

Russians Race for Tallinn; Mass at Hungary's Border

By The Associated Press.

LONDON, Friday, Sept. 22—Russian troops racing across the top of Estonia at a mile-an-hour clip yesterday drove to within forty-eight miles of Tallinn, Estonian capital, as another powerful Red Army swept down the western slopes of Rumania's mountain

chain and reached the great Hungarian plain only forty-eight miles from Szeged, Hungary's second city.

Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army in western Rumania was only seventeen miles from Hungary's pre-war frontier and 138 miles from the bomb-shattered Hungarian capital of Budapest.

His men were expected to cross the Hungarian border soon with the double aim of trapping from the rear all the German and Hungarian forces pinned down in northern Transylvania and knocking out Hungary, last big satellite nation still in Germany's camp.

Warsaw Bridgeheads Indicated

Although Moscow was silent on the great impending decision at Warsaw, in the center of the long Eastern Front, Berlin indicated that the Russians had established bridgeheads on the western bank of the Vistula River just north and south of the ruined Polish capital.

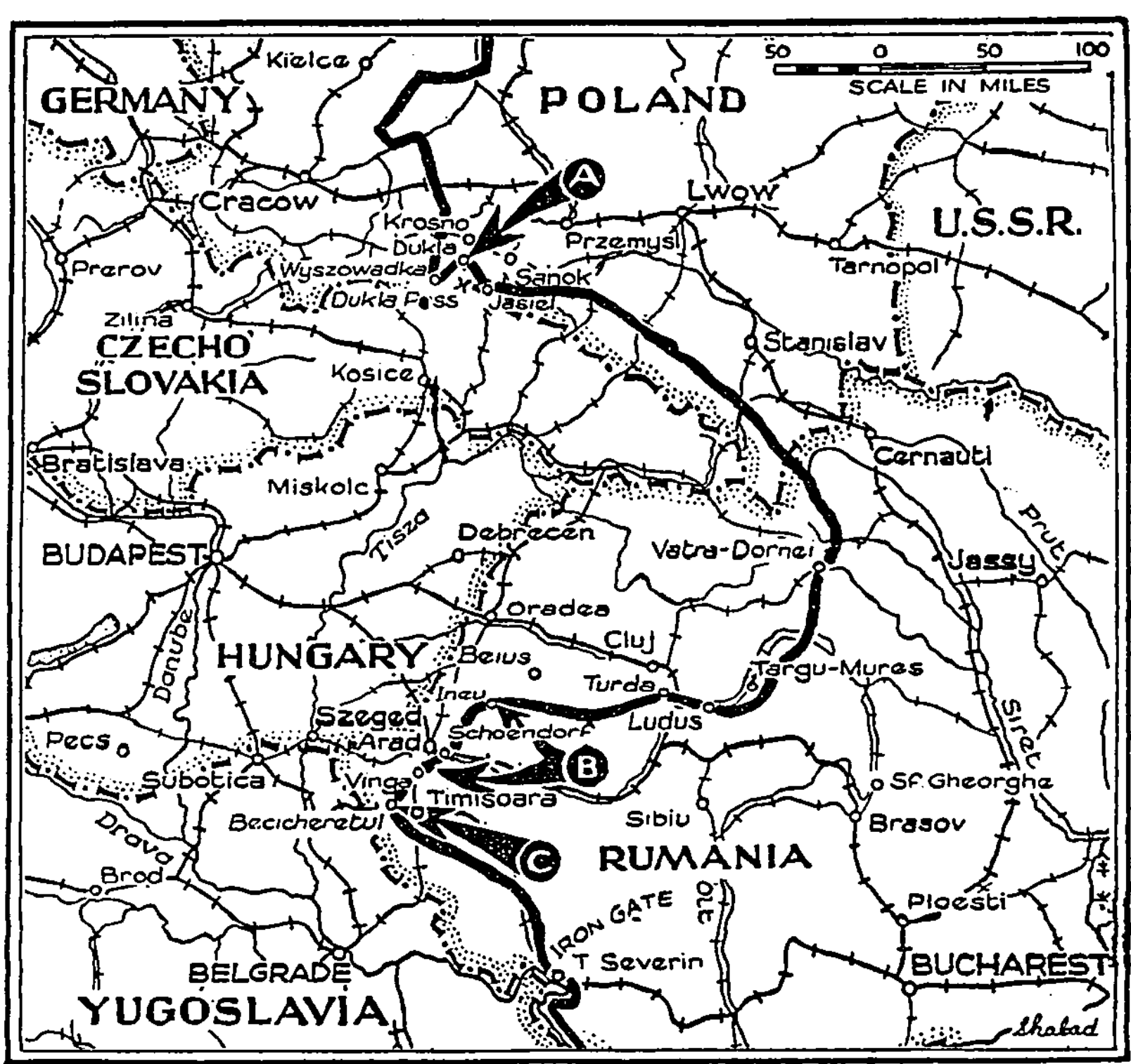
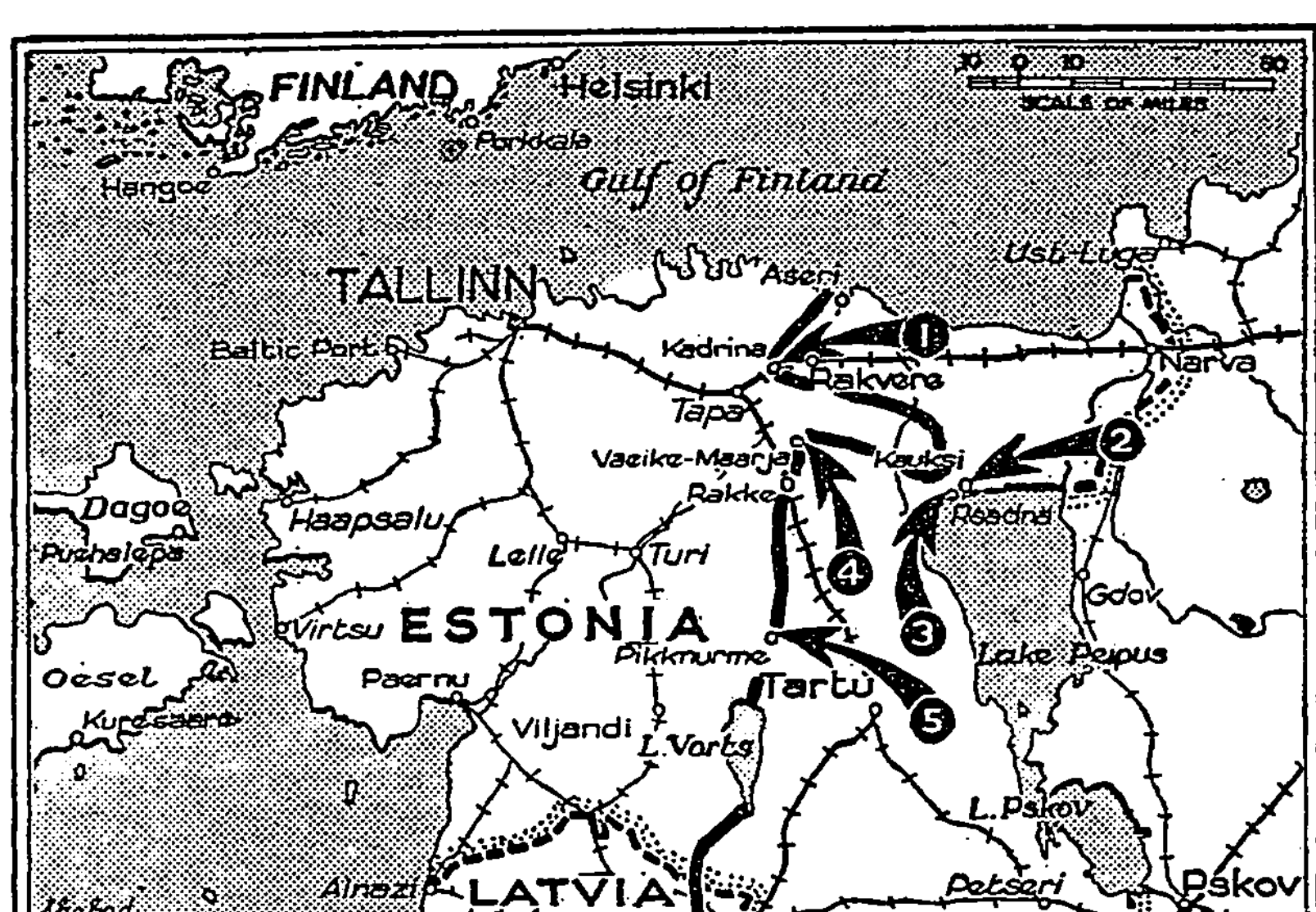
On the Estonian front Marshal Leonid A. Govoroff's Leningrad Army had ripped the Nazi defenses to pieces, sweeping through 300 more towns and villages for a five-day total of 2,100. Soviet

Continued on Page 10, Column 4

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Soviet troops racing for Tallinn sped through Rakvere junction and reached Kadrina (1), forty-eight miles from the Estonian port. Meanwhile the envelopment of Lake Peipus was completed by forces that took Kauksi (2) from the northeast and Raadna (3) from the south. A northwesterly thrust from the Tartu direction passed Vaeike-Maarja (4), while the line to the south was pushed westward to Pikknurme (5). In Poland a new advance toward Czechoslovakia was made with the seizure of Dukla (A) at the stubbornly defended Dukla Pass. In Rumania the front north and west of Timisoara was widened and extended as the Russians took Ineu, Schoendorf and Vinga (B), the last-named only seventeen miles from Hungary, and Becicheretul (C), close to Yugoslavia.

BALTIC ROUT GROWS IN RUSSIAN SWEEP

Continued From Page 1

front reports described the Nazi retreat as a rout.

The imperiled two Nazi Baltic armies originally were estimated at 200,000, but their number is believed to have shrunk considerably.

A midnight Soviet bulletin said the Germans lost 3,000 killed and 700 captured during the day, with more than half of this toll taken in Estonia. "Hundreds of dead Germans, smashed guns, burned tanks and piles of abandoned ammunition cover the roads," a report broadcast by Moscow radio added.

Pushing twenty-four miles along the Leningrad-Tallinn railway from Sonda, taken Wednesday, one Russian column captured Rakvere, capital of the Viru district, and swept on through Kadrina, only seven miles northeast of Tapa, the junction of the Tartu-Tallinn railway and forty-eight miles from the capital.

Marshal Govoroff's southern wing, driving up from Tartu, captured Vaeike-Maarja in a twelve-mile advance, putting that group only thirteen miles southeast of Tapa. Rohu, eight miles southeast of Vaeike-Maarja, was among the many localities overrun.

The northern and southern wings have linked up, the Moscow communiqué disclosed, clearing the Germans from the 900 square-mile isthmus between Lake Peipus and the Gulf of Finland. The junction was made in the Raadna-Kauksi sector on the northeastern shore of Lake Peipus.

The thirty-mile-wide isthmus had been one of the most heavily fortified German lines in the north and had held up the Russians since last February, when the Leningrad siege was lifted.

Pushing along the coast, one Russian column seized Aseri in a four-mile advance. That town is twenty-eight miles northeast of captured Kadrina, where the Russians were converging on Tapa junction en route to the port and capital city of Tallinn.

Several localities were seized also by Gen. Ivan Maslennikoff's Third Baltic Army, which is driving northwest and west of fallen Valga, eighty-seven miles northeast of Riga, the bulletin said.

Riga, imperiled Latvian capital, was under Soviet artillery fire and Red Army infantrymen were fighting within six miles southeast of that city in an effort to reach the coast and seal off the Nazis in Estonia and eastern Latvia.

Hungarian Plain Reached

In Rumania the Red Army, attacking on a fifty-five-mile front, captured 100 towns and villages and reached the Hungarian plain after crossing the Bihorului Mountains and the western end of the Transylvanian Alps chain.

Arad, big communications center near the Hungarian frontier, appeared about to fall to the Russians pushing down the Mures River valley. Lipova, eighteen miles east of Arad, was taken as well as Siria, fifteen miles on the northeast, and other near-by towns.

At the northern end of this front the Russians took Ineu, twenty-four miles north of Lipova, as German and Hungarian troops fought desperately to stave off another Balkan disaster.

Debrecen, another big Hungarian rail center through which supplies flow to the Germans and Hun-

garians, was attacked yesterday by United States bombers from the Mediterranean theatre after Soviet bombers attacked it Wednesday night.

Hungary was menaced from the north as well as the south as Moscow disclosed that Col. Gen. Ivan Petroff's Fourth Ukraine Army, attacking in southern Poland, had hurled the Germans and Hungarians out of eight more localities near the Czechoslovak frontier.

General Petroff's troops seized positions on both sides of Dukla Pass leading into Slovakia.

Other Soviet troops west of Dukla Pass were reported by the Czech Government a week ago to have crossed into Slovakia and made contact with Partisan forces. In this area Slovakia is only a forty-mile-wide strip of territory between the Russians and northern Hungary.

Nazis Picture Warsaw Battle

Moscow did not mention the embattled Warsaw sector, but Berlin indicated that Red Army troops still were clinging to the west bank of the Vistula after crossing from Praga.

The German DNB agency said a large formation of American and British planes flew over Warsaw during the day and dropped "a number of Polish shock-troop leaders, all of whom were shot while descending in parachutes." Official Polish circles here disclaimed any knowledge of Commandos or other agents dropped over Warsaw.

A communiqué by General Bor, Polish underground leader in Warsaw, reported that enemy shellfire on the center of the capital had slackened somewhat, but that the heavy artillery duel between the Germans and Russians across the Vistula continued while Soviet aircraft covered the city in strength.