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# ALLIES PRESS AIR OFFENSIVE FROM AFRICA

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

## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

ESTABLISHED 1888 CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA. FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1943 20 Pages—Price Five Cents

# U. S. TROOPS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN TO DRIVE JAPANESE FROM ALEUTIANS

## Veterans Now Battle Fire Tempers U. S. War Machine

By HAROLD V. BOYLE

WITH THE AEF IN TUNISIA (AP)—Individual units of fighting men who only a few months ago suffered terribly from inexperience and lack of coordination were welded together into a great, sure-footed American Army in the final days of the Battle of Tunisia.

Divisions whose component parts fell back before an experienced enemy at Faid Pass, drove forward relentlessly when re-grouped to fight as they had been trained—as a unit.

Now the errors have been turned into lessons learned. The proper co-ordination of different elements in a specific assignment and avoidance of the temptation to use elements and weapons on tasks for which they are not fitted.

For example, at Tebourbi and Medjez El-Bab, tanks tried to operate over marshy ground in bad weather. They tried and went down without enough supporting infantry to hold their gains, and they lost heavily because they tried to duel entrenched anti-tank guns. They forgot, Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's famous observation, "the quickest way I know to kill gentlemen, is to try to storm an anti-tank gun head on."

The policy of feeding in men and equipment by dribble was exemplified by the chaos and catastrophe of Sidi Bou Zid where on February 14 and 15 two battalions of medium tanks were set against a superior German force that broke from Faid Pass and separately ripped them to pieces. This was followed by the superior tactics of Maknassy, El Guettar, Mateur, Bizerte and in the Battle of the Peninsula east of Bizerte ending in the complete German capitulation.

In these latter engagements enough men to do the job were used as a complete unit.

The famous First Infantry Division met with only mediocre success in a series of actions during which it was split up and separated, but at El Guettar and Gafsa, where it fought for the first time as a complete division under divisional command, it smashed the last major German attack in the most resounding American victory in Africa up to that time.

OPERATES AS UNIT

The First Armored Division, in the final battle that broke the Nazi Army and forced it to surrender, was operating as a unit.

It is only fair to point out that in the early days units were broken up and attached to critical points of the front because of military emergencies which compelled their employment in other than ideal uses.

It takes blood and defeat as well as victory to make a great Army. The soldiers who first flooded into Tunisia from peaceful America were bold and brave and green. They did not yet know their own limitations or the limitation of their weapons. They were too eager to do too much too fast. They still had the idea that a brave believer in democracy armed with a 37 millimeter gun could whip a Nazi puppet soldier armed with an 88mm cannon. It just wasn't so, and they found it out and are better soldiers for having learned it.

A distinguished example was Major Levi Chase. Flying a P40, a type of pursuit plane which some critics said could not compete with faster German Messerschmitts and Focke Wulfs, he knocked down ten Nazi craft to become the leading North African ace. He did it by capitalizing on his plane's fire power and maneuverability. He didn't try to chase Messerschmitts. He let them attack, then outmaneuvered them. He knew what his plane could do and what it couldn't.

BATTLE CAUTION LEARNED

The American soldier is as brave as the day he landed but has been taught to temper boldness with battle caution. He is now a veteran in every sense of the word.

## Sardinia, Sicily and Italy Under Air Attacks

Navy Force Hits Italian Island

By EDWARD KENNEDY

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA (AP)—Allied air squadrons rained powerful blows upon Sardinia, Sicily and Italy here yesterday as the offensive no longer divided by the necessity for support of ground troops in Tunisia.

U. S. Fifth Air Force and Marine Corps squadrons made an assault upon Cagliari, port and air base which strategic support Axis forces in North Africa.

The raid was the largest yet undertaken against Sardinia targets, far surpassing that on Medaglia two weeks ago.

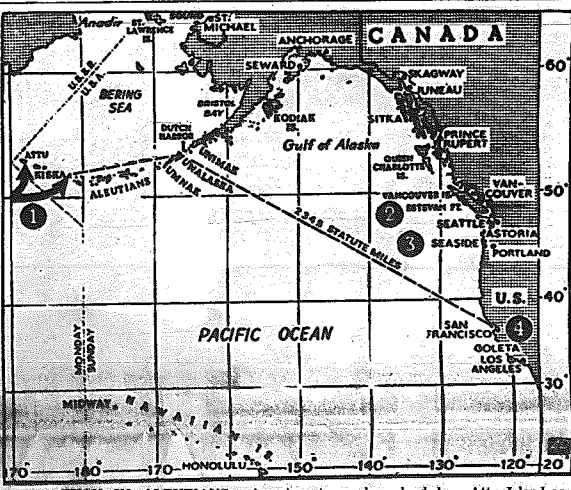
About twenty enemy vessels were sunk or damaged and large oil fires were started in the Sicilian harbor of Augusta by about 50 U. S. Liberators. Attacks from Middle East bases, they dumped almost 250,000 pounds of explosives there under RAF fighter escort from Malta.

Naples, Reggio Calabria and Messina were other cities which felt the fury of air power unleashed by the unrelenting surrender of the last of Col. Gen. Jürgen von Arnim's fighting force. The Allied commander said "The last remaining elements surrendered at 1145 hours (7:45 A. M. EDT) May 13."

The British navy force slammed 20 broadsides into the harbor area of Pantelleria at dawn yesterday. Shore batteries on the Italian island replied, but their fire was ineffective. Allied Headquarters announced that the island had been captured.

Pantelleria lies 45 miles east of the tip of Cap Bon.

British warships made a night attack against Naples, dropped See AIR DRIVE on Page 6



ACTION IN ALEUTIANS—American troops have landed on Attu Island as the opening wedge in a drive to drive the Japanese from the Aleutian chain. Attu is 600 miles from Dutch Harbor and 172 nautical miles from Kiska, which is Japanese-occupied. It is 2,005 miles from Tokyo.

## Soldiers Fight With Enemy On Attu Island

American Air and Sea Forces Apparently Participating in Offensive

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States has launched the long-expected attack to drive Japan out of the Aleutian Islands.

American troops landed on the island of Attu on Tuesday, the Navy announced today, and were met by Japanese of unknown strength.

They are locked in battle now.

The situation still is not clear, but United States air and sea forces presumably are participating in an all-out bid for early decision.

Attu so far appears to be the only direct target of American landings. A general conclusion that no similar attack has been made on Kiska, the other Japanese Aleutian base, was based in part on the fact that a communiqué today told of fresh air attacks on that island.

NEW KISKA RAIDS

American planes hardly could bomb an island after American troops have landed there. It was pointed out, and the new raids on Kiska came on Thursday, two days after the Attu landing.

The landing was announced in Navy communiqué number 378, which said:

"North Pacific: On May 11th United States forces landed at the island of Attu in the Aleutians, and are now engaged with Japanese forces on the island. Details of the operation will be released when the situation clarifies."

Naval spokesmen declined to go beyond the limits of this bare announcement or offer any comment on the course of the fighting.

(First word of the landing operation came from the Tokyo radio, which broadcast a Japanese Imperial Headquarters communiqué May 12 saying the landing began Wednesday and that a fierce battle was in progress.)

That communiqué, as recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said "crack American forces have landed on Attu Island of the Aleutians on May 12. Our forces on the same island have intercepted them and are now engaging them in fierce battle." The Japanese had renamed Attu Asotsu after the Asotsu shrine on the island.

The size of the enemy's garrison on Attu is not known but it is believed to be smaller than the approximately 10,000 troops reported on Kiska Island, east of Attu.

There was no indication today that any attack had been made on Kiska before attacking there. That the United States maneuver was designed to outflank the more strongly held enemy base and if possible place its garrison in an almost untenable position before attacking there.

Attu has been used as a supply point for Kiska and presumably

## Late Bulletins

COAL MIN. DISPUTES

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—The day shift of approximately 150 men employed in the Sayre Coal Mine of the Republic Steel Corp., failed to report for work today. It was what a United Mine Workers official said was "an entirely local dispute."

DAVIES IN CAIRO

CAIRO (AP)—Joseph P. Davies, on route to Moscow on a special mission for Franklin Roosevelt, arrived today in Cairo. He stayed with the American Minister, Alexander C. Kirk.

DUCE FIRES OFFICIALS

LONDON (AP)—Franklin Roosevelt has expelled six more Fascist officials from the party. The Rome radio reported today, in a continuation of a shakedown in Italy.

BORIS ASKS HITLER AID

LONDON (AP)—King Boris of Bulgaria has sent an urgent appeal to Adolf Hitler for additional secret police units to protect against internal disturbances, reports reaching the United States today.

Churchill Says Offensive Set

WASHINGTON (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill, speaking today to the House of Commons, said he and his military staff had not met with President Roosevelt to "plan well ahead of the war" but had met "swiftly forward" and had called general offensive plans were in the making.

WEATHER

Shower and thunderstorms; cooler tonight.

Today's Temp: 64-74; Sun: 70-80; Tomorrow: 68-78; Next Day: 65-75.

## RAF Hits Berlin & Czechoslovakia

And U. S. Bombers Attack German Coast as Big Offensive Continues

LONDON (AP)—Berlin, Czechoslovakia and the Ruhr Valley of Germany were pounded in great strength by British bombers last night and the Berlin radio reported that four-engine American bombers had attacked the North German coastal area at noon today, extending the augmented Allied air offensive to nearly 48 hours of incessant assault.

The British lost 34 bombers last night in a swift, punishing sequel of the record night of May 7, when the RAF destroyed the German battleship Tirpitz in the harbor of Trondheim, Norway.

Berlin's version of the North German bombings, recorded from radio accounts by the Associated Press, was not so dramatic. It said that the RAF had bombed the city and the inner defenses under the protection of the city's anti-aircraft fire.

The Germans claimed at least three bombers were destroyed in fierce air battles in which German fighters rose to challenge the raiders, which were beset also by medium and heavy flak.

TARGETS NOT SPECIFIED

Wilhelmshaven, Kiel and Emden have been frequent Allied air targets on the German North Coast, but the Germans did not specify the targets of the night raid.

British authoritative sources said preliminary reconnaissance reports indicated "heavy industrial damage in RAF raids on Dortmund May 4 and on Duisburg two nights ago."

The non-stop offensive was continued at dawn today by fleets of

## Big Soviet Push Seen

Make Gains in Drive On Novorossiysk

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW (AP)—Battling against all-out German resistance in the Kuban, the Red Army has advanced in some sectors and captured additional lines northeast of the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk, dispatches from the front said today.

The dispatches did not indicate the extent of the Red Army's advance, but said that definite progress had been made in the face of strong German resistance.

Yesterday's dispatches said the Red Army had smashed into the city and was attacking the inner defenses under the protection of the city's anti-aircraft fire.

The artillery barrage was so intense that it was heard in Moscow, and it was said to be a final big push to shove the Germans into the sea.

REDS BOMB WARSAW

The air war, which currently is fiercer than anything on land, was mounting today following widespread action, including the central front to Warsaw, capital of Poland, which the Russians bombed Wednesday night.

Soviet airmen blasted at many objectives during the night and raided a railway junction and communication lines.

German planes also were active last night, striking at

## 'Skip-Year' Lines Hold

George Amendment Rejected By Senate

WASHINGTON (AP)—With bipartisan advocates of the "skip a year" plan of tax abatement for the new revenue bill to provide for cancellation of only 75 percent of a year's levies.

The vote, on an amendment offered by Chairman George, Democrat, Georgia, of the Senate Finance Committee, cleared the way for an expected early vote on a modified version of the bill.

Under either the lesser of either 1942 or 1943 taxes would be excused for persons to put them on a current payment basis.

Earlier the Senate rejected, 57 to 21, an amendment to the pay-as-you-go revenue bill to credit current payments against this year's income and collect the full 1942 tax in 10 semi-annual installments beginning next March 15.

This was the Senate's first test of sentiment on cancelling income tax obligations.

The amendment was offered by Senator Ellender, Democrat, Louisiana, who told the Senate he thought it was wicker to abate anybody's taxes in wartime.

## Great U. S. Raid Made On France

LONDON (AP)—The heaviest concentration of bombs ever unleashed on a single target by the Eighth U. S. Air Force was poured on the Meaulieu Airfield near France yesterday, enveloping the plant in a sea of flame and smoke.

## Full-Scale Joint U. S. Operations Against Enemy In Far Pacific Loom

By LEIF ERICKSON

AN ADVANCED SOUTH PACIFIC BASE—(AP)—Admiral William F. Halsey's conference with General Douglas MacArthur today with an official statement that MacArthur is ultimately responsible for both South and South-Western operations.

Additional weight today to the growing belief here that full-scale joint operations against the enemy are in the offing.

Headquarters of Admiral Halsey's South Pacific naval force made clear that General MacArthur is considered commander-in-chief of the operations.

The published reports asserted that the Marshalls, Cavalli, Adolphi, Grahani, Ugo Cavallero and Emilio De Bono, assumed command of the Italian armed forces along with the Empire's first and second marshals, King Vittorio Emanuele and Premier Mussolini.

## 16 Of 25 Jap Zeros Shot Down In Furious Solomons Air Fight

WASHINGTON (AP)—American fighter planes shot down sixteen of 25 Japanese Zeros engaged in a furious air battle over the Russell Islands in the Solomon group, the Navy reported today. Five United States planes were lost but two of the pilots were saved.

The communiqué told also of heavy bombing raids on Japanese installations at Kahlil and Ballale Island in the northern Solomons.

Communist number 371, telling also of bombing and fighter attacks on the Japanese at Kiska.

"South Pacific: (All dates are east longitudes.)

"On May 13th: The early morning Liberator (consolidated B-24) heavy bomber attacked Japanese installations at Kahlil while another Liberator bombed Ballale Island in the Shortland Island area. Results of these attacks were not observed.

"(B) In the early afternoon, United States fighters engaged about 25 Japanese Zeros in the vicinity of the Russell Islands. Sixteen of these Zeros were shot down and two more were probably destroyed. (Youth P40) fighter planes accounted for fifteen of the Zeros. Five United States planes were lost, but two of the pilots were saved.

"North Pacific: On May 13th: (A) Army Liberator heavy bombers attacked the Japanese main camp area at Kiska. Results were not observed due to poor visibility.

"(B) During the same day, information of Army Warhawk (P-40) fighters bombed Japanese planes at Kiska. Results were not observed due to poor visibility.