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U. S. 7TH ARMY IN MAJOR SICILY ADVANCE

Reds Drive Swiftly In Effort To Take Orel

German Armies Reeling Back By WILLIAM MCGAFFIN MOSCOW (AP) Advancing Red armies have battered their way from the heavily-wooded terrain northeast of Orel and are moving swiftly across rolling fields in their intensified drive to pinch off that German bastion and cut the Orel-Bryansk railway, front dispatches reported today.

Separate detachments of Soviet tanks rolled deep into the enemy's rear to the very approaches of the main enemy base, believed to be itself, while massed Russian forces were pulled on a springboard to the Otipukha River Valley only eight miles northeast of Orel.

HEAVY BLOWS As the campaign reached the close of the second week of furious fighting along the 165-mile stretch of the central Russian front, the Nazi armies were reported reeling back, under the猛烈 hammer blows of the Russian offensive.

The German commander said today that the Red Armies attacked in vain along the eastern and southern sectors of the Eastern front yesterday, inflicting serious losses in manpower as well as 337 tanks.

"On the Kuban bridgehead," the communique said, "the enemy discontinued his attacks in the course of the afternoon owing to his severe losses." Similar attempts to pierce the German lines on the East River and in the Lower Donets Basin were followed by the tenacious defense and counter-attacks of Nazi forces, the communique added. On the Orel front and north of Belgorod the Germans said they smashed repeated attacks by Soviet infantry and tank attacks. The German Air Force was successful in shooting Soviet air attacks, the communique said.

The Soviet midnight communique reported that the Red Army had advanced an additional four miles in one sector during the fighting yesterday, capturing several villages and killing 5,000 German troops.

HEAVY CASUALTIES The battle, which was intended by the Germans to pinch off the Kursk salient and stretch out the line, continued to pile up heavy losses in the Nazi armored and air divisions. The Russians said they announced that they had knocked out 70 tanks and 137 planes in one day and said an incomplete check showed twenty more tanks destroyed yesterday by bringing German losses to the staggering total of approximately 3,500 tanks and 2,000 planes in the last two weeks.

Russian communique have indicated during the last two days that Red Army troops were advancing steadily in somewhat slower despite adverse weather conditions. Reports of the fighting showed that the Germans were nipping at the Soviet flank and misting back in the face of determined Red mechanized attack.

The war bulletin said that the Russians succeeded in breaking in behind the retreating German in several instances, and that German prisoners reported that Nazi command, mindful of what happened at Stalingrad, is apprehensive of flank blows which will result in Nazi detachments being cut off and surrounded.

Son of Gerard Swope Is Married to Actress

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — John Swope, 30-year-old son of Gerard Swope, president of General Electric Co., has taken as his bride Dorothy McGuire, stage and screen actress, whom he met a year and a half ago in New York. They were married at the home of friends, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hayward, in the West. Mrs. McGuire was attended by Actress Frances Starr.



ALLIES PUNCH OUT NEW GAINS IN SICILY—The arrows indicate Allied drives along the advancing front (black line) in Sicily, topped off by the capture of Agrigento by U. S. troops. The British were reported near Catania, having captured Lentini and Scordia. Canadians took Caltagirone in the center sector, and Americans were reported striking far north and west of that point to broaden their hold on the south coast.

Gets Labor Draft Ready

WASHINGTON (AP)—Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Commissioner, said today he would have a compulsory Labor Draft Bill ready "if and when it seems necessary and one administration is ready to press for national service."

There have been hints that the Administration was giving renewed consideration to adding another legislative act after Congress reconvenes in September. McNutt told a press conference that WMO is "working on" the subject now, as it has before. "It's a matter of being ready when a need arises," he said, declining to express his views further.

Jobs Left

Meanwhile, he said draft boards had been ordered to take up the cases of men who have left the service.

Munda Nips Reel Under U. S. Blow

GREAT ALLIED AIR ARMADA SMASHES KAHILI AIRDROME AND SURFACE SHIPS ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (AP)—Allied airplanes and surface ships battered Japanese shipping in the Solomon Islands over the week-end as American troops increased their pressure on Munda with attacks on enemy positions near that key airbase.

United States warplanes beat back two more attempts to run supplies to the besieged Munda garrison on the 20-mile stretch of the Guadalcanal peninsula. Three destroyers, the first of three ships of the second class, were intercepted and sunk. The Japanese were forced to retreat. A landing force was believed to have been sunk and hits were scored on three others.

A powerful aerial force, described as an "armada," as almost as strong as the 20-plane armada that sank seven Japanese ships and shot down 40 planes in the Guadalcanal area Saturday, struck again at the remnants of enemy shipping in that harbor and pounded the nearby Kahili airfield. Thirteen Zeros were shot down. A cargo ship was sunk and two destroyers and another transport were damaged.

The raid was made by four-engine Liberators and torpedoes and five bombers with a strong fighter escort. Four of our planes failed to return.

Victory Over Guinea

Allied planes scored another victory over New Guinea Sunday. A successful attack on the airfield was carried out in the full light of day morning. While the raid was carried out in the full light of day morning, the brief communiqué, other objectives in the area were also being destroyed. These may have included the Pan-Asian Government offices, which are located only about 1,000 yards from the railroad center, most of the city's great religious monuments, including the Vatican, are several miles away.

Allied Forces Score Gains All Along Isle Front

By RELMAN MORIN ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA (AP)—The American 7th Army has captured Caltanissetta, almost half way across the mid-section of Sicily, in an eight-mile smash to split the enemy's front, battle reports to Allied Headquarters said today as Allied forces gained all along the front. While the rury of the powerful Allied air force turned for the Sicilian coast, the Italian Fascist power, and bombed war and industrial targets in and around the Italian capital, Canadian, British and American troops drove forward in all sections of the Sicilian front.

Move To Split Enemy's Lines

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Head Over Channel

LONDON (AP)—A strong force of Allied planes was reported heading across the English Channel this afternoon in the direction of Calais and Boulogne.

Two American Vessels Sunk

By ASSOCIATED PRESS Announcement by the Navy last week of the sinking of two American merchant ships in the Western Atlantic early this month brought to 678 the Associated Press count of announced Allied and neutral ship losses in those waters since Pearl Harbor.

Attack On Rome Made In Morning

WASHINGTON (AP)—Military objectives in Rome, ancient center of Mediterranean civilization, seat of the Roman Catholic Church and capital of Fascist Italy, were bombed today by Army fliers. Allied light and heavy bombers, specifically instructed to avoid damaging religious and cultural monuments such as the Vatican, home of Pope Pius XII, rained destruction on the city. The target was termed "of greatest importance to the Italian war effort and in particular for the movement of German troops." The Army said that prior to the release of the bombs, Allied fliers warned the Eternal City with showering leaflets. They told Italy that the target areas marked for destruction were strictly military and that every effort would be made to avoid damage to civilian areas. They also advised Romans that the Fascist Government might make any

First Attack Made On Heart Of Italy

Specially Trained Crews in Precise Assault on Military Objectives in the Eternal City

By RELMAN MORIN ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA (AP)—An all-American force of Flying Fortresses, Liberators, Mitchells and Marauders carried out the war's first bombing of Rome, it was disclosed tonight.

The fliers concentrated on military targets in the Eternal City. The San Lorenzo Marshalling yard, one of the targets, lies four miles from Vatican City. The Flying Fortresses led the way and while they were attacking the San Lorenzo yards Liberators bombed the Littorio railway freight yards.

Simultaneously hundreds of Marauders and Mitchells, escorted by Lightnings, began a lengthy attack on the Campino air-drome. The fliers struck at the very heart of Fascist Italy in an emphatic follow-up to the Churchill-Roosevelt surrender demand.

CAIRO (AP)—United States Liberators based in the Middle East took part in the war's first raid on Rome today and dropped 350 tons of bombs, it was announced tonight.

The crews were specially trained to carry home a precision attack, pinpointing targets which supposedly were protected by their proximity to some of the most sacred symbols and monuments of Christianity.

The San Lorenzo Marshalling yards was the closest target to the Vatican.

Forty-five minutes after the first attack another wave of Flying Fortresses laid a new pattern of bombs over the same yards. All the crews were carefully instructed to avoid historical and religious points by means of large aerial photographs on which such places as Vatican City, St. John Lateran and others were outlined in red with the legend nearby "Must on no account be damaged."

A terrific force of explosives burst in Rome. Prior to the falling of the bombs went leaflets telling Italians why the Eternal City had to be attacked — because the Fascists capitalizing on hallowed precincts, had systematically concentrated their war machinery there and funneled German troops as well as their own through Roman railways.

"It is from this war engine that weapons to kill our soldiers have been coming," the Allied message said.

Bombs were away—dropped on their targets—in broad daylight at 11:13 A. M. (5:13 A. M., Eastern War Time.)

(The bombing was announced by the War Department in Washington at 5:29 A. M. before the bombers had time to return.)

(An Algiers radio broadcast at 2 P. M.—8 P. M., Eastern War Time—said the returning planes were just then coming back.)

(A commentator, in a broadcast from Algiers recorded by The Associated Press in London, said "it may be assumed the attack was an American operation.")

Rome, Bombed For First Time, Is City Of Almost Million People

By ASSOCIATED PRESS In 733 B. C. upon the Palatine and Capitoline hills which rise 120 feet above the river, but there is ample evidence of earlier habitation. Under the Sabine kings the city was extended to the adjacent hills. At the birth of Christianity its warriors and ships dominated the Mediterranean basin and its kings and emperors, lavish in their spending, gave it the buildings and engineering miracles whose ruins exist today. It became the seat of Christianity early in the Sixth Century when Pope Symmachus built the Vatican on the site of the old gardens of Nero where it still remains today. The modern city of Rome is divided into four sections, three of them lying on the left bank of the Tiber. The first section, Campus Martius, lies to the north and grew up

WEATHER

Continued warm this afternoon and Tuesday morning. Today's Temp.: H. 90; L. 73. Sunday Temp.: H. 85. Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:24. Additional H. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 6.