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AXIS FORCES TRY TO ESCAPE TUNIS TRAP; NAZI AIR BLOCKADE APPLIED

Axis Jittery Over Threat Of Invasion

Nazis Reported Making Efforts To Meet Attack on Many Fronts

LONDON—(AP)—Intensive Axis preparation to ward off any Allied invasion attempt along the soft underbelly of Europe were reported underway from the south coast of France to the Black Sea today as the German-Italian debacle in North Africa entered its final phases.

Although Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini seemed particularly concerned over the prospects of an Allied drive through Southern Europe, efforts from Holland indicated that the Axis was not overlooking the possibility of an assault across the English Channel.

MARITIME LAW FOR DUTCH

All of Holland was placed under martial law last night, the Netherlands news agency Aneta reported, and Dutch sources were convinced the action was taken by the Germans in an effort to forestall any armed outbreak in connection with an Allied invasion.

Heightening Axis fears, 600 Allied planes raided the Sicilian harbor of Palermo yesterday on the third anniversary of Hitler's invasion of the Lowlands, leaving that important base flaming and smoking under the heaviest aerial onslaught of the Mediterranean campaign.

In the Balkans, German troops were being moved southward through Hungary at a rate comparable to that preceding the Axis attack on Greece and Yugoslavia, according to travelers from Europe arriving at Ankara. Stockholm dispatches reported Germany was

Reds Pierce Black Sea Port Outer Defenses

Threaten Nazis At Novorossiisk At Novorossiisk

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW — (AP) — Red forces have penetrated the outer fortifications of Novorossiisk, dispatches from the front declared today, and are "persistently crumbling the enemy's defenses and breaking into the depths of his positions."

The Soviet advance in the Kuban coincided with continued fierce fighting in the air, which the Russians said had resulted in the destruction of 800 German planes in the last week, and a resurgence of activity in the Lischansk area in the Donets Basin.

The air warfare was linked with smashing Russian raids on German communication centers behind the central and Ukrainian fronts—apparently part of a well-considered plan to smash Nazi preparations for a summer offensive near the Kuban.

The midnight communiqué, which told of the destruction of the 800 German planes, said the Red Air Force lost 333 aircraft in the week ending Saturday.

The night's severe fighting is close and sharp, with violent hand-to-hand clashes in the morning following heavy mortar charges. Mortars pour shells upon opposing lines at intervals, and the fighting is becoming steadily more intense. The fighting is being waged mainly in the area of bombing and strafing.

The war upon German communications behind the Ukrainian, central and Moldavian fronts brought fresh destruction upon more than nineteen railway junctions.

Stromovik and bombers fell upon Bryansk, Poltava, Belgorod, Smolensk, Putivl, Dorogobuzh, Uspensk and other traffic centers, while another group struck directly at railway trains between Orel and Karachev, Tula and Voronezh, Novosokolniki and Vinnitsa, Leningrad and Zhidra, Spasdenyevsk and Elnya.

TANK ROLLS INTO BIZERTE

An M-4 American tank trundles up a street in Bizerte in the face of enemy fire, as a light vehicle passes it on the right, during the capture of the Tunisian city. (Associated Press photo from Signal Corps radiophone from Algiers.)

Troop-Laden Boats Sunk By Allied Airmen

Americans Obtain Unconditional Surrender of Over 25,000 Prisoners

By EDWARD KENNEDY
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA — (AP)—Naval and air forces threw a blockade around Cap Bon Peninsula and sank many small ships carrying Axis soldiers, desperately attempting to escape the Tunisian inferno today.

The American Second Corps obtained unconditional surrender of all enemy units in its territory southeast of Bizerte.

German resistance stiffened in front of British armor smashing against the entrance to Cap Bon Peninsula.

The position of Axis troops still fighting in Tunisia was described officially as "worse than desperate" and it is certain that no important number of German and Italian soldiers will escape from Africa.

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Sub Carries War To Jap Islands

Tokyo Reports Shelling of Village On Part of Nipponese Homeland

NEW YORK—(AP)—The Tokyo radio in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press, reported today that an Allied submarine had shelled the vicinity of Horobetsu village on the southeastern coast of Hokkaido Island, the second largest of the string of islands which constitute the Japanese homeland.

The broadcast quoted an announcement from Japanese northern army headquarters as saying the shells had landed in a field and caused no casualties or damage.

The nationality of the submarine was not given.

American submarines, however, several times have been reported in operation close off the Japanese coast. One recently returned with a photograph of Fujiyama taken through a periscope.

The Tokyo radio said the attack took place just before midnight yesterday.

Formidable Attacks

The attack was described as the most formidable the Soviet has ever made upon German communications and communication centers.

A dispatch from the Kuban front said the Germans, in trying to delay the Soviet advance, had sent them into the fighting, which extended from the marches of the Axis down to the Kuban River and from the river southward to Novorossiisk.

The front-line dispatch said that large groups of Germans were still in the area of the Cap Bon front, but that hourly their position inside Novorossiisk grows worse, and declared the German lines, including many tanks and that a number had been cut off from infantry behind the lines.

The Russians said that at least fifteen small craft loaded with soldiers and one transport had been sunk within the past 24 hours in the Black Sea.

Ferryville Populace Greets U. S. Soldiers

American soldiers and residents of Ferryville, Tunisia, mingle gaily in the City Square, their hands waving high in salutation. The conquering U. S. forces found a hearty welcome awaiting them after long Nazi occupation. (Associated Press photo from U. S. Signal Corps radiophone from Algiers.)

Axis Losses In Africa

Tall of 750,000 Men Lost in Long Retreat

LONDON—(AP)—The Axis has lost more than 750,000 men in the retreat from Africa, according to a report from the United States military intelligence today.

The figure is based on a tally of Axis troops captured, killed, or surrendered in the long retreat from Africa.

The report also stated that the Axis had lost more than 1,000 tanks, 1,000 aircraft, and 1,000 artillery pieces.

The report also stated that the Axis had lost more than 1,000 trucks, 1,000 motorcycles, and 1,000 bicycles.

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Batter Jap Warships

Three Destroyers and Enemy Bases Attacked

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Intensive American aerial activity directed against Japanese warships and bases in the Solomons area over the week-end had been reported by the Navy.

A communications source yesterday said heavy bombing raids battered three Japanese destroyers in the Gizo Island waters and struck enemy bases on Kahlili, Fauro, Balale and Munda.

STRAFES FLOTTILLA

Five-bomber torpedo planes, heavy bombers and fighters struck a flotilla of Japanese destroyers off Gizo Island, the Navy said, and one 1,000-pound bomb hit directly on a Japanese destroyer. Other half-ton bombs scored "near hits" on two other enemy destroyers.

The Navy did not report the extent of damage to the destroyer hit directly, but such a hit cripples the craft. Conception from the "near hits" might have caused severe damage to the other destroyers.

The communiqué did not report results of the attacks on Kahlili and Malialoa shore installations, nor did it mention details of a raid on Munda in the New Georgia group of the Solomons.

New British Destroyer Lost

LONDON—(AP)—The new British destroyer Pakenham has been lost, the Admiralty announced tonight.

Details of the sinking of the ship were not announced.

The Pakenham was built and commissioned since the war started and was adopted by the Borough of Walsley.

"Operating in the central Mediterranean in January, the Pakenham with six other destroyers took part in a series of successful actions lasting over three days which resulted in the destruction of thirteen enemy vessels," the Admiralty said.

London Has Air Alert
LONDON—(AP)—An air raid alert was sounded in some London areas about 7:30 P. M. (10:30 P. M. Eastern War Time) tonight.

No gunfire was heard and no planes were sighted.

Franco in Peace Move

Speech Appears To Be Tripartite

MADRID — (AP) — Generalissimo Francisco Franco made a clear appeal for world peace last night in Almeria, declaring neither the Axis nor the Allies could destroy the other and "it is senseless to delay the peace."

It was the second Spanish speech in April in less than a month. On April 18, Count Geli, Franco's radio report that Premier Mussolini, appealed for peace in an address to Barcelona.

Franco is indebted to both Italy and Germany for help in the Spanish Civil War and has proclaimed his friendship for the Axis. (Coming while the Axis Army in Tunisia was collapsing and Adolf Hitler was speaking of the intense hardships suffered by the German Army in Russia last winter, the speech appeared to have been an Axis-inspired tripartite seeking peace, despite the Roosevelt-

U. S. Thunderbolt Planes In Action

Squadrons of 400-Mile-An-Hour Fighters in European Operations

LONDON—(AP)—Powerful, 400-mile-an-hour American P-47 Thunderbolt fighters were disclosed today to have gone into action in the European theater of operations.

Squadrons of them flew over Americans under the Eighth Air Force Fighter Command have been making intermittent sweeps over the continent and constituted a big portion of the escort which helped the Flying Fortress May 4 in the raid on Antwerp.

Exceptionally powerful, the heavy, single-engine monoplane is armed with eight .50 caliber machine-guns like those on the Fortress. The fighters excel at high altitudes, like 35,000 feet.

The presence of the Thunderbolts in this theater was announced in the United States some time ago but only today the Air Force lifted the ban on revealing that they had been in action.

Several were lost in recent sorties.

This was the first disclosure of a new type of American fighter in the theater since the original P-38 twin-engine Lightning force arrived last Fall, escorted bombers on two raids and then went to Africa.

The Antwerp raid was the first with full American squadrons doing the escorting although United States Army Air Force fliers in Spitfires under the RAF have participated in most combats.

The Thunderbolt, built by the Republic Aviation Corporation, is virtually the same size as the British Typhoon with a wingspread

Hitler in Winter Relief Speech

LONDON—(AP)—Adolf Hitler today as declaring the Winter relief the heaviest suffering and the most urgent need for soldiers.

The broadcast was the first since the Berlin radio said Hitler's speech on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the organization of the Nazi "Winter Relief" campaign.

By halting the Russian assault and by counter-attacking Hitler said money that Italy would be knocked out of the conflict by the end of the year and Germany would be defeated by November, 1944.

Numerous bats were reported in the London financial district—where the bonds of victory caused a rally in the city—today, according to party officials. The broadcast, recorded by the Associated Press, said two of the raiders were shot down.

80,000 Axis Troops Estimated To Have Been Swept In Cap Bon Trap

By DANIEL DE LUCE
ON THE CAP BON FRONT, Tunisia, May 9 (Delayed)—The German military debacle in Tunisia, from which Col.-Gen. Jürgen Von Arnim was reported to have fled, is reaching its last disastrous climax tonight on the Cap Bon peninsula, which juts into the Mediterranean.

A First Army spokesman estimated that 80,000 Axis troops, defeated by their highest commanders, have been swept into this beach-like trap.

A much smaller Axis force, cornered at Porto Farina, eighteen miles east of Bizerte, has been frantically trying to evacuate in coastal boats.

(The detachments at Porto Farina mentioned in this delayed dispatch presumably were among the 25,000 remnants pocketed at the Second U. S. Corps sector Sunday. It was estimated that about 25,000 prisoners were captured from that sector alone.)

The men of the First Army vociferously agreed to "get this bloody business finished in two days—not two weeks."

They made attacks in the north-south direction at the Cap Bon front in the past 24 hours and were reported within a few miles of Sollum, a critical network of roads into the peninsula.

Any delay, it was recognized, might enable the enemy to get his guns well established in the hills north of the peninsula. In all Tunisia this Cap Bon position of approximately 25 miles width of 80,000 SEEN on page 8

Duce Strengthens Police and Militia

BERN, Switzerland —(AP)— Swiss dispatches reported tonight a Rome radio report that Premier Mussolini's first act following the Allied victories in Tunis and Bizerte was to order the police and Fascist militia strengthened.

Instructions were reported issued to crush relentlessly any attempt to cause disorder or trouble among the populace.

In addition to more recruiting being enrolled for the police, the existing force is to receive more and better weapons, it was reported.

Yanks Destroy 16 Jap Planes

CHUNGKING—(AP)—American fighters destroyed at least sixteen Japanese planes in a fifteen-minute running battle during the shattering U. S. raid on Canton Saturday, a communiqué from Lieutenant Joseph W. Stillwell's Headquarters said today.

The communiqué said that five other enemy planes probably were destroyed and two were damaged. One U. S. medium bomber, with its crew, was reported lost in the action.

The Tokyo radio, offering its version of the attack on Canton, said today that seven U. S. bombers, with an escort of Warhawk fighters, had attacked the area but had failed to hit any military objectives. The broadcast, recorded by the Associated Press, said two of the raiders were shot down.

London Brokers Make Bets on End of the War

LONDON—(AP)—The Allied victory in Tunisia caused a spurt today in wagering on the end of the war with some brokers offering odds that Italy would be knocked out of the conflict by the end of the year and Germany would be defeated by November, 1944.

Numerous bats were reported in the London financial district—where the bonds of victory caused a rally in the city—today, according to party officials. The broadcast, recorded by the Associated Press, said two of the raiders were shot down.

WEATHER

Little change in temperature! weathered! Underdowners.

Today's Temp. U. S. Sunset Today Sunrise Tomorrow

Additional U. S. Weather data will be appearing on page 8.