WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

German Militarism Doomed As Big Three Chart New Europe; Allies Spear Deeper into Reich

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these editorials, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of the newspapers.

Bearing personal possessions, Filipinos pass through smouldering ruins in Manila after Jap fight to slow Yank advance.

BIG THREE:
Europe of Tomorrow

Although details necessarily must be left until after the war, the general pattern of the Europe of tomorrow loomed as a result of the Big Three's conference at the Crimean watering resort of Yalta.

As the outline emerged, there was the prospect of a Europe consisting of an expanded Russia; of smaller countries promised the right of picking their own governments, and of a Germany emasculated to prevent the conduct of another war.

Determined to stamp out German militarism, the Big Three planned to break up both the general staff and army; do away with all warmachi equipment; eliminate or control all Reich industry that could be used for war production, and wipe out all Nazi and Junker influence in the life of the state.

In conceding Russia's claim to eastern Poland, Messrs. Roosevelt and Churchill compromised with Premier Stalin on the question of a government for the recently liberated nation, agreeing on a regime to include members of the present Red-sponsored Lublin committee and other Democratic elements, with a free election to be held later for final settlement of the problem.

In addition to promising the smaller nations the right to choose their own governments, the Big Three announced their willingness to assist these countries in carrying out measures to assure such a step. On the all-important question of an organization to preserve the peace, there was said to be understanding on a formula for determining an aggressor, with details to be worked out at a United Nations meeting in San Francisco, Calif., April 25.

With Russia adamant on demands for the use of both German labor and material for reconstructing devastated Europe, the Big Three arranged for the establishment of a commission in Moscow to decide on amounts due and methods to be employed in exacting payment.

Under Big Three plans for post-war occupation of Germany, Russia would take over the east, the British the northwest and the U. S. the west, with France invited to share in the control of the Rhineland.

Reacting violently to the Big Three's program, German propagandists raved: "Never — this is our sacred oath in this hour in which the enemy has dropped his mask and in which we Germans now see the devilish grimace of the Jew-never will this murder be practiced on our people."

THE WAR:
Allies Gain

With much German industry already overrun in the east, and with much more threatened by the Russian drive on Saxony and the U. S. and British assault on the Ruhr, the Nazis tried to bolster their people's resistance with promises of a military miracle.

What the miracle would be, of course, no one knew, although observers speculated on possibilities of a German plan to outfight Russians deep into the Reich and then counterattack when the spring thaws bogged long Red communication lines.

LUMBER

Most of the lumber being produced in the United States today is used as shipping boxes and crates for materials destined to the fighting fronts.

Shipping boxes are necessary for overseas delivery but are wasteful as much lumber is used in their construction. The [illegible] of the [illegible] society points out that [illegible] of the several hundred [illegible] shipped to the [illegible] packed in wooden boxes.

—ADVERTISING PAYS—

Sensing such a plan, himself, Russia's Marshal Gregory Zhukov massed his forces on German lines to the north of his forces bearing down on Berlin, in attempts to unsettle Nazi designs on a great flanking drive southward.

If Germans placed their faith in a miracle, however, that faith was being severely tested by Allied operations, with the latest Russian moves being a drive on industrially important Saxony, following a quick dash westward across Silesia. Not only did the Reds threaten to seal off this production center, as they had moved to seal off the lower Silesian area, but they also threatened to swing to the north and outflank embattled Berlin, periled by Zhukov's armies pressing forward from the east.

Meanwhile, Marshal Bernard Montgomery's Canadian and British Tommies pressed their attack on the northern anchor of the Siegfried line in an attempt to swing behind German defenses and then break south for the Ruhr, trapping Nazi forces facing U. S. armies on the Rhineland plain from the rear.

As Montgomery's forces headed for the Ruhr, the Nazis opened the floodgates of the Urft and Schwammenauel dams farther to the south, inundating the western banks of the Roer river and bogging the British 2nd and U. S. 1st and 9th armies in their smash through the Siegfried line to the Rhine. Rain added to the floodwaters released at the rate of 1,000,000 cubic feet an hour to slow the Allied advance.

MEAT:
Growing Shortage

Because of decreased cattle and hog slaughter and big government demands, civilian meat consumption may drop to the lowest level since 1935, when emergency butchering of stock in drouth areas and the pig reduction program forced the per capita supply to 116 pounds.

Short now, meat may become even more scarce during the spring and summer, when the government, unable to stock up during the winter months, may be compelled to do so on the market during the slack season. With the normal increase in fall butchering, supplies could be expected to become more plentiful then.

In a further effort to get its share of meat now, government recently ordered federally inspected packers to set aside 10 per cent, instead of 50 per cent, of their utility or grade beef principally for use in canned goods for the military and lend-lease.

PACIFIC:
Mop Up Manila

As Yanks moved to close up the last pockets of Jap resistance on battered Manila, other U. S. forces spread out to the east and north of the central plain to tighten their grip on the main Philippine island of Luzon.

With its modern business district gutted by fire, Manila long rumbled to heavy gunfire, as die-hard enemy units, fighting to the last, mounted artillery and mortars in buildings in the south end of the city and peppered advancing U. S. liberation forces.

Replying in kind, famed U. S. artillery pulverized Jap positions, with ground forces pushing their way forward through half-rubble-filled streets still infested by hold-out enemy remnants. As the 37th Infantry, 1st cavalry and 6th Army divisions closed in on the Jap, they pressed them into a pocket and [illegible] against the dock area.

Jap Ghosts

Although the slaughter has [illegible] plan to [illegible] Japanese in close to [illegible] a [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]