

SMASH DEEPER INTO NAZI FORCES IN THIS ISRAELI ACTION

Brought Into Play Against French Flank

British Army Keeps Patrol Contact With Enemy in Tripolitania

LONDON. — (AP) — The British Eighth Army kept contact with retreating Axis troops less than 100 miles from Tripoli, our most specifically reporting new gains today, while in Tunisia Germans brought armored forces into action to the south against the French-held Pont-Du-ahs flank.

Reuters reported that the French withdrew under this pressure from some advanced positions in the sector 30 miles southwest of Tunis, but said they had established new lines in hilly terrain where the mechanized forces could not operate.

The Fighting French in London issued a communiqué from Colonel de Clerc's Lake Chad Headquarters, announced that the French forces continue their advance in the southern Pezzan in a cross- desert push which has carried into Libya some 550 miles south of Tripoli.

This force, moving for weeks over desert terrain, is now 800 miles north of Lake Chad, the Fighting French base.

The latest communiqué from Cairo said yesterday there was nothing to report except patrol activity from our troops in contact with the enemy west of Wadi el Chelbi, 120 miles from Tripoli. It added that eight German Messerschmitts had been shot down yesterday over the Libyan battlefield.

See NAZI PANZERS on page 9

Flood Crests Move Down Many Streams

Waters Receding at Pittsburgh After Worst Flood Since 1936

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
Flood crests which reached near-disastrous peaks swept down many streams east of the Mississippi today, bringing relief to many communities.

Army Sure Of Mission

New Year's Message Given By Stimson

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — Secretary of War Stimson, in a New Year's message, said today the Army was moving into the new twelve months confident and sure of its mission.

General George C. Marshall, the chief of staff, who is 62 today, he said he was proud of the magnificent work which had been accomplished by Marshall and his associates.

"Having thus deserved our confidence," he said, "I know it would be of immeasurable value to them in the discharge of their future critical duties to realize that they may rely upon our appreciation of their efforts."

"There will undoubtedly be proposals made during the coming winter which would radically modify or impair their plans. Many of these proposals will arise from the narrow patriotism on the part of individuals who are not aware of the vital matters which are intrinsically military in character."

See ARMY SURE on page 9

Eisenhower's Brother Predicts Trouble Unless Africans Fed Soon

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — Hunger among the thousands of North African civilians threatened to hamper military operations and there may be "serious disturbances" unless substantial shipments of food and clothing are landed there by Feb. 1.

"That was the word brought back from the front by General Eisenhower, director of the Office of War Information and brother of Dwight D. Eisenhower, who returned Sunday from a two-week tour in North Africa, where General Eisenhower is directing Allied operations."

A statement, as related at a press conference yesterday:

Poverty and hunger are such that serious trouble, which I think might seriously hamper the military operations, can be expected in the African population—unless there is American aid."

"You see people who are naked, who are dressed only in a dirty loin cloth. They look hungry, and I understand this situation has prevailed for a long time."

Some Lord-Less shipments have arrived, but the flow must increase.

"It is impossible to buy anything,

Gen. Giraud Arrests 12 To Prevent Slayings

Representative Of FR Menaced

By NOLAND NORGAARD ALGIERS. — (AP) — General Henri Giraud held twelve persons under arrest today in an announced effort to threaten any danger of further assassinations in North Africa—a threat in which Giraud himself and Robert Murphy, President Roosevelt's personal representative, were mentioned specifically.

Giraud, acting with military firmness only three days after the French Imperial Council named him to succeed slain Admiral Jean Darlan as High Commissioner for North Africa, announced the arrests last night. He did not list the names of the prisoners.

"MY BEST FRIENDS"

He said, however, that four were police officers who "knew Darlan was going to be murdered and did not warn their superiors," some were "my best friends" and some were persons who had helped the Allied landing. Giraud emphasized that they were preferred to prevent them to punish.

Whether his step was a swift, emphatic precaution because of the general menace of violence, suggested by Darlan's death, or a measure to nip a suspected plot in which the prisoners, many have been conspirators was not clear.

"Did you really think there would be further attempts at assassination?" Giraud was asked at a press conference.

"I am quite certain of that," he responded. "It was not a question of myself. I have been wounded too many times already. But it affected others, including Mr. Murphy."

Murphy, whose space work with the French before the Allied landing in North Africa, is credited with having lessened the French resistance considerably, holds the rank of Minister in North Africa, and serves as civil affairs officer for the French Government.

"The 41-year-old diplomat, a native of New Orleans, had been a member of the Vichy Government for his vital part in preparing the plans for the North African landing. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, a rare tribute to a civilian."

"That Murphy figured as a positive factor in the Allied victory," See GEN. GIRAUD on page 9

GRIM CLOUDS OVER THE ATLANTIC

gave way to a hopeful horizon as an American aircraft carrier and destroyer patrol the sea off north Africa

Newspapers Use Of Paper Reduced

Cut Back to Tonnage Used in 1941 To Produce Net Paid Circulation

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — The War Production Board today ordered every newspaper's use of print paper in 1943 cut back to the tonnage used in 1941 to produce its net paid circulation, a formula which reduces nation wide newspaper consumption by an estimated ten per cent.

W. G. Chandler, head of WPB's printing and publishing division, added that publishers must expect the order to be followed by a second and perhaps a third reduction in 1943.

Chandler said he could only hope that the newly ordered controls, effective Jan. 1, would last for the first quarter of 1943.

MAGAZINES LIMITED

Simultaneously WPB ordered magazines limited to 90 per cent of the tonnage used by each publisher in 1942, declaring this would have the same curtailment effect as the newspaper order.

"We have been very careful not to tell any publisher how he shall use the paper allowed him," said Donald J. Sterling, WPB consultant on newspaper matters, "because that would lead us down a path the illegal and ruinous end of which is

See NEWSPAPER on page 9

Cars Derailed In Virginia

ROANOKE, Va. — (AP) — A head-on collision between a Norfolk and Western Railroad's tracks at Goshens, Va., yesterday, and pushed a train off the rails, was cleared at 1:30 A. M. today, railway officials said.

Service was resumed over the Roanoke-Bristol line of the line which carries Southern Railway trains through the mountains to New Orleans and Memphis.

The break forced the detouring of trains by the Bluefield, Va., and Western North Carolina, throwing them hours off schedule.

The Stinson explained that there had been a long-time policy against having extended outcrops for any reason except an emergency. In wartime, he said, this policy must be adhered to.

Land Bled

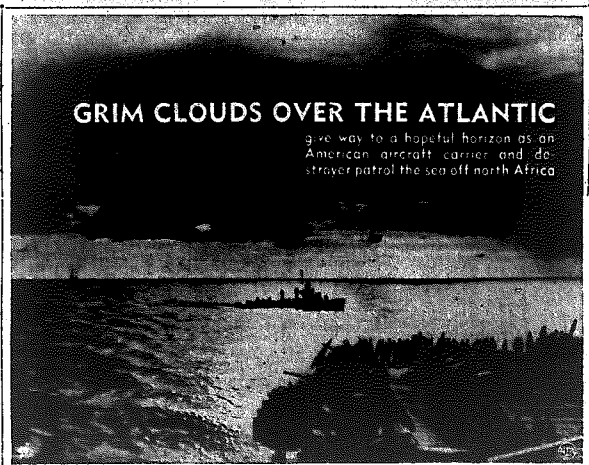
"Germany took everything it could out of France, so the Vichy Government requisitioned all it could out of North Africa."

"A great number—perhaps 40,000—of Axis persons have been arrested."

Heinrich reported his brother in "grand health."

He said that all French political prisoners as far as he knew, had been released.

See SAYS AFRICANS on page 9



Newspapers Use Of Paper Reduced

Cut Back to Tonnage Used in 1941 To Produce Net Paid Circulation

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — The War Production Board today ordered every newspaper's use of print paper in 1943 cut back to the tonnage used in 1941 to produce its net paid circulation, a formula which reduces nation wide newspaper consumption by an estimated ten per cent.

W. G. Chandler, head of WPB's printing and publishing division, added that publishers must expect the order to be followed by a second and perhaps a third reduction in 1943.

Chandler said he could only hope that the newly ordered controls, effective Jan. 1, would last for the first quarter of 1943.

MAGAZINES LIMITED

Simultaneously WPB ordered magazines limited to 90 per cent of the tonnage used by each publisher in 1942, declaring this would have the same curtailment effect as the newspaper order.

"We have been very careful not to tell any publisher how he shall use the paper allowed him," said Donald J. Sterling, WPB consultant on newspaper matters, "because that would lead us down a path the illegal and ruinous end of which is

See NEWSPAPER on page 9

Bread Price Rise Sought

Request Is Made by Bakers' Spokesman

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — Spokesmen for organized bakers in the United States urged an increase in the retail prices of bread and bakery products today as a result of a government order permitting an average of 10 per cent increase in the price of flour at the mill.

President Jack Koenig Jr. of the Associated Retail Bakers of America, announced in Chicago that he had asked Food Administrator Wickard to "permit a change of the present price ceilings on bread and other bakery products to prevent further casualties from among the retail trade of bakery operations."

FORCED OUT

Koenig estimated that 10 per cent of that type of operators had already been forced out of business by increasing labor and material costs "due to the fact that no relief has been forthcoming on the ceiling prices of their products."

Ralph D. Ward of Brooklyn, president of the American Bakers association and chairman of the joint war committee of its Association and the Associated Retail Bakers, telegraphed Price Administrator Lord Henderson protesting "an unwarranted assumption" that bakers would be able to absorb the increase in the price of flour.

Ward contended that "no one here can accurately or approximately predict what cost savings it would be made by any one baker under the new OPA and Food Administration orders which require elimination of some bakery services, such as slicing of bread, and impose other restrictions."

"We are respectfully asking you to correct any impression that the program issued today can be expected to permit bakers to absorb still further cost increases without relief," Ward said.

Italian Unit Battles German Group & Wins

CAIRO. — (AP) — Documents captured by the British Army in the pursuit of Marshal Erwin Rommel's forces show that an Italian unit fought an engagement with Germans near El Alamein, Egypt, by mistake and won it, British sources said today.

The Germans surrendered to the Italians before the mistake was discovered, the documents revealed. They showed that the Axis command subsequently held a court of inquiry into the affair, which was pictured as follows:

An Italian battalion was ordered to advance as a part of a general attack. During the advance, the came up under gun-fire and promptly gave battle. After hours of fighting the Italians' opponents surrendered.

Then it was discovered that the prisoners were part of a German battalion which had advanced faster than the Italians. The documents showed that the German unit was killed or wounded.

New Year's Eve: Traditional Hilarity Will Reign In New York Despite The Dimout

NEW YORK. — (AP) — Times Square will be lit up tonight, but on the other hand, there are the people.

The dimout will engulf hilarious thousands who will join this merriment of fun to lead the 1943—on past New Year's Eve—back. It won't dim the traditional gaiety.

Although the Times Square thoroughfare was expected to be smaller than in past years because of war-time conditions, there was no doubt that they would have more money to spend.

Heads of night clubs, hotels, restaurants and theaters predicted they would be filled to capacity. Some said all available space had been reserved for the occasion.

An abrupt let-down will come at 8 A. M. (EWT) when bartenders must "cease firing" on official orders.

Scores of parties and dances are scheduled for service men.

The patriotic motif will be part of the pattern. At midnight, Times Square revelers will be asked to sing the National Anthem with Lucy Monroe.

Soviets Reach To Heart Of Kalmayk Area

Entire German Army in Caucasus Menaced By Great Offensive

By HENRY C. CASSIDY
MOSCOW. — (AP) — The Red Army's offensive southwest of Stalingrad has burst deep into German defenses, carrying Russian forces to the approaches of Elista, in the heart of the Kalmayk steppe, and menacing the entire Nazi army in the Caucasus, battle-front dispatches reported today.

The Russians were widening their wedge along the railroad southwest of Kotelnikovski and elsewhere were reported continuing their gains along the middle Don and on the snow-piled battlefield between Moscow and the Latvian border.

Elista, capital of the Kalmayk area, was threatened from northwest, north and east with Russian forces at one place within ten miles of the town.

(This was the first Russian acknowledgment that the Germans had captured Elista in their drive toward the Caspian Sea late last Fall. Previously Moscow had not disclosed the extent of the penetration into the barren Kalmayk. Elista is 165 miles south of Stalingrad, 115 miles southeast of Kotelnikovski, and 175 miles west of Astrakhan, at the Volga delta on the Caspian Sea.)

CAPTURE 11 TOWNS

Reports from this front, where the Russians reported the capture of thirteen more villages, near Rostov, 60 miles northwest of Elista, fell after several hours of fighting, said Tishkov, ten miles north of Elista, was seized in a thrust so swift that the Germans had no time to remove their arms or ammunition.

The general lines of the drive across the Kalmayk Steppe indicated that the next major objective may be Baku, 110 miles southwest of Kotelnikovski and 150 miles west of Elista.

Occupation of Salsk would cut a rail line running northwest to Rostov—and that railway is one of the major arteries of the German Army in the Caucasus.

Midway between Elista and Salsk is a 50-mile long barrier which would be a major barrier during the Spring and Summer, but which is a scant obstacle in the Winter when the ice is frozen.

(The Berlin radio broadcast a Transcon account attempting to minimize the Russian Winter offensive for the German people.)

(This Nazi version said that "in the steppe region south of the Don it became necessary to withdraw systematically some of our forces from the Stalingrad front were "operating in the rear of the Soviet." This was as close as the Germans have come to admitting that their forces have been cut off and pocketed.)

Stalin said the Russian offensive this Winter was of less force than that of last Winter. It said the Russian command this Winter had been forced to restrict its offensive to certain sectors.

BIG ATTACKS

(Actually this Winter the Russian offensive on the Caucasus front of Moscow in at least two sectors of the central front, southwest of Moscow, the Ukraine, and the middle Don north of Rostov, and on a wide front in the Caucasus. Last year the Russian command was scheduled for service men.)

See SMASH DEEP on page 9

Jap Troops Forced Back

Pounded Relentlessly On New Guinea

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA. — (AP) — The Japanese defense line near Buna, New Guinea, has been broken by Allied troops that have driven a wedge to the sea and the surrounding enemy strengths are being pounded increasingly by sea and ground air forces. General MacArthur's Headquarters announced today.

"The enemy is being forced into an ever narrowing area," a communiqué said.

"On the left, our troops have driven the wedge to the sea and cut the enemy defense lines. On the right, an attack with tanks breached and deepened the wedge capturing much equipment, including three-inch naval guns, anti-aircraft guns and machine guns."

The communiqué called the ground action "threefold local assaults."

The Allied wedge head was lodged on several hundred yards of beach between Buna and Glopso Point, then effectively isolating the Japanese garrisons at those points.

DAWN AIR ATTACK

The Allied Air Force also rained over the strong Japanese base at Buna, New Britain, in a dawn attack yesterday, by 600 bombers directly on two targets and to the ratio of 10,000 tons each and to the ratio of a hundred tons an attack at mid-height.

The communiqué said that the Japanese were being pounded by Allied fliers but that all of the planes returned.

Stalin said the Russian offensive this Winter was of less force than that of last Winter. It said the Russian command this Winter had been forced to restrict its offensive to certain sectors.

BIG ATTACKS

(Actually this Winter the Russian offensive on the Caucasus front of Moscow in at least two sectors of the central front, southwest of Moscow, the Ukraine, and the middle Don north of Rostov, and on a wide front in the Caucasus. Last year the Russian command was scheduled for service men.)

See SMASH DEEP on page 9

Just Use Raccoon Oil To Solve Fuel Situation

CHILLICOTHE, Mo. — (AP) — Don't think about rationing gasoline, advises Commander Columbus Charles Cornus, just use Raccoon oil for your farm, home and grampaids.

He recommends lighting with two new bulbs which have been dipped in the oil.

"Of course, it depends on your own station."

WEATHER

Continued cold tonight.

Today's Temp: H. 45; L. 25.

Sunrise Today.

Sunrise Tomorrow.

Additional V. W. forecasts will be issued as needed.