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T. HAMPDEN

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ES STORM HILLS ON AXIS LI PLANES PROMISED FOR M'ART



Important Role Played By WASHINGTON—(AP)—American troops in Tunisis played an important part in the major victory over the Axis in Tunisis, Secretary of War Stimson said today, operating precisely according to plans and orders. Stimson said he believed reports critical of American operations in Tunisia, which he said have been circulated in recent days, had not been quite fair to the American troops. Specifically, he said, the Americans had not driven through to the coast in a move to intercent the northward dlight of Marshal Rommel's forces because they were under etric drefers not to advance beyond a designated link in the hills west of the coastal platin. In the master plan for the Tunisian campaign, Stimson told his press (conference, the major task was given to the British Lighth Army, while the Americans in Central Tunisia, the French torces in the Ousselfia whiley and thore the ousself will suffer a ment About Growing Enemy Power By MURLIN SPENCER AUSTRALIA — AUSTRA

AMERICAN TASK

MMERICAN TASK
Deeplie the religible small size
of Lit-Oen George S. Patton's
econd Corpa-composed of one
immered and two infantry divisions
-the Americans were assigned,
Stimson said, to "contain" the Avis
orces on a front of approximately
100 miles between El Guetar and
Pendouk.

100 miles between El Guetar and Pondouk.
They accomplished this assignment, while operating in difficult country against the best German armed and motorized units, the Secretary continued, and Pattton's trusts forced Rommel of direct of the fiank that, the breaking of the March Line by the British Eighth Army was greatly facilitated.

given to him."

The Secretary said that General Sir Harold Alexander, in command of the entire Tunisian ground operations of the Allies, probably decided against a thrust to the coast becaute of two principal rea-

he Alled command in three days. The statement came soon af-ter the announcement that the Japanese had launched their third air attack in force in four days on an Alled base in New Guinca yesterday with an at-tack on Milme Bay that cost the enemy probable losses of 30 planes, Including 22 bombers.

aviation, asserted:

"As regards uperchant ship-ping, a concentration of ap-proximately 250,000 tons has been maintained in or around Rabaul alone for the past sev-cral months.

ment About Growing Enemy Power

by MURIN SPENCER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS 13

Annes combat fleet is condativity
being maintained in the Truk areas,
within less than three days sailing
dispance of New Guinea, a spaces
indo for Gen. Doughts MacArthur
asit today is one warning to the sail of the sail

Allied in the Southwest Pacific.

Gen. Glamey said the Japnances had 200,000 first-line
troops in the area around
Australia if they decided to attempt an invasion. In the United States, Frank Knox, Secrary of the Navy, said the Japance didn't have a sufficient
at special to aftenigh an invasion of Australia.

at present to attempt an invasion of Australia.

Yesterday's MacArthur statement although not siven as an answe to Secretary Knox, declared the language cities of the secretary from the secretary from the secretary from the secretary control in the air, maval concentrations would quickly follow.

The Japanese assault from the air, starting Sunday, was being pushed with big concentrations of fighter-escorted bombers. A heavy toll of the raiders had been exacted by Allirid declarated to the secretary of the secre

More Than Third Of Bond Fund



Constantly Increasing Arms Flow Scheduled Stimson Takes

Note of Pleas

Note of Pleas

By John Hichtower
Washington (AP)

A constantly increasing flow
of sircraft and other military
supplies was promised today
by Secretary of War Stimson
for the forces of General
Douglas MacArthur in the
Southwest Pacific

Taking constance at his press
conference of recent pleas from
Australia for additional planes to
meet the more asgressive Japaness
actial activity of recent weeks,
Stimson said

We will keep our
bled with sufficient planes not
only to replace our losses but to
build up our aircraft to counter
the increasing enemy air atrength."

"AGGRESSIVE DEFENSEY "AGGRESSIVE DEFENSE"

the increasing enemy ale strength."

AGGRESSIVE DEFENSE

**SUBSON's comments came as millionary and the strength of the st

NEEDS KEPT IN MIND

heater."
The authorities discussing the Japanees strategy held out little promise of early Allied offensives against the Japanees on a maje scale. They extra the promise of the strategy of the form of the strategy of the season of the strategy elsewhere and that a Parille undertaking comparable to that in the European-North African theater would overtal its afrength especially in adapting.



Bickett Has 319 Hours Of Combat

Liberator Gunner Now Visiting Here, On Many Bombing Missions

By J. A. DALY

Charlotte News staff Writer

Blasting five large, heavily bloaded Axis supply ships
to fiery destruction in the Mediterranean Sea in a half hour
by a squadron of American Air Forces B-24 Liberators was
the most spectacular single war-time event in the 319 hours
of combat flying by Sergeant George L. Bickett Jr., gunnersergeant, from bases in Palestine, Egypt and Libya.

sergeant, from bases in Pale
"We got all the merchant
ships in that convoy—we didn't
waste our bombs on the destroyer accompanying themand the second squadron on
that mission was preved because
we didn't teave them a target,"
said this Charistic youth, lack
property, Mr., and Mrs., Gorge
L. Bickett, of Derila Rd.

L. Blekett, of Derita Rd.
While on the dozens of combat
missions each of which required
from seven to ten hours of flying.
Sergeant Blickett from upstairs became well acquainted with the
seegraphy of that part of the world.
He reported that he is familiar
with aerial views of Tobruk. Bensast, the El Adament Bine. Tripoli.
Tunix, Biertte—berause they were
one or more times each a target
for their bombing missions.
SEVERAL DECORATIONS

SEVERAL DECORATIONS See SGT, BICKETT ON Page, 11

The News To Reprint

Raid Kiska Ten Times

Record Number of

Success Caps Assaults By Infantrymen

French, British Take 600 Prisoners, Running Total Bag Over 30,000

Running Total Bag Over 30,000

By DANIEL DE LUCE

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA—
(A)—French and British infantry successfully stormed two
important hills on the south and western fronts of the constricted Axis Tunisian line yesterday and, capturing 600
prisoners, increased the total Allied bag since the opening
of the Marcth offensive to more than 30,000.

Attacking the Djebel Sefsout, the French rounded up
400 Germans and took possession of that mountain position
which has been the western anchorage of Marshal Erwin
Rommel's new Entidaville line.

The Djebel Sefsout line so
the voltage of Bir
Kararhoun.

Pield dispatches, said a further
solvance by the British Eighth Army
Ele Strick of the voltage of Bir
Kararhoun.

Attacked

Attacked

CAPTURE MOUNTAIN TOP

RAF Bombers Strike

CAPTURE MOUNTAIN TOP

CONSTURM OF UNION TO P
LICUL-GEN. K. A. N. Anderson's veteran British infantyment capveteran British infantyment capveteran British infantyment capAng, eight miles above Medjeb-ElBab and some 30 miles west of from the capTunis in fierce flighting during the capBab and some 30 miles west of from the capTunis in fierce flighting during the capSilve flighting during the capSilve flighting during the captish sad been seized by the capAblied in Tunishs stehe Gen. Silve flighting the capdifferent sad been seized by the capAblied in Tunishs stehe Gen. Silve flighting the capdifferent sad the capOf these 32.980 were fitalians.

Fremature reports. broadcast by the Algiers radio, that the Allies had captured Enificaville. So miles with the capMansour 38 miles to the west, were officially denied.

Aerial operation boosted to

Across 400 Miles per of the control of the control

the Algest.

Index eaptured Entidavane.
Index eaptured Entidavane.
Index eaptured Entidavane.
Index eaptured Entidavane.

Actal operations boosted to more than 200 the number of Asis parasan theater in the five-day period from Satur day through Wednesday, an average of 40 at a fight of the Ministery declared, tendessal period from Satur day through Wednesday, an average of 40 at a fight of the Ministery declared, tendessal period from Satur day through Wednesday, an average of 40 at a fight of the Ministery declared, tendessal period from Satur day through Wednesday, an average of 40 at a fight of the Ministery declared, tendessal fight of the Ministery declared, tendessal fight of the Ministery declared, tendessal fight of the Ministery declared, the Ministery de

Record Putics.

Attacks on Japs

Washington—an—The Aleutians Air Porce Command broke all previous records for number of attacks on kiska in a single day. The Aleutians Air Porce Command broke all previous records for number of entermined the American formation. Its gunners shot the entermined thand was raised et arrived to the following the American formation by the arrived the following the American formation by the American formation by the American formation and the American formation by the American formation by the American formation by the American formation by the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the American formation and the American formation. Arrived the American formation and the Americ

RAF Bombers Strike

Across 400 Miles

See Here, Private Hargrove

umn about his experiences and this column was published exclusively in Thra News, Last year the color common were collected and published by Renry Holt & Co. and Immediately landed in the best-seller ALGERS—57—An self-seller

Recently Bell Syndicate began Pro-Axia newspaper syndication of "See Pro-Axia Here, Private Hargrove" and the feature is now being used in some military of the metropolitan papers of the land; see the pro-tand; see the pro-

Raised But "Hard Road Ahead" WASHINGTON—45" — Secretary
Morgenthau reported today the
Tressury already has raised more
than one-third of the \$13,000,000,
000 noight it the second was the
assurable and the second was the
the second w Morganithau reported today the Trissary already has rated men that non-third of the \$11,000,000,000 sought in the second were lossed men to the second with the second were lossed ampaign which opened Morday.

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