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Carolinas

Not War—Only Defeat—Destroys the Freedom Of Men And The Privileges Of Democracy

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GREAT CORAL SEA BATTLE—LExINGTON WON BY U. S. BUT CAPTURED LEXINGTON LOST

Drive Upon Tobruk Is Resumed By Rommel

Hot Tank Battle
Rages in Libya

CAIRO, Egypt. — (AP) — British tanks are locked in a bitter battle with German armor forces about 30 miles southeast of Tobruk today in an effort to block the drive of three strong columns which turned northeastward toward the Free French out of Bir Hacheim, southern anchor of the British line.

Harmat, six miles south of the desert track crossing of Knightsbridge, around which has centered the battle of the British line.

Knightsbridge is 25 miles south of Tobruk and about fifteen miles west of El Adem.

Following withdrawal of the three French from the desert plateau of Bir Hacheim on Wednesday night after a sixteen-day battle, front line dispatches said the Germans turned northeastward and struck toward Harmat.

Blocked there last yesterday, the Germans sought to turn aside and fight, were reported locked in a struggle between Harmat and El Adem.

Harmat was seized by the British, and the Germans were driven off in a thrust from their coastal positions last week.

Following the withdrawal of the British from Bir Hacheim, one of the principal efforts of Nazi Marshal Erwin Rommel had been directed to removing the embarrassment to his rear at Bir Hacheim.

Now that this had been accomplished, it was assumed that he was able to throw his main effort into the resumption of the drive on Tobruk with his supply lines no longer menaced by attacking fire and raids from Bir Hacheim.

Independent
Air Force

15-Day Collection Of Scrap Rubber Will Start June 15

Roosevelt Urges Public To Look for
Old Articles for War Use

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — President Roosevelt announced today an intensive campaign for collection of the nation's old scrap rubber supply would start June 15 and last through June 30.

Individuals were urged by the Chief Executive to search their basements, attics and back yards for all items of rubber that have been discarded or can be discarded.

Offices, factories and farms also are being asked to co-operate.

Through arrangements with the oil industry 400,000 filling stations will serve as collection depots. They will pay one cent a pound for the rubber brought in, and the government will reimburse them that sum.

President Roosevelt, declaring that the rubber situation was extremely serious, again urged the people to cut down on pleasure driving and reduce both automobile speed and mileage.

He told a press conference he had no idea when a person with four tires might be able to get new ones. It may be a long, long time, he said. So, he added, it is a matter of common sense to make existing tires wear as long as possible.

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Mainland Forces May Be Released To Pacific

Midway Battle
Removes Threat

By CLARK LEE

PEARL HARBOR. — (AP) — Speedy American reinforcements may be sent to Western Pacific theaters and all Pacific battle points, it is predicted as a result of the Battle of Midway.

The Japanese defeat is felt to have removed, at least for the predictable future, any threat that the mainland of the United States might be invaded.

Therefore, it is believed such forces which may have been held on the West Coast of the United States as a defense against possible invasion have now been freed for land-based air forces, where they are more urgently needed.

The Battle of Midway showed the effectiveness of aircraft in coastal defense to such an extent that any area with sufficient aerial protection may feel reasonably safe from invasion.

Such defense forces should include dive-bombers, torpedo planes, fighters and heavy bombers.

These forces found there is no war for a surface vessel to evade.

Somehow the pilots of my squadron are seated with me around a large table there is an atmosphere of tension. It seems as if we set to work plotting our courses and planning our method of attack.

TURN COMES

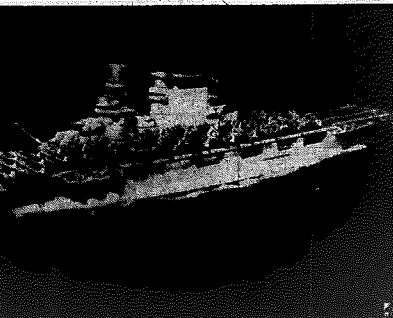
The pilot's flying gear—gloves, life jackets, helmets—is beside their chairs. There is little conversation and I don't give any fight talk. Everybody knows what we are up against. We hear the fighters taking off above us. Then our turn comes and we walk up to the flight deck where our planes are waiting, already warmed up and with crews aboard.

Young and clear-eyed, the pilots are obviously excited, but no more than if they were going out to play a tough game of football. They dig into their magazines and take out a cigarette and a glass of beer.

They are a little nervous as we take off, but once in the air they steady up quickly. We don't have time getting into formation for the enemy is nearly at the maximum range and the gasoline may be precious. One circle and we are in line.

Just as the squadron up through the clouds and we break out of the clouds into perfect blue and a blue sea.

CLINTONE NORTH



LOST IN BATTLE—The Lexington, proud American aircraft carrier, which was lost in the Battle of the Coral Sea, the major American victim of a struggle which saw United States forces in a smashing victory.

How American Fliers Ripped Into Jap Aircraft Carriers

By the Commander of an American Torpedo Plane Squadron in the Coral Sea Battle, as told to CLARK LEE.

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PACIFIC—(AP) — At 8 A. M. our scout planes loomed out of an overcast sky and came upon the enemy aircraft carriers.

The worst quickly spread through the ship that they had sighted an enemy aircraft carrier and that we are to attack. The date is May 7—five months after Pearl Harbor.

In the room where the pilots of my squadron are seated with me around a large table there is an atmosphere of tension. It seems as if we set to work plotting our courses and planning our method of attack.

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Navy Gives Summation Of Naval Struggle

Great Damage to
Jap Armada

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — The smashing naval victory in the battle of the Coral Sea cost the United States the 33,000-ton aircraft carrier Lexington.

From March 10 through the day of the battle, the Lexington, which spread fires the crew was unable to put out after it had "fought heroically for more than five hours" to save their ship.

Assuming that the normal complement of 2,500 men was aboard during the action, somewhat fewer than 200 of them were lost on the basis of Navy officials' estimates that 92 per cent of the Lexington's crew was rescued.

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Red Forces Strike Back

Counter-Attack Made By
Sevastopol Defenders

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW. — (AP) — After beating off a week of virtually constant German onslaughts, defenders at the Crimean naval base of Sevastopol have counter-attacked and improved some of their positions.

Red Star said that despite local successes, the situation at Sevastopol remains "extremely tense."

"Great firmness and mobilization of efforts will be necessary for final repulse of the enemy," it added.

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'Tigers' in China Battle

But Chinese Concede
Loss of Rail Town

CHUNGKING. — (AP) — The Chinese, having exacted a tremendous price, conceded today that the Japanese had won Chushien, an important railway town and station of western Chekiang Province, but claimed capture of another point behind the Japanese lines and new success for the American Volunteer Group fighters in shooting down half of force of 18 Japanese planes over Kweichow Province, early today.

The success of the American Volunteer Group fighters in shooting down half of force of 18 Japanese planes over Kweichow Province, early today, emphasized the entry of the "Tigers" into the battle of China proper. They are veterans of the battle of Burma and the Burma Road.

Loss of Chushien was recorded in a high Command communique which said the Chinese completed withdrawal Wednesday after a nine-day battle in which 18,000 casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

Somehow offsetting this was the announcement of the recapture of two of the Chekiang Railway about halfway between Chushien and the Hangchow terminus, 160 miles northeast.

The Japanese reported their forces, averaging 60 miles to the west of Chushien, had crossed into Chekiang from Chushien Province. The Rome radio broadcast that the Japanese had captured Yushan, ten miles west of the Chekiang-Kiansen border but Tokyo made no such claim.

Chinese Call For Russia To Hit Japan; Say U. S. Has Done Part

CHUNGKING. — (AP) — The Chinese press called bluntly on Soviet Russia today to strike at Japan in the wake of the Japanese attack on Midway and the Aleutians and the Russian-American British understanding on the creation of a second front in Europe in 1942.

The newspaper Tsu Kung Pao asserted: "America has done her part in helping Russia, now that American outputs have been subjected to Japanese attacks, isn't it time for Russia to help America in the Pacific? Russia should also realize that the Japanese attack on the Aleutians was a direct threat to Kamchatka and Siberia."

"Can Russia stand aside and watch the midwife agreed to her very grave? She must do something and do it quickly, even if only for her own safety."

The China Times said it hoped "Russia would make the timely decision to help the Allies in the Pacific by going to war against Japan."

"Soviet participation in the Pacific war not only will hasten the common Allied victory but will give her greater security in the East as she is fighting Germany in the West," it said.

"It is time for a change in the Soviet-Japanese relations."

WEATHER

Scattered
thunderstorms
this
afternoon
and
evening.
Little
change in
temperature.

Today's Temp.: H. 86; L. 68
Sunset today: 8:37
Sunrise tomorrow: 6:08

Additional 15 Weather Bureau data will be found on page 2-B.

Note to Readers

Dispatches from Berlin, Rome, Tokyo and other sources are published by The News with the caption that they are from the sources named. The News is not responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in these dispatches.