Runaway Fortress **Almost** Hits Ship

By HAL BOYLE
AN AMERICAN AIR BASE IN
ITALY-69-The Phyling Portream
over Haly and its crev was miffed because a German gunner had
put 300 flat holes in their ship,
making it look
ilies a hig Swiss
cheese with
wings.

dreaming of dough nuts and coffee withing at the end of the riu when an exceled about from the tail summer straightened thus in his celt. "There's a ship right behind us!"

us!"
"What's he doing back there?"
asked Bevier.
"He's following us."
"Well, what do you want me to

"He's following us."

"Do something, quick!" yelled the excited gunner.

The situation was a rude shock to the 2x-year-old pilot, in addition to flying through heavy flat, ton to flying through heavy flat, planes had been attacked by 65 enemy fighters as they left the target, Bevier's own gunners had knocked down fire Nazis; they had thought the fighting was end-even the same of the same possible that the same

wrong way," called the (all in gunner.

The pilot swung the Fortress the other way.

"Still after us — and setting the strength of the strengt ay. after us — and getting

Japs Admit China Rout

At Junction Points NEW YORK-(8)-The Japanes NEW YORK—489—The Japanese catchonicaged today their forces in China had "returned to their feriginal base of operations" after a plumpe into the "Rice Bowl" area of neethern Human Province. A Tokyo bioacteast recorded by S. mentiors quoted an Imperial Headquarters communique

perial Headquarters communique as announcing further that 22,737. Oltinese were killed and 14,225 captured for a Japanese loss of 1,658 'Killed or wounded' in the campalar.

The communique asserted there had been a "successful termination of activities" west of Lake Tungting from which Colline's forces have now cleared virtually all resistances.

forces have now cleared virtually all resistance. Presumably attempting to draw Presumably attempting to draw from the force of counters item tase appanese rout in the five down area, a Dound dispatch brandeau by Tokton and treated by the campaign had "humbed important and the first dispatch declared the January and the January and the first dispatch declared the January and the Janu

DRIVE AS ORTONA FA Rail Strike Off As Last Three Unions Capitulate

Agree To Call Off Walkout, Set For Tomorrow

Return of Roads To Owners Possibility After Action Taken

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The vailroad strike is off.

Three operating unions, after reaisting previous offers of arbitration, agreed today to call off the nation-wide strike which had been set for fomorrow.

Their decision, following similar action by two other operating brotherhoods antily non-operating brotherhoods antily non-operating the properties of the control of the private operation. On orders of the private of the private of the private of the private operation. On orders of the private operation. On orders of the private operation. On orders of the private o

Russians Smashing

Three Nazi Destroyers Sent Down

Others Crippled In Biscay Action

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE

LONDON—(AP)—A brilliant new victory in the British Navy's campaign to destrongth of the German fleet
—the sinking by combined
warship and air action of
three German destroyers in
the Bay of Biscay and crippling of others—was announced loday.

A joint Admirally and Air Minierty communique telling of these
blows in southern waters of the
coast of France and due north of
Spain followed by only a few hoursmillication of the full story of the
Scharnhorst in the cold Arctic.
BIG SCALE ENTERFRISE

Full details of the Biscay action
are yet to be told but it plainly
the which perhaps at still continmus. "Other details are awaited,"
that communique said.
In the same area an Ais block
By Coastal Command plaines.
Nothing's was said of any British
loss.

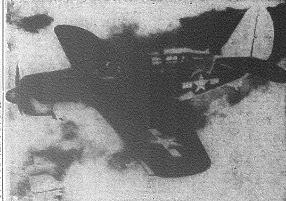
This new spair of British

This new spart of British Some new spirst of British new spirst of British naval fire-fire which aircady has dealt a crippling if not amortal wound to German capital ship power-brought to at the cast 42 the number of Gerband to the number of British number of Br

the new blows against. Hitler's dwindling navy came on the sof the death of the 28,000 battleship Scharnborst late lay in the Arctic after she and it Clerman surface units had ured forth to attack a Russia-

tutaring strongonts of Glomes literen miles nowth of Livino in a ware, but of alternal to have a strong and a force of crimera and in accordance of the might battle billy Dalle of the milest partial in a ware, but of alternal to have a strong a secret of the milest partial before the property of the p

Washington False Alert



Yanks Head To Airfield

Two Britons On Eisenhower Staff

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea —49—
Stiffening Japanese ground resistsittening Japanese superior resistsittening Japanese superior resiststarm falled to halt the United some storm falled to halt the United states Marines advance from their
invasion beachheads at Cape Gloucacier, New Britals, towards the
The Leathernecks, with task as the
The Leathernecks, with task as upport and sided by planes which
pounded enemy defenses which to
pounded enemy defenses with 150
tons of bombs, pushed their way
task miles from the above where
planet receive the
tons of bombs, pushed their way
task miles from the above where
planet receive the
munique lozal which
from the shore where
planet receive the
munique lozal which
munique lozal
munique lozal

Mear Rome

London

Near Rome

London

Mear Rome

London

Mear Rome

Mea

LONDON — [8]— Allied medium bombers peopered afrelelds mear Rome yeaterday and Nazi propagandiats sought today to picture the operation as an attack on the capital itself.

A communique from Allied Headquarters at Algiers confirmed the bombings today. Earlier enemy radio stations were on the air with with early described to the homography of the property of the property in the property of the pr

Canadians Push North Toward Port Of Pescara

Announce Ortona Battle Over

By WES GALLAGHER
ALLIED HEADQUANTERS, ALGIERS — (AP)—
Canadian troops, who esptured Ortona in the most vioeint house-to-house battle of
the Mediterranean campaign,
mashed north along its
coast in anow and sleet toley
toward Rome's Adriatic port
of Pescara.

The Allied communique anmounced that the eight-day,
"bitter struggle for Ortona is
over,"

the bombings today. Barlier one, my radio stations were on the sign of the combined control of the state of the combined control of the combined contr

Invasion Armies And Equipment Amassed

CAIRO —49.— A final plan for the Allies' invasion of Europe from the west was laid before the Rosseveit-Churchill conference here by Gen. Dwight D. Ebenhower and Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Ted. der, a British source asserted

der, a British source asserted today.
The plan was approved within a few days and the amassing of vast armies and mountains of equipment for the zero hour was started im-

Eisenhower and Teilder made a secret flight to Caira from a their plan whereby the air, and their plan whereby the air, and and as experience of the Miles in North Africa and and an approximation of the control assulf, and an approximation of the course of the course

All Not Well With Jap Air Arm

New Britain Developments Hint

LONDON—(AP)—Six days after his troops regained the offensive, Gen. Nikolai Vatutin's forces today were storming the outer defenses of Zhitomir and Korosten, strategic junction points on the Leningrad-Odessa railway, 80 miles west of the Ukrainian capital of Kiev. Front dispatches placed once appeathes and Shootwas Heavy Christopher within ten miles of Zhitomir after sweeping through Christopher with the control of the con

Ortona City Of Dead Following Capture

yet been removed by the burial parties.
Every street in the Adriatic part of \$2600, captured this part of \$2600, captured this after a week of some of the bloo oilest fighting in the Mediterranean campaign, is pled high who chief with debris most of which we have cetterwise minted to be a street of the street. The rear of battle has lifted from the ruins and for a few hours this afternoon us term a stell landed in the streets. There were no whereing elv-

WITH THE CANADIAN FORCES IN ITALY, Dec. 28— (Delayed)—4/9—The town of Ortona tonight resembled a tomb and for many seldiers and civilians it has been just that. The dead, lying in the streets and doorways, have not yet heen removed by the burial parties.

President Tells News Conference of the conferenc Fourth Term Talk Is "Picayune"

By D. HAROLD OLIVER

MPORTANT POSITION