

BRITISH, ALLIES IN FINAL STAND BEFORE BOCHES

Australia Reveals Main
Bodies Are Taken
Out Safely

ACTION IN SOUTH

London, April 28.—(UP)—
A handful of British Imperial
and Greek troops were be-
lieved to be making a last
stand in southern Greece to-
day while the bulk of the
British, Australian and New
Zealand forces were complet-
ing evacuation.

Move Successful

An announcement by the Aus-
tralian government that the evacua-
tion so far was successful was the
first news received here of the
progress of the difficult job of get-
ting the British expeditionary force
away, to Crete or to reinforce the
army of the Nile in North Africa.

Britons seemed reconciled to the
German triumph in Greece, especi-
ally because all reports indicated
that German losses had been out
of all proportion to those of the
Empire troops.

It was believed that during the
week-end the main body of the Im-
perial force was manoeuvring to
embarkation points in order to
minimize the effect of German
aeroplane bombings.

The force involved was far smal-
ler than that evacuated at Dun-
kirk, and it was possible to deploy

it thinly along the coast, but there
was little aeroplane protection.

To Inform Parliament

Sydney, Australia, April 28.—
(CP)—Withdrawal of certain Aus-
tralian troops from Greece has be-
gun "and as far as this has pro-
ceeded it has been successful,"
Army Minister Percy C. Spender
said to-day. He added he was un-
able to confirm or deny reports
that the majority of the Australi-
ans and New Zealanders had been
removed from the Hellenic penin-
sula with their weapons.

(Official sources in London re-
fused immediately to confirm or
deny Mr. Spender's report.)

H. S. Foll, minister of informa-
tion, said last night Australians
would be told the details of their
soldiers' activities and the equip-
ment they carried into the Greek
campaign when parliament meets.

He declared the Australian peo-
ple had not disapproved the send-
ing of Australian forces to Greece.

The army minister said consider-
able losses in heavy material are
expected because Lt.-Gen. Sir
Thomas Blaney, officer command-
ing the Anzacs in Greece, had been
ordered to evacuate the men before
the tanks and other equipment.

Hitler's next aim, he said, will
be to strike at Britain's oil wells
and attempt to close the Suez
canal and the straits of Gibraltar
by air and land attacks.

There had been some criticism of
the campaign in Greece but Aus-
tralian knew some war losses
would be incurred and realized they
had to keep the bond to help
Greece.

Labour Minister Harold Holt
cabled Prime Minister Menzies in
London that enemy propaganda of
disunity in Australia is "utterly
false." The industrial situation is
better than at any time since the
war began, and there is no hold-up
or stoppage in any section of indus-
try, the labour minister said.

Fight Southward

Berlin, April 28.—(AP)—Leaving
the swastika on the Acropolis over
the ancient glories of Athens, Ger-
man troops fought their way south-
ward across the Peloponnesus to-
day.

Stuka dive bombers were report-
ed ahead of the German spearheads,
smashing at troop concentrations
and strafing roads across the south-
ernmost part of Greece.

The daily communique of the
Nazi high command claimed Ger-
man planes attacked allied columns
in the Argos-Tripolis area, in the
heart of the Peloponnesus.

(How many British troops have
been evacuated by sea has not been
disclosed. Neither has the fate of
the remainder of the Greek army,
directed by its king and government
on the island of Crete to fight to
the finish.

(Some of the British and Greek
forces apparently fell back to the
Peloponnesus in a rearguard action
to cover further embarkations.)

Few details of the German occu-
pation of Athens—14th European
capital into which Hitler's forces
have moved—were received imme-
diately in Berlin.

"Ringed by Bombs"

New York, April 27.—(CP)—The
British Broadcasting corporation
said Sunday night that the last
message broadcast by the Athens
radio before the city was engulfed
by Nazis was that Athens was being
"ringed by bombs."

The B.B.C. added that it was be-
lieved the Nazis avoided bombing
the ancient Greek capital itself be-
cause of the British threat that if
Athens were raided Rome would
be bombed.

Huns Enter Athens

Athens, April 28.—Adolf Hitler's
troops occupied ancient Athens at
10 a.m. (4 a.m., E.D.T.) yesterday,
just three weeks after the launch-
ing of Germany's Balkan blitzkrieg,
and hoisted the Nazi swastika over
the crumbling columns of the
Acropolis.

Those who remained of the city's
700,000 persons greeted the advance
guard of the Nazi "panzer" forces
with proud silence as they rode in
a mechanized victory parade past
the temples of Athenian glory that
have stood since centuries before
Christ.

Hitler's conquest of Athens,
knocking Greece out of the war on
the European Continent after a
valiant six months' struggle that
began last October 28 when the
armies of Italy attempted to invade
the nation, was carried out meth-
odically beneath a brilliant Sun-
day sun without a show of resist-
ance in the city itself.