting till the last."
CANNOT SAY WHEN WAR WILL END
"Hitler will drag the whole of Germany down with him. Because of that you cannot really say when the war will be finished."
That the West Front, in the former meaning of the word, has now ceased to exist, was the view expressed by the chief military commentator of the official German news bureau, Max Krull, last night.
"Instead we have two fronts," he said. "One covers the Northern German Plain, the Schleswig and our life North-Sea and Baltic ports, the other protects the southern German area from invasion. There is, moreover, danger of a complete separation between North and South Germany. It is probable that our enemies will try to cut into two the German fronts south of Berlin."
Paris radio to-day reported that Allied paratroops had been dropped 15 miles west of Berlin.
A second report, from London, said they had linked up with a flying column of Gen. Simpson's Ninth Army tank spearheads, racing east from the Elbe. Up to a late hour there was still no check on either report from Supreme Headquarters in Paris and they should be treated with reserve.
BRUNSWICK HAS BEEN CLEARED
Berlin admitted this afternoon that Allied pressure in the direction of Brandenburg province and the strategic target of Berlin had increased within the past 24 hours.
Meanwhile Brunswick, well in the rear of the Ninth Army drive, has been cleared.
Gen. Patton's tank columns have thrust to within 18 miles of Leipzig and 24 off the Czech border. Another Third Army column has entered Jena, home of the great Karl Zeiss optical works, on the Saale river, 45 miles south-west of Leipzig.
Weimar, home town of Goethe, and seat of the German Republic in 1919, surrendered yesterday to other Third Army forces.

END IS NEAR IN VIENNA
WITH the battle of Vienna nearing its end, latest Russian progress over a wide area north and north-east of the Austrian capital has imperilled the important Czechoslovakian city of Brno. Driving westward past Vienna, meanwhile, Marshal Tolbukhin's armour is reported within 85 miles of Bavaria.
By capturing Ebersbrunn, 10 miles north-east of the Austrian capital, on Thursday, the Red Army cut the Vienna-Brno major road and railways. Pressing on through Czechoslovakia in a simultaneous advance, forces of Marshal Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian Front stormed the town of Skalica, 35 miles south-east of Brno.

Collapse While Having Portrait Made

THE "EIGHTH ARMY NEWS" REGRETS TO ANNOUNCE THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT. HE DIED SUDDENLY OF CEREBRAL HAEMORRHAGE AT 1635 HOURS WASHINGTON TIME (2235 ITALY TIME) ON THURSDAY AT HIS SUMMER RESIDENCE AT WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA.

The death of the President came in the third month of his fourth term as President—the first man ever to achieve that distinction—and at a time when the war in which he had played such a great part was drawing near to victory. He was 63.

President Roosevelt is succeeded by Mr. Harry S. Truman, the Vice-President, who has been sworn into office. When Mr. Truman was told of the President's death he said: "It will be my effort to carry on as I believe the President would have done. To that end I have asked the Cabinet to stay on with me."
Mr. Truman has, for a long time, been a staunch supporter of President Roosevelt in his foreign and domestic policies. "Arrangements for the United Nations Peace Conference at San Francisco would proceed as scheduled," he added.
Admiral Ross T. MacIntire, personal physician to the President, who gave details of the death to reporters at the White House, said: "At 1505 hours eastern time I had a call from Warm Springs telling me the President had in fact, while having his portrait done, asked Dr. James Paullin to go to Warm Springs. Half-an-hour later another call told me it was a very serious thing."

"THE END CAME VERY SUDDENLY"
Commander Howard Bruen, who is doctor at Warm Springs, was speaking to me on the phone when he was suddenly called away. He came back again to tell me at 3.45. "At this point the Admiral broke down. When he resumed he said, "The end came very suddenly."
Commander Bruen said: "The President was in excellent spirits during the morning, but while sitting having his portrait done he suddenly complained of severe pains at the back of the head. Within a few minutes he lost consciousness. He did not regain consciousness and died at 4.35."
Mrs. Roosevelt was at the White House when she was told of her husband's death.

From Farmhand To President

Truman: "Watchdog Of The War Effort"
MR. HARRY SHIPPE TRUMAN becomes the 32nd President of the United States. Elected Vice-President on November 7 last year, he was sworn into office on January 12 this year as the third Vice-President to serve under Franklin D. Roosevelt.
Of mixed Scottish, Irish and Dutch stock, Truman was born 60 years ago on a farm at Lamar, Missouri. His early life was spent as a farmer, but later he held jobs as store clerk, railroad timekeeper, bank clerk and in a newspaper circulation office.
Before the 1914-18 war, Truman joined the National Guard as a private and served as a field artillery captain in France.
As Chairman of the War Investigating Committee, Truman was renowned as "Watchdog of the War Effort." The Committee, established in 1941, at his suggestion, was composed of 10 Senators whose investigations and constructive criticism brought about the consolidation

of conflicting agencies—both industrial and labour organisations—into the War Production Board.
One of his last official acts as President of the Senate, the position held by American Vice-Presidents, was to cast the deciding vote that defeated a measure which would have stopped all American lend-lease commitments immediately at the end of the war.

Funeral services will be held this afternoon in the East Room of the White House. Interment will be at Hyde Park to-morrow afternoon. No detailed arrangements or exact times have been decided upon yet.

Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Minister, is leaving London to represent the British Government at the funeral. (Tributes: Pages Two and Four.)



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT



MR. HARRY SHIPPE TRUMAN, new President of the United States. Starting life on a farm, he entered World War I as a private.

"Did His Job To The End"

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S four sons, who are in the Services, were sent this message: "The President slipped away this afternoon. He did his job to the end as he would want you to do. Bless you all, all our love—Mother."

TWO SANTERNO BRIDGEHEADS LINK UP

NEW GAINS ALONG WHOLE EIGHTH FRONT

ADVANCED ALLIED H.Q.,
Friday.
WHILE FIFTH ARMY TROOPS MADE FURTHER GAINS NORTH AND WEST OF CARRARA, ON THE LIGURIAN COASTAL SECTOR, THE EIGHTH ARMY ATTACK CONTINUED TO MAKE GOOD PROGRESS ALONG THE ENTIRE FRONT.

The town of Massa Lombarda was encircled and captured before midnight last night and fighting was reported in the outskirts of Conselice where resistance is strong.
Enemy counter-attacks against one of our three Santerno bridgeheads south of Massa Lombarda was repulsed, and on Thursday afternoon bridgeheads north and south of the Lugo-Massa Lombarda railway linked up.
Strong forces of infantry and tanks striking north and north-west from the combined bridgehead, drove the Germans back and encircled Massa Lombarda, which was captured. Air observation showed the enemy to be pulling out of the Conselice area at last light, taking guns, tanks, and horse-drawn vehicles.
During the night S. Patrizio, three miles north of Massa Lombarda, was captured and Eighth Army troops entered the outskirts of Conselice. Enemy pockets

remained between Conselice and the Santerno behind the Eighth Army spearhead.
Opposite the Mordano bridgehead opposition, which had been softer on Thursday afternoon, loosened and at last British sappers crossed the Santerno after British sappers had constructed a bridge under close and direct enemy fire.
Mordano was taken after last light and our forces reached the road 600 yards beyond the river on a wide front.
Opposition slackened during the night and this morning we had advanced 2,000 yards.

EIGHTH CROSS THE SANGUINO
North of the railway leading troops patrolled across the river Sanguino, running south from the Santerno bend and previously the enemy's delaying position.
Zello, 3,000 yards from Imola, on Route Nine, has been entered.
In the hills south of Route Nine further advances were made and the enemy were met in positions nearly 3,000 yards north of the original Senio line north of Riolo Dei Bagni.
The Santerno valley push north-east of captured Tossignano made good progress. Casafumane has been occupied and we pushed a further 2,000 yards along the left side of the valley.
To the north-west there were also considerable gains—4,000 yards beyond the original enemy positions. But the Germans still hold on in the area of M. Grande, and it is evident that the whole line pivots on this feature. The North Irish Horse played a significant part in these operations.

FIFTH CONTINUE TO ADVANCE
From the Fifth Army front it was reported that elements of the 92nd Division, fighting along Route One in the coastal sector had continued their advance. North of Carrara the hamlet of Castelpoggio was entered against practically no opposition. Resuming the attack this morning, our troops advanced 1,500 yards.
Although resistance is scattered extensive minefields have been encountered. In spite of a pounding from bombers and heavy artillery, coast defence guns at P.

Bianca are still active, although their fire has greatly diminished.
Eighth Army troops, landing in boats behind enemy positions on Wednesday, seized Metate and Longastrino, linking up with forces advancing astride the river, and counter-attacks advanced took them half-way to Bastia, lying six miles away.
At dawn on Thursday, Polish troops captured Castel Bolognese, on the Bologna highway, from a strong German rearguard.
Other Eighth Army gains announced last night included Tossignano, on the Gesso escarpment overlooking the Santerno. It was taken by Italian troops and after wards an important advance of up to 4,000 yards along both sides of the Santerno valley was made by Italian troops and partisans.
Fifth Army cleared all enemy troops from Carrara, approaching the Carrione river, and advancing about a mile north of Marina di Massa parallel to the Ligurian coast.

FIERCE FIGHTING IN BRIDGEHEADS
This morning Eighth Army reported continued fierce fighting in all three Santerno bridgeheads, which had been expanded in spite of counter-attacks in which Tiger tanks took part. In the central bridgehead, south of the Lugo-Massa Lombarda road we gained more ground, taking many prisoners, and progress was made on a wide front south of Route Nine.
Two hundred prisoners taken by Eighth Army troops, who landed on the southern shore of the Valli de Comacchio on Wednesday morning, included elements of a battalion hastily thrown together at Argenta to meet the emergency and including convalescents. The operation, in which a link-up was made with forces advancing along the north bank of the Reno, loosened up German opposition south of the river and enabled us to push on astride Route 16 across the Canale and reach the next water obstacle at the Canale di Fusignano. Due west an armoured thrust to the Santerno 5,000 yards south-east of Bastia met slight opposition.
GERMAN COUNTER-ATTACK IS REPULSED
A crossing of the Santerno river in the area between S. Lorenzo and S. Agata was made in strength on Wednesday evening, and that night there was heavy fighting against enemy infantry and tanks. German tanks attempted to counter-attack along the road running south-east to the river from Mondaniga, but although the enemy fought hard they were repulsed.

Late News

VIENNA CAPTURED
—Official

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 3)

RENDEZVOUS with DESTINY

By A. G. GARDINER



THE name "Roosevelt" is that of a Dutch village and was carried to the New World by the late President's ancestors three centuries ago.

There is no need to describe Franklin Delano Roosevelt. His face was his certificate and it carried his vivid personality like a living presence to the ends of the earth.

It was the face of a man born to win confidence and born to exercise power. It was open, friendly, and indomitably cheerful. When Joseph Daniels, Head of the American Navy in Wilson's second administration, was asked why he had appointed young Roosevelt as his assistant, he answered, "Because this is the handsomest young fellow I've met in Washington."

It was because his good looks were lit up with a sense of boundless vitality and universal benevolence that his face may be said to have been his fortune.

It radiated victory. Defeatism melted before it like snow before a south wind; his mere presence dismissed his foes to the outer darkness. And he had, of course, plenty of foes.

It was said of him, even as long ago as his second election, that "everybody is against Roosevelt, except the Electorate." Everybody was still against him at his fourth election last winter—everybody, that is, who controlled power and all who had private axes to grind.

But they wilted away before his sovereign gaiety. When they sought to defeat him by spreading the legend that he was tired and on the brink of collapse, he toured New York in the pouring rain, and meeting his hostile

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 20, 1945.—The late President Roosevelt waves to his audience at the conclusion of the inaugural address marking the opening of his fourth term of office. His speech of 550 words was the shortest ever for such an occasion.



YALTA, FEBRUARY, 1945.—Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin, photographed at the Crimea Conference, destined to be the last meeting of the Big Three.

Press Conference next day, greeted them cheerily with, "Boys, I've had news for you. I haven't caught so much as a snuffle."

It was not the gaiety of bravado. It was the expression of a sunny nature, dauntless courage and inflexible will.

Those qualities were displayed in his private life no less than in his public career. Midway in that career, he was down-stricken by a calamity that should have ended all thought of public life.

An unfortunate swim in the ice-cold water of Bayfundy afflicted him with infantile paralysis. For a long time he was unable to move. It was years before he could shuffle along on crutches. All his life he was doomed to be a cripple.

But Roosevelt did not surrender. He fought the affliction in private and in public. He adjusted his life to the new conditions imposed on him. Meanwhile, he

prepared himself for a tremendous burden, that unknown to him, he was destined to carry.

In staging this heroic come-back he had the help of his devoted wife, herself a Roosevelt and niece of the great Theodore. He became the inspiration of the Democratic Party, Governor of New York State and the rising power of American politics.

Then came the day of judgment.

The economic tornado that struck Europe and the whole world in 1930-31 brought two men and two world policies into power and conflict. It made Roosevelt President of the United States and Hitler Dictator of Germany. The two events occurred in the winter of 1932-33.

Never had a new President, not even Lincoln in 1860, faced such a crisis as Roosevelt faced when he delivered his inauguration on that March morning in 1933.

All America was bankrupt. The whole banking system had crumbled. Industry was dead. The agricultural world was ruined.

Panic swept through the land. It was a nemesis of reaction that had destroyed Wilson and all he stood for. Republicanism had repudiated peace, revived the deadly doctrine of isolationism, and plunged the country into the get-rich-quick stampede with all its accompaniment of inflated wealth, corruption and scandals.

Now the bubble had burst. Now Roosevelt stood alone to salvage the wreck.

The speech that made him President demanded a root and

branch reversal of policy. It demanded a square deal for the common man.

"These unhappy times," he said, "call for the building of plans that rest on forgotten, unorganized but indispensable units of economic power, for plans to build from the bottom up, not from the top down."

There followed that terrific hundred days in which Roosevelt carried through a new deal.

It is not my purpose here to describe or defend that vast surgical operation. I daresay there were flaws in it. But it stopped the rot. It steadied the nation. It reversed the current of national policy. The Americans' verdict on it was implicit in the fact that twelve years after, Roosevelt was again elected President.

But this was only the prologue to Roosevelt's titanic task. He had been busy, but Hitler had been busier. Roosevelt saw the Nazi shadow falling over the world, not least over America.

In the great phrase in the 1936 election, he said—"This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny." How, under his guidance, America kept that rendezvous made one of the greatest chapters in his inspired statesmanship.

Roosevelt knew his Germany, knew his Hitler, knew what the rendezvous meant. He knew Nazism and hated it with the controlled fury of a noble mind.

But he also knew his America. He had reversed the engine of foreign policy and he had reversed the engine of domestic policy. He had to kill the dragon of Isolationism. He had to convert

America. He had to teach her that she was a world power, that her existence was no less at stake than that of Britain.

He had to do all this without appearing to take sides. He had to do it while apparently leaving America to decide her own fate.

Whether he would have succeeded but for Pearl Harbour, who can say? I doubt whether Roosevelt himself could have said. But all through those anxious years of hesitation he was preparing Americans for the ordeal.

The Cash-and-Carry exchange of destroyers for the use of British bases, the speeches he made, and the plans he set in motion for rearmament—all pointed to the same end.

When war came, he led not only united but embattled America straight into a "rendezvous with destiny." He led it, too, with that great conception of Lease-Lend which, at a stroke, swept the financial problem out of the path.

America, in renewing Roosevelt's lease of powers, justified democracy as she justified it when she re-elected Lincoln in the midst of another war 80 years ago.

The wisdom that guided America through those dark years is now a world asset. It rehabilitated America. It contributed mightily to the overthrow of the general enemy of mankind. Now it is helping to lay the foundations of peace, helping to lead the world out of the abyss into which it had collapsed.

Whatever happens Roosevelt takes his place among the immortals. He will live with Washington and Lincoln among the august names of American history.

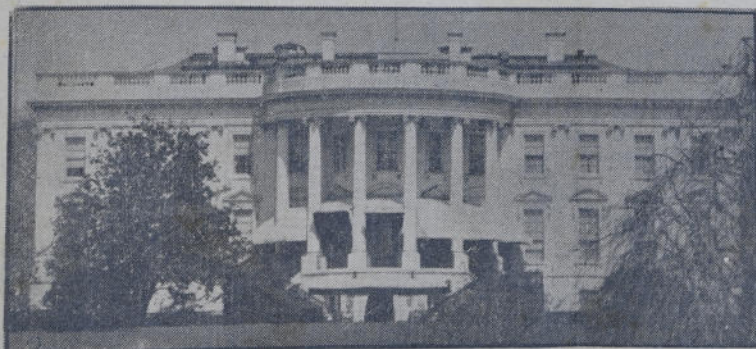
A Matter Of Judgment

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT made light of his physical handicap, and all but his political enemies forgot it.

One of these once said to his wife: "Don't you find that your husband's disability is inclined to affect his judgment?"

There was a murmur of disapproval from people who had overheard, but Mrs. Roosevelt held up her hand and answered gently on the following lines:

"Why, yes, I find it makes him make more allowances and think more kindly of all the people who have difficulties of their own."



Right: The Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour, symbolising the cause for which Franklin Delano Roosevelt lived and died. Left: The White House, executive mansion of the Presidents of the United States.



HIMMLER COMMANDS REICH

'Defend The German Cities' Decree Indicates Greater Powers

Nazi "Big Three" Take Over The Fatherland

HEINRICH HIMMLER, S.S. Reichsfuehrer and, as Chief of the German Home Armies, the man behind the defence of Germany, is authoritatively reported in London to have virtually superseded Hitler as the controller of the Reich, says Reuter.

This important change in the Nazi party is seen, in London, as but the first of several as German setbacks continue. Himmler has triumphed for the moment, correspondents claim, but more divisions of opinion and resulting changes in command are expected to follow.

Two announcements through the German radio and news services on Thursday confirmed opinion in London that Himmler had assumed complete control.

NO SURRENDER

The first was an order forbidding the surrender of German towns, signed by Himmler and issued to the public at the time usually reserved for German High Command communiques.

An hour later the decree was repeated in the form of a special supplement to the German High Command Communiqué.

It was signed by Himmler, as Reich leader, Field-Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, Chief of the High Command, and Martin Bormann, Deputy Leader of the Nazi Party—the "big three" from whom the armies now appear to be taking all their orders.

For some time such supplements to the German communiques have been appearing irregularly and have been largely devoted to comment on outstanding individual actions by German soldiers.

HITLER ABSENT?

This is the first time in this war that a special supplement has been signed, and the fact that the signature was not that of Hitler indicates that the Fuehrer is not at present in central control at his headquarters.

The order called for solid defence of every city. "Towns are situated on important traffic junctions," it said. "They must, therefore, be defended and held to the utmost."

"Sector commandants appointed in each town are responsible for carrying out this order. Should they act contrary to this soldierly duty and task, they, like all civilian officials who try to induce the sector commandant to deviate from this duty, or obstruct him even in fulfilling his task, will be sentenced to death."

THEY 'ADDED' POLITICS

THE re-education of German children has already begun under the guidance of the Allied Military Government in occupied Germany, a S.H.A.E.F. official told Reuter's special correspondent, Marshall Yarrow.

At Aachen, printing plants are turning out text-books for the first four primary grades in the new schools.

These new books are needed because even the primary arithmetic books, formerly used, included Nazi teachings.

Grades higher than the elementary ones will have to wait until next year before the new books can be produced.

Ex-P.O.W. Now Commanding Fourth Indian Division

MAJ.-GEN. CHARLES H. BOUCHER, once a prisoner of war in Italian hands, has succeeded Maj.-Gen. A. W. W. Holworthy, as commander of the famous Fourth Indian Division, serving in the Mediterranean theatre.

Forty-seven years old, General Boucher is a wiry Gurkha officer. He joined the Gurkhas in 1916, and was mentioned in despatches twice and awarded the D.S.O. in 1936, for action on the North West Frontier.

During this war General Boucher has seen action in Iraq, Iran, the Western Desert and Italy.

He was Brigadier General Staff

JAPAN COLLAPSE IS UNLIKELY

MR. A. F. M. FORDE, the Australian Deputy Prime Minister, stated in London on Thursday that he had not seen one shred of evidence to support the belief that the Japanese war effort would collapse soon after Germany was defeated.

"All recent evidence is to the contrary. The Japanese are still prepared to die rather than surrender."

"Do not let us think the war is as good as won and that we can divert our whole efforts to problems of reconstruction the moment the German army lays down its arms. That type of thinking is dangerous."

STILL POWERFUL

"There is still tremendous power in the Japanese military and industrial machines," he declared.

A reminder to the people of Britain that the end of the war with Germany can mean no relaxation of effort until Japan, too, is defeated was given in *The Times* leader yesterday.

"Already the fighting forces of Britain, Australia and the nations of the Commonwealth are playing a worthy part in the struggle against this savage and formidable adversary, but before victory is won greater effort and further sacrifice will be demanded from us all."



NO "OPEN" CITIES

THERE will be no "open" cities in the Reich, on the personal order of the Chancellor, Chief of the Nazi Party, Heinrich Himmler.

The armies, their leaders and civilians must defend every city, town and village, he ordered in a special decree issued on Thursday.

Those who fail in their duty will be shot.

The decree pointed to Hanover as an example of desertion of the Reich.

"Scores of officers in this city rode out in staff cars or on bicycles to meet the American Ninth Army, while thousands of civilians behaved as if they were welcoming their own troops," said the order.

A *Daily Telegraph* correspondent in Bernie said that in Vienna, thousands of Nazi officials fled before the Russians attacked.

NAZIS MALTREAT AMERICAN P.O.W.s

PEOPLE responsible for the "deplorable" conditions under which American prisoners of war in Germany were now living would be brought to relentless justice, the American Secretary of State, Mr. Edward R. Stettinius, said on Thursday.

A joint statement, issued by Mr. Stettinius and the Secretary of War, Mr. H. L. Stimson, said: "Since the beginning of this year there has been a steadily increasing failure on the part of the German Government to provide according to the standards established by the Geneva Convention, for American prisoners in German custody."

"The deplorable conditions under which these 70,000 men are living to-day are due, to a large extent, to Germany's fanatical determination to continue a hopeless war, with the resultant disintegration under disastrous military defeat."

"Instances are being daily uncovered of deliberate neglect, indifference and cruelty in the treatment of American prisoners. 'The American nation won't forget them.'"

"It is our relentless determination that the perpetrators of these heinous crimes against American citizens, and against civilization itself, will be brought to justice."



Ursula Lloyd-Bennet—"Lady Pimpernel" to British soldiers whom she helped to escape from German-occupied territory—is back at the Western Front as a welfare driver.

267 Killed In Bari Explosion

THE EXPLOSION OF AN ALLIED AMMUNITION SHIP IN BARI HARBOUR ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT CAUSED THE DEATHS OF 267 CIVILIANS AND INJURED 1,600 OTHERS. THE NUMBER OF MILITARY AND NAVAL CASUALTIES IS NOT YET KNOWN.

An announcement by Allied naval authorities and the Italian Government stated that the explosion caused the destruction of two ships and fires in two others.

Cause of the explosion has not yet been ascertained. Harbour installations and civilian buildings were damaged, but port work is continuing and essential repairs to installations will not take long to complete, the announcement added.

Many deaths from broken glass and concussion occurred miles away.

V.C. HELD OFF 300 JAPS

HEROIC action which delayed a strong force of Japanese, and kept the remnants of a platoon holding on until reinforcements arrived, led to the posthumous award of the V.C., announced yesterday, to Lieut. George Arthur Knowland, of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, attached to a Commando unit in Burma.

Lieut. Knowland, who was 23 years of age, was commanding a forward platoon of 24 men near Kangaw on January 31. The platoon was attacked by some 300 Japanese, and all the members of his forward Bren crews were wounded.

KILLED SIX JAPS

With the Japanese only ten yards downhill, Knowland took over a Bren gun and stood on the top of a trench to get a better field of fire. A fresh attack came, and he held it off, firing a two-inch mortar and hitting the open. He killed six of the enemy with his first bomb.

His ammunition exhausted, he returned through heavy fire to fetch more. While he was firing, still standing in the open, he was mortally wounded.

"Such was the inspiration of his heroism," says the citation, "that his platoon held on through 12 hours of continuous fierce fighting until reinforcements arrived."

Will Be Allowed To Transfer

Conditions on which 3,000 British other ranks, who were commissioned into the Indian Army, will be permitted to transfer to British service will be issued shortly by the Government of India, said Mr. L. S. Amery, Secretary of State for India, in reply to a question in the Commons on Thursday.

Subject to operational conditions, he added, they would have the same eligibility for "Python" and leaves as British Army officers.

RESCUED HIM UNDER FIRE

ON his first air-sea rescue trip in northern Italy, a New Zealand Walrus pilot of Desert Air Force had to "get his man" while under enemy shellfire.

He is Warrant Officer C. S. Tod, and his observer was Sgt. E. Bilton, of 5, Lauder Terrace, Grantham, Lincs.

The Walrus was sent to pick up a D.A.F. Spitbomber pilot, Sgt. A. R. Charles, of 45, Kensington Avenue, Thornton Heath, Surrey. Tod found him in the sea about a mile and a half off enemy territory.

"We landed alongside Charles and the Germans then opened up with heavier stuff," said Tod. "The first shell went ahead of us, but gradually the range was closing in. Shrapnel hit the tailplane. Just before we took off a shell burst only two yards behind." Charles was not hit.

'Little Cubs' Spot For Polish Guns

FORMED at Salerno four months ago, the only Polish air "O.P." squadron in operation is "spotting" for the Polish guns on the Eighth Army front.

The squadron, which is administered by Desert Air Force, is all Polish. The pilots are either regular army officers or on the officers' reserve. They are all trained gunners.

They fly Austers, known to the Poles as "Kubus"—"Little Cub." The pilots were trained at an elementary flying training school at Bloemfontein, in the Orange Free State.

All are young men and tell tales of escape from their native country after the German invasion in 1939.

They are versatile, too. The Commanding Officer, who comes from Lodz, is a regular army officer. He speaks French, English,

and Russian, while the squadron adjutant converses quite freely in French, English, German, Italian and Russian.

The ground personnel mix freely with the R.A.F., and as the Poles speak almost no English and the R.A.F. no Polish, they converse in Italian.

Votes For British With Gurkhas

Mr. L. S. Amery announced in the Commons on Thursday that arrangements had been made for Britons serving with the Gurkhas to have the right to vote by proxy at the General Election.

"The original omission was corrected, in the Representation of the People Act, 1945," he said, "and British officers of Gurkha units of the Indian Army are in the same position in this respect as officers of other units of the Indian Army."

BEFORE the war a student of philosophy at Venice University this young lady is now secretary to Colonel Bulow, leader of the Italian Partisans. She joined the Garibaldi Brigade of Partisans after the armistice.

Canadian Federal Election

Mr. Mackenzie King, in a statement in Ottawa on Thursday declared that he would announce the date of the Canadian Federal election within 48 hours of the end of the present session of the House of Representatives which is expected to be concluded by Saturday.

Observers in Ottawa think the date will be either July 23 or July 30.

WEATHER HAS BEEN WITH US IN ITALY

Comacchio "Right Hook"

By J. M. MacLENNAN, with the Eighth Army.

Wednesday (delayed).

SINCE the start of the present series of operations on this front, more than 100 square miles of territory have been liberated and 2,500 prisoners captured.

This assessment of our gains takes in our amphibious activities, last week, between Lake Comacchio and the sea, as well as the assault on the Senio line and the advance to the Santerno.

The Comacchio "right hook" is to be considered as an essential part of the battle that is still developing all along the front between the heights west of Route Nine and the sea.

As usual, the sappers have done an incredible job. The speed with which they erected bridges over the Senio was a vital factor in sustaining the momentum of the advance.

As usual, the dust is there in thick powdery carpets along the tracks, in blinding clouds wherever there is movement—movement inflicting and interminable on the narrow tracks that were once unknown uncharted agrarian ways and are now, suddenly, important highways that will have their place in history.

KIWIS ARE ON THE MOVE

For 48 hours now the New Zealanders have been on the move. Since they wiped out the enemy in his Senio defences they have encountered little serious resistance. This countryside abounds in water-filled ditches, ready-made anti-tank obstacles, each of which could be defended in turn.

But the enemy did not attempt to hold them in strength, and fell back rapidly on the Santerno, which was his next prepared line.

Meanwhile, interesting things have been happening once again

over by Lake Comacchio — on its west bank this time. Last night an attack was launched across a wide tract of flooded territory between the lake and the Reno river. At the same time other British troops who had crossed the southern part of Lake Comacchio suddenly appeared four miles behind the enemy's forward positions.

I visited this area to-day and found the operation going well. More than 100 prisoners of war were already in our hands and the attack was being followed up. Chief difficulty of our troops was that of digging in. Silt trenches were out of the question in the muddy shores of the flooded areas. The enemy had brought his artillery to bear on the intruders. But they were well established and supported by their own guns.

SENIO HAS SHRUNK STEADILY

Interesting thought on recent operations. But for freak dry weather it is highly improbable that our leading troops would now be standing six miles beyond their start-line as they are as I write. This time the weather has been with us, one hundred per cent. Last time the Senio was in spate when the winter's snow melted. Since then it has shrunk steadily, until to-day it is fordable almost anywhere, and seldom more than 20 feet in width. If the usual March rains had materialised the Senio would have been in spate to-day and our assembly areas would have been flooded. And we might not have been standing on the Santerno to-night.

ITALY:

(FROM FRONT PAGE)

Ferretting Out On Santerno

A bid to halt the Eighth Army forces on the Italy front, the enemy has converted every building and mound into a defensive position. Even haystacks have been turned into sniper nests and tank retreats.

It has been D.A.F.'s job to ferret out these defences.

Directed by ground observers, Spitfires have put several tanks out of action and on Thursday

R.A.F. and 12th A.A.F. aircraft of the Mediterranean Allied Tactical Air Force have flown nearly 6,300 sorties and dropped more than 3,350 tons of bombs in the first four days of the Eighth Army offensive.

morning one formation alone destroyed seven motor vehicles, 24 horse-drawn vehicles, and killed a number of men and horses.

Thunderbolts and fighter-bombers also concentrated on German front line positions and gun emplacements along the line of the Santerno River.

The attack which established a second bridgehead across the Santerno south of the Massa Lombarda-Lugo road began on Wednesday morning, when troops crossed against slight opposition and took three loop areas, virtually islands between the main Santerno and Santerno Morto. In the afternoon they crossed in force against infantry and Tiger tank opposition to make a bridgehead a thousand yards wide and nearly 800 yards deep. That night the left flank of the bridgehead was counter-attacked, but the Eighth Army men pushed steadily forward against Tigers deployed about 1,000 yards in front of Massa Lombarda, bringing armour across to tackle the enemy tanks.

South of Mordano a third bridgehead was made against strong opposition from the crack 26 Panzer Division and positions were held despite heavy opposition. Three thousand yards south-west of Mordano enemy rear-guard companies were mopped up in the area north of Castel Bolognese, about 50 prisoners being taken.

South of Route 9 we pushed forward across the Senio against enemy rearwards all along the line. Patrols penetrated into the hills, and positions were established on M. Ghebbio,



John Harris, of Wolves, who captained Chelsea, is seen here holding the League South Cup after the match against Millwall at Wembley. In 1924, on the same ground, his father, Neil Harris, received the F.A. Cup from King George V., after Newcastle United had beaten Aston Villa 2-0. It was a great week for Harris, who was also chosen to play for Scotland against England.

RICHARD RONAN'S SPORTS ROUND-UP

FLYNN FIGHT ENDS IN "NO CONTEST"

FANS at the Queensberry Club on Wednesday night witnessed a sensational ending to the Lefty Flynn-Johnny Clements bout, when in the fifth round the referee ruled "no contest," ordered the prize money to be withheld and reported both fighters to the Board of Boxing Control.

Flynn, recognised as one of the slowest starters in the game, was even slower than usual in getting into his stride. In the fourth round, referee Tommy Little, stopped the fight to speak to Flynn, telling him he was not satisfied the coloured boy was trying.

The warning had its effect and for the rest of the round Flynn kept his man on the retreat with a fierce two-fisted attack.

Midway in the fifth round, when both men looked like serving up a good scrap, the referee stopped the fight by waving Flynn to his corner.

This is the first time that a "no contest" ruling has occurred in a first-class bout since the Danny Webb-Kid Tanner affair last year, both boxers were suspended and their purses withheld.

ON the same programme, Tommy Davies, Welsh lightweight champion, beat paratroop Sergeant George Howard, the referee stopping the fight in the fourth round.

Howard was unfortunate to receive a cut on the side of the left eye when he ran into Davies' head in the first round.

Joe Gagnon, Canadian south-paw, and an officer in the Canadian Army, beat Ron Kingston, of Sittingbourne, in the sixth round, on a technical knock-out.

Kingston, evidently surprised by the power of the Canadian's

body, was down twice in the first round.

Other home boxing results are: At Willenhall Baths, Wolverhampton, Gus Moran, Liverpool, beat Tommy Plowright, of Nottingham, in the last leg of an 8-round bantamweight fight which the referee stopped with the Nottingham boy in a bad way. Dave Crowley, ex-lightweight champion, beat Hal Cartwright, of Tipton, on points over eight rounds.

EIGHTY horses of the original entry of 206 have been left in the Derby (June 9) at the second acceptance. They include the King's colt, Rising Sun. Fifty-eight fillies remain in the Oaks. Vicinity, trained by Harry Leader, is attracting attention following a win in the Shelford Stakes over one mile at Newmarket.

Dante is still favourite for the 2,000 Guineas, in the latest Victoria Club call-over, as under: TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS (at Newmarket, May 31) — 7-4 Dante (o. 7.4 f.), 5-1 Court Martial (o. 11.2 f.), 2-1 Sun Storm (o. 19.2 f.), 100-6 Vicinity, 15-1 Fordham, 25-1 Chamoisire (o. 25.1 f.), 25-1 High Peak, 35-1 Oraino and Concentration.

ON YOUR RADIO

British Forces' Station with the Eighth Army.

(224 metres, 1,340 Kcycles.)

SUNDAY, APRIL 15 — 0830, Melody Round Up; 0700, Headlines; 0700, Your Requests; 0800, News; 0815, Forgotten Records; 0955, Programme Summary; 1000, Headlines; 1001, Around the Band; 1005, Morning Break; 1100, Headlines and Latest News from the Italian Front; 1102, Walter Glynn (tenor); 1130, Waltz-time; 1200, Headlines; 1201, Organ-Film Show; 1230, Harry James; 1300, News and Latest News from the Italian Front; 1310, Orchestra; 1330, B.B.C. Revue Orchestra; 1400, Headlines; 1525, Programme Summary; 1530, For Indian Forces; 1600, Headlines; 1601, Radio Newscast; 1615, Strauss Waltzes; 1630, Here's to Romance; 1700, Forces' Concert Hall; 1800, News and Latest News from the Italian Front; 1815, New Mayfair Orchestra; 1830, Eighth Army Radio Show; 1900, Mailbag; 2000, Roundabout; 2030, Front Line Theatre; 2100, News;

2115, Noel Coward; 2130, Let's Go for a Bath; 2200, Headlines; 2201, Religious Service; 2215, Night Music.

British Forces' Station in Northern Italy

(224 metres, 1,338 Kcycles.)

SUNDAY, APRIL 15 — News; 0800, 1300, 1700, 1800, 2100; Headlines; 0700, 1100, 1200, 1400, 2355 hrs. 0830, First Half Hour; 0701, Morning Melody; 0730, R.A.F. Concert Orchestra; 0736, Programme Highlights; 0815, Paul Robeson; 1010, Announcements; 1015, Religious Service; 1101, Music over the Counter; 1130, Break for Music; 1201, Newspaper Reports; 1207, Organ-Donald Thorne; 1230, Dance Music; 1310, Ordeley Orchestra; 1330, I.T.M.A.; 1400, Programme Highlights; 1555, Announcements; 1601, Radio Newscast; 1615, For Indian Forces; 1715, Full Orchestra; 1815, Music As You Like It; 1900, Station Commander; 1945, Turn On the Air; 2000, Opera; 2030, The Stage Presents; 2115, War Reports; 2130, Appointment with Fear; 2200, My Programme; 2230, Nocturne.

"Humanity Has Lost A Great Figure"

—THE KING'S MESSAGE

THE tragic news of the death of President Roosevelt brought numerous tributes to the great leader. From Britain, the King sent a message in addition to the Prime Minister, while the British Parliament adjourned yesterday morning after Mr. Churchill and other ministers paid tributes to the President.

The King and Queen cancelled their plans to see the international soccer match to-day at Glasgow, and court mourning has been ordered for a week. In his message to Mrs. Roosevelt the King said:

"The Queen and I are deeply grieved and shocked by the news of President Roosevelt's death. In him humanity has lost a great figure and we have lost a true and honoured friend. On behalf of all my peoples I send our most heartfelt sympathy to you and to members of your family."

In a hushed House of Commons, Mr. Churchill said: "The House will have learned with great sorrow the grievous news which has come to us from across the Atlantic and conveys to us the loss of the famous President of the United States of America, whose friendship for the cause of freedom and for the cause of the weak and the poor has won him immortal renown."

HOUSE ADJOURNED

"It is not fitting that we should continue our work this day."

In his message to Mrs. Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill said: "I send my most profound sympathy in your grievous loss. It is also the loss of the British nation and of the world's cause of freedom in every land. As for myself I have lost a dear and cherished friendship, which was forged in the fires of war."

Marshal Stalin's message to Mrs. Roosevelt said: "The Soviet people had the highest esteem for President Roosevelt as the great organiser of the struggle of the freedom-loving nations against the common enemy, and of the leader of the cause for assuring security in the whole world." General de Gaulle said: "The decisive successes to which he so gallantly contributed have at least given him, before he collapsed at his battle post, the certainty of victory."

The news service of this newspaper is provided by U.N.N., Reuter and our own correspondents.

