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Axis Squeezed From Both Sides Of Tunisian Front U. S. Allied First Blow At Germany

Nazis Rolled Back By U. S. Tunisia Force

British Move Steadily Toward Border Against Rommel Rear Guard

LONDON. — (AP) — Allied offensives squeezed the Axis from both sides of the Tunisian front today.

Communications reported United States forces cracking through German defenses in the Ousselet Valley sector and the British Eighth Army fighting its way steadily toward the Tunisian border from Tripoli against Marshal Rommel's battered rear guard.

The Americans announced the capture of prisoners and places of tactical importance covering the important mountain pass between the Tunisian front and the German rear guard.

The British from Cairo announced that yesterday our troops were in contact with the enemy rear guards west of Zauia, which is 30 miles west of Tripoli.

The British communiqué said Allied fighters kept retreating Axis transport columns under attack in the vicinity of Zauia, halfway between Zauia and the border.

B-24 Liberators of the U. S. Army's Ninth Air Force carried the war again to Sicily yesterday.

See PRESS AXIS on page 8

Big Bombers Make Heavy Assault on Axis Heart

U-Boat Centers Main Targets

LONDON. — (AP) — United States heavy bombers, Flying Fortresses and Liberators, attacked naval installations in Germany today, it was authoritatively announced.

It was the United States Army Air Force's first attack on the German homeland.

It was believed that German U-boat centers particularly were chosen for the attack.

Just what part of the Reich was hit was not disclosed. United States Headquarters communiqué said "United States Army Air Force Flying Fortresses (B-17s) and Liberators (B-24s) attacked naval installations in Germany today."

While the targets were not further identified officially, possible objectives include Bremerhaven, Wilhelmshaven and Hamburg, all vital centers of Adolf Hitler's naval shipbuilding industry.

RAF FORAYS

The raid followed overnight forays in which the RAF set fires in the dock area of Lorient, Nazi U-boat base on the Atlantic coast, and bombed the Grande Estuary port of Bordeaux after a two-night lull in offensives over the continent.

The RAF has been over Germany thirteen times this month. The industrial Ruhr Valley has been bombed nine times and Berlin twice, on the nights of Jan. 16 and 17.

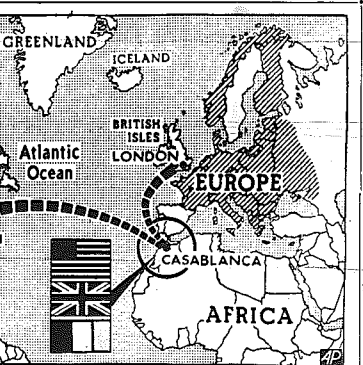
The United States Army Air Force today started the new year with a heavy raid on St. Nazaire on Jan. 23. The most recent flying fortress raid was a one-two battering of Lorient in cooperation with the RAF Jan. 23.

CARRY BIG LOAD

Liberators, using the Fortresses today, are coming increasingly into prominence in this theater. They carry a heavy bomb load on each sortie, and have been used to good effect by the RAF as well as the United States Army Air Force.

The size and weight of the raid were not disclosed immediately, but it was the heaviest of the series. The two heaviest bomb carriers participating indicated that it packed explosive power.

By striking their first blow at the heart of the Axis in a bold daylight challenge, the American forces demonstrated their precision-bombing accuracy which has caused heavy damage to German war-making continental theater.



WHERE HISTORIC CONFERENCE OCCURRED—Dotted lines from Washington and London indicate conferences President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Churchill traveled to confer at a hotel in Casablanca (circled) North Africa, with heads of the French Government. Shaded areas are Axis-dominated.

Meeting Held By Congress French Leaders Reaction

Definite Settlement of de Gaulle-Giraud Differences Fails To Develop

By WES GALLAGHER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA. — (AP) — Two warriors whose ardent objectives are to fight the Axis, liberate France and free the remainder of the German-dominated world have faced each other across a table today.

Their meeting, long considered inevitable but long delayed, was pushed into being by President Roosevelt in a move which Churchill as one of the facets of the Allied strategy conference in North Africa.

STATEMENT ISSUED

For two days the two generals talked. And at the end of their official conference which said: "We have met. We have talked. We have registered agreement on the end to be achieved, which is the liberation of France and the triumph of human liberties by the total defeat of the enemy."

This end will be attained by union in war of all Free Frenchmen fighting side by side with all Allies."

There was no word as to who was present.

See FRENCHMEN on page 8

Allied Chiefs Hold Talks In North Africa

Separate To Put Strategy "Into Active and Coordinated Execution"

CASABLANCA, French Morocco. — (AP) — A master war plan for 1943 aimed at forcing the unconditional surrender of Germany, Japan and Italy has been mapped in a historic ten-day conference among President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and a score of top-flight military and supply leaders, and today the Allied heads had separated to put their global strategy "into active and concerted execution."

President Roosevelt, breaking more traditions, flew 5,000 miles for the meeting that began Jan. 14 and ended last Sunday with a press conference on the sunny lawn of a villa in Casablanca's outskirts near the Atlantic breakers through which American troops stormed ashore last November.

Churchill also flew to the rendezvous which found General Charles de Gaulle, Fighting French leader, and General Henri Giraud, French North African High Commissioner, setting together for negotiations to put a French Army, Navy, and air force into the field for powerful blows against the Axis.

WORK HARD

Working day and night, the President and Prime Minister were attended by virtually the entire war staffs of both nations, including all the service heads, and they reached "complete agreement" on their objectives, it was announced.

Premier Joseph Stalin of Russia and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek of China were kept advised of the progress and results of the conference which outwitted Nazi spies based in adjacent Spanish Morocco.

The presence of such a galaxy of American and British leaders, both strategists and field commanders, indicated that not only European invasion courses had been charted, but that field commanders had been decided upon for impending operations. Those who will command and where they will strike probably will remain military secrets for some time.

President Roosevelt took time out from the deliberations.

See ROOSEVELT on page 8

Quick European Offensive Seen

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — A supreme strategy of victory calling for the defeat of Italy and Germany first and Japan second and providing for a general European offensive, the purpose of the meeting, said the announcement, was to tell a great deal of what had been accomplished but added that it was "undecipherable" because it might have revealed military secrets.

Secretary of State Hull described the decisions as "most wise and timely" and "the most far-reaching importance." He expected, he said, to commit soon "a large force" to the Pacific.

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, declared that the meeting was "a triumph for the Axis will learn what it means through 1943."

"NOTHING NEW" Senator Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, a frequent critic of the Roosevelt foreign policy, observed that "of course it was a very spectacular thing for the President to make such a statement in public."

Germans Doomed In Stalingrad Area

Forces, Whittled Down To 12,000, Given Short Time To Live

LONDON. — (AP) — A Soviet U-boat of doom lay today on 12,000 German troops caught in two pockets in front of Stalingrad, the starving, freezing remnants of Hitler's armies once numbered at 220,000 men who were surrounded and then slashed to bits by the Red Army.

A time limit for their extinction was set by the Russians in a special communiqué.

"The history of wars has never known the encirclement and annihilation of such large numbers of regular troops as the Germans in this modern military equipment," the Russians' communiqué said.

The communiqué, as recorded by the Soviet radio Monitor, detailing the complete victory they claim over the besieged Stalingrad.

"We have not yet liquidated two small enemy groups separated and isolated from their leadership, totaling in all no more than 12,000 men, one to the north of Stalingrad and the other to the south of the city."

The Russians listed 40,000 of the forces held in the pocket, which they said surrendered Jan. 10 and said 28,000 had been taken prisoner. The remainder, they said, were "doomed and their liquidation is only a question of two or three days."

The Russians also reported that they had captured more than 450 miles of front from Voronezh on the upper Caucasus.

Reserve forces, bolstered by tanks, and other reinforcements have been without action. The success claimed by the Russians also marked the resumption of uninterrupted Russian use of three railroads out of Stalingrad.

The three are Salsk, Tatsinskaya and Bovorina.

See 35 MPH. on page 8

Nazis Sent To Balkans

Hitler Aides Would Organize Defenses

By EDWIN SHANKE

STOCKHOLM. — Adolf Hitler is reported to usually well-informed quarters here to have sent two trusted aides—General Fritz Erich von Manstein and Col. Gen. Baron Maximilian Von Weichs—into the Balkans, apparently to organize defenses against the possible opening of a front in southeastern Europe.

Manstein is thoroughly familiar with the Balkans because of previous activities there, it was he who commanded the German forces which reduced Sevastopol, but the Russians defeated his troops in the final stages of the Sevastopol offensive.

Von Weichs was one of the leaders in the battles of Bryansk and Vyazma on the Moscow front in 1941.

NAZIS NERVOUS

Since the rout of Field Marshal Erich Rommel in Libya and the Allied landing in France, North Africa, the Germans have shown nervousness, the Balkans have been sent for reinforcements are arriving there.

Analysts' developments in Russia, Swedish military correspondents lately have pointed out the danger in the Balkans, they have been sent for reinforcements are arriving there.

Major Arthur Henderson, financial secretary of the "unconditional surrender," said he did not know whether the new tank had been used in North Africa.

Aftermath Of Meeting—British Heartened By Prospect Of Great Drive Against Hitler

By JAMES KING

LONDON. — (AP) — New hope and new confidence surged through Britain today as the ringing declaration for the "unconditional surrender" of the Axis and the promise of a co-ordinated, smashing campaign against Adolf Hitler in 1943 reached this war-bound island from Casablanca.

Following closely the tremendous victories of the great Russian forces and the destruction of Mussolini's African Empire, the reports from Casablanca were taken as assurance that plans were ready to follow up these victories completely and unobtainably.

Food Sent To North Africa

LONDON. — Large quantities of food and other materials have been sent for the United Nations from Britain to the civilian population of North Africa as a humanitarian measure, the Ministry of Supplies said today.

These supplies were marked with red white and blue labels bearing American, British and French flags. The caption in French reads: "Delivered by the United Nations whose first rule the Axis will learn what it means through 1943."

Honore Giraud to arrive at a more clear cut agreement. But it was felt that at least some headway had been made in bringing them together and an open break, which could have jeopardized the military campaign in Tunisia, had been averted.

Senate Committee Approves Flynn For Minister To Australia

WASHINGTON. — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved today President Roosevelt's nomination of Edward J. Flynn, former national Democratic chairman, to be Minister to Australia and the President's personal representative in the Southwest Pacific.

The vote was 13 to 10. Three Democrats — Senators George, Democrat, Georgia; Van Nuys, Democrat, Indiana; and Little, Democrat, Iowa—joined with the seven Republican members of the committee in voting against confirmation. Committee endorsement sent the nomination to the Senate for con-

Senate Committee Approves Flynn For Minister To Australia

consideration next week. The Senate's decision on the appointment, which provoked Republican charges that Flynn was unfit for the diplomatic post, was in doubt. There now are 38 Republicans in the Senate and they are expected to vote almost solidly against confirmation.

An evidence of some Democratic opposition to the selection of the 35-year-old Flynn, long time personal and political friend of President Roosevelt, to the important Australian post. Van Nuys said he voted his "no" vote as a "protest against this gross practice of dumping controversial nominations in the lap of the Senate."

Weather

Light freezing rain or snow tonight.

Today's Temp.: H. 39; L. 24

Sunset Today 6:44

Sunrise Tomorrow 6:23

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 8