

AMERICANS SWEEP ON AFTER NAZIS  
COAL DEADLOCK CONTINUES DESPITE TRUCE

Think Allies Might Pounce Upon Islands  
Germans Show Fears of Landings On Sicily and Sardinia

By E. C. DANIEL  
LONDON.—(AP)—The Vichy radio said today Allied movements reported simultaneously at Gibraltar and in Algerian waters may point to a large scale invasion attempt against Sicily and Sardinia, island stepping stones from North Africa to the European mainland.  
The broadcast was recorded by Reuters.  
Germany's chief military commentators suggested in a broadcast that major Allied forces might pounce immediately on the two islands without waiting for the end of the campaign to drive the Axis out of Tunisia.  
The German fear of landings on the islands has been betrayed by numerous broadcasts recently, said Capt. Ludwig Stortorus said last night.  
"It is possible that the Allied High Command has resolved from throwing in the towel," he reserves.  
Tunisian front because it is planning a large-scale landing operation. It may be planning a landing on the Sicilian or Sardinian coast even before the Tunisian campaign comes to an end."  
The German commentators' foreboding followed reports by the Nazi-controlled stations that a huge concentration of Allied shipping was being assembled at Gibraltar, including a number of landing barges.  
Reuters said the American Fifth Army is now in the process of preparing for a landing on the Tunisian coast.

Men Just Working For Another 15 Days Now  
Six-Day Work Week Ordered

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The Federal Administrator, J. Edgar Hoover, said today the coal deadlock between coal miners and operators remains the same as it has been except that the miners have gone back to work now for another fifteen days.  
Hoover, who a little earlier in the day had ordered a six-day work week throughout the coal mining industry, said that negotiations for a settlement of the minor-operator wage dispute would have to be conducted directly by representatives of the operators and miners "subject to approval by the War Labor Board."  
NO SETTLEMENT POWER  
Hoover said that the miners' authority by law or by executive order to settle this dispute, and he told reporters.  
"There is no need for it," he said.  
Wednesday night, he carried out by representatives of the operators and miners subject to approval by the War Labor Board.  
Hoover, at a special press conference, said he knew of no arrangements for the resumption of negotiations and that he had had no communication with either side since his conversations with United Mine Workers' President John L. Lewis Sunday.  
Asked whether the fifteen-day strike called by Lewis Sunday night to start today was in return for anything Lewis would do, or try to do, the Federal Administrator said: "No conditions were asked and none was given."  
He said he suggested a two-week truce but that when Lewis left the fuel office here Sunday morning he did not know what the miners' president was going to do.  
Asked why he had proposed a two-week truce, Hoover said he had just taken over the case at the direction of President Roosevelt, and I wanted to get my feet on the ground.  
While saying he has "no power or purpose to undertake negotiations" he added he would be "very glad to help in any way."  
"If," Hoover was asked, "the War Labor Board decides the dispute and Lewis refuses to accept its decision, will you retain possession of the mines as long as he refuses to sign?"  
"I am not looking ahead to that," he was replying.  
Asked when he would turn the mines back to the operators, he replied, "when the coal business is in a position to accept it."  
When asked whether he was "looking for a formula" that would satisfy Lewis' demand for an "empirical," "you bet I am."  
On the other hand he reiterated that he was not looking ahead to that.



MINERS RETURN TO THE COAL PITS—Some of the miners who led the way back to work in the coal pits are shown above. Upper photo near Birmingham, Ala.; lower near Imperial, Pa. Their employer today is Uncle Sam.

Kuban Delta Fight Is In Full Swing  
May Be the Beginning of Great Struggle of the Summer in Russia

By EDDY GILMORE  
MOSCOW.—(AP)—The battle for the Kuban Delta, an area reaching roughly from Novorossisk on the Black Sea northward to the Sea of Azov, is in full swing and it is not unlikely this is the beginning of the great struggle of the Summer.  
The German army apparently fought behind strong fortifications and managed to hold their ground positions without change in the last few days, but a Tass dispatch from the Kuban told of another fierce air battle west of Krasnodar, with the Soviet planes shooting down 54 German planes while losing 21 of their own in the second day.  
This was the second time that the Germans have attempted to strike in the Krasnodar region since the resumption of spirited warfare in the Kuban—and this campaign finds Soviet aviation able to meet every challenge of the German Air Force with American-made planes carrying their load in the still indecisive fighting.  
STRAITS MADE  
There was increased activity in other sectors of the front, with the Russian Air Force making itself felt by raids on German communications and airfields.  
The German counter attacks, however, were not as strong as in the Kuban, mark the third large-scale attempt of the Germans to get rolling on the front after their disasters of last winter.  
The first effort saw them shift more than 20 divisions in

Mines Run Normally  
Many of Men Predict Pay Increase  
PITTSBURGH.—(AP)—Operation of the nation's hard and soft coal mines settled back to near normal today, with many of the returning 400,000 miners predicting they would win a pay increase.  
"We don't want any complicated figuring, just \$2 a day more—we ain't had a raise in two years, you know," echoed a group of miners at a pit of the H. C. Frick Coke Company, U. S. Steel subsidiary.  
"We're working for Uncle Sam now, and he will give us a fair shake," asserted a youthful looking coal loader employed by the Pittsburgh Coal Company.  
"John L. Lewis will see we get what's coming to us, chimed in a mustache-donned coal cutter.  
American flags rippled in the

Americans Extend Says Rubber Solomons Hold Job Vital

Russell Islands, Which Lie Northwest of Guadalcanal, Occupied  
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—American forces extending their hold on the Solomon Islands, have occupied the Russell Islands which lie immediately northwest of Guadalcanal, the Navy reported today.  
The Russell group, which includes two main islands, lies only eighteen miles from the northwestern tip of American occupied Guadalcanal at its nearest point. The group is less than 100 miles from points in the central Solomons, such as Viru Harbor and Rekata Bay, from which the Japanese are known to have operated.  
Navy spokesmen declined comment on the operation, which was carried out in February after enemy resistance collapsed in Guadalcanal, but presumably the Russian-led forces are outposts for the island.

Near Tax Showdown  
Skip-a-Year Substitute Offered

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The House completed general debate on the pay-as-you-go tax bill today, and Representative Carl Albert, Republican, Kansas, then formally offered the Republican-sponsored skip-a-year tax plan as a substitute to the measure drafted by the Democratic majority of the Ways and Means Committee.  
Under the rules, the discussion may continue for some time before a vote is reached with each member entitled to recognition for five minutes.  
TEMPERS FLARE  
Tempers flared anew as the House heard a showdown vote, and the heat subsided only after Speaker Rayburn, Democrat, Texas, ruled that one member in calling another a "demagogue" had violated House rules.  
The Chamber turned to a debate on "demagoguery" after Representative Patton, Democrat, Texas, had shouted that adoption of the Ruml plan to skip an entire income tax year might result in loss of a Federal retail sales tax and bring dangers of runaway inflation and printing press money.  
Representative Knutson, Republican, Minnesota, leading the Republican fight for the Ruml plan, challenged Patton's statement, and

Drive Swiftly, Capitalize On Mateur Victory  
Push Toward Ferryville, Only Ten Miles From Bizerte

By WILLIAM B. KING  
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA.—(AP)—Swift-driving American troops, quick to capitalize on their middle position after the seizure of Mateur, pounded forward hard today on the heels of retreating Germans toward Ferryville, which is ten miles to the northeast and the dock area of the naval base of Bizerte.  
At the same time other forces fanned out toward the southeast and smashed to a point eight miles south of Mateur toward the line of the Tine River, only six miles northwest of Tebourba, the gateway to Tunis.  
After advancing about ten miles the Americans were only ten miles from Tebourba.  
The British radio said "long range Allied guns now have Ferryville under fire and several Axis airfields in the area have now been made untenable by shellfire." Ferryville, on the southwest shore of Lake Bizerte, is about eight miles from the naval base which is situated to the northeast shore. The broadcast said the Americans "pounded up against a new line of resistance" in the advance on Ferryville.  
In the northward push, the Americans crossed the river Tine, despite the destruction of a bridge by the withdrawing forces of Col. Von Armin, and shoved on toward Ferryville.

CHAIN OF LAKES  
The Tine, rising southwest of Mateur, flows northward a short distance east of Mateur and empties into the marshy land bordering Lake Achel, one of the chain of lakes forming Bizerte's southern defenses.  
To the north of Lake Achel the French African Corps with its fierce Moroccan Goumiers and American elements pressed in upon Bizerte's defenses. The Corps will defend the lake's southern defenses.  
This force kept pace with the Americans reaching a road junction at the northwest corner of Lake Achel and continued to probe the French covered positions, which cover the coastal belt to Bizerte only fifteen miles away.  
There was no indication as yet how far the advanced elements of the American forces might be able to proceed to Bizerte without meeting strong resistance. But high ground on the east side of the road, a few miles from that objective afforded the Axis an opportunity to make a stand to protect the approaches to Bizerte.  
The southern prong of the American offensive drove up the coast from the Tine River, then turned south and east toward the Tine River.  
IST ARMY OBJECTIVE  
The first Lightning assault force, as well as the watercraft, were ordered to move on the Americans and Tebourba, the objective of the British First Army which is engaged in bloody fighting in the hills along the Medjerda Valley to the west for the past two weeks.  
(The American approach to Tebourba. See AMERICANS on page 8)

Arms Production High But Still Not Up Enough For 1943 Plans

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Record-breaking production totals in aircraft, warships and merchant vessels were rolled up in March, Donald M. Nelson reported today, but first-quarter arms output still fell far short of the rate needed to meet military plans for 1943.  
Aircraft output soared 6,200 planes and heavy four-engine bombers topped the 500-a-month rate for the first time. The War Production Board chairman disclosed in his ninth and most detailed monthly production report.  
Naval and cargo ship construction was "the greatest on record," Nelson said, noting the completion of the 45,000-ton battleship Iowa in March and hinting, in these words, that more are coming.  
"It is expected that from now on many of the larger warships started early in the war effort will be coming into active service."

Flying Fortresses Blast Fleet Of Over 100 Barges At Bizerte

By WES GALLAGHER  
AN ADVANCED FLYING FORTRESS STATION IN NORTH AFRICA, May 3.—(Delayed)—Flying Fortresses, operating in the worst flying weather of the North African campaign, blasted a great fleet of more than 100 barges at Bizerte today while American ground forces threatened the great port from the rear with the capture of Mateur.  
Only the expert flying skill and the "homeing pigeon instinct" of their young commander, Lieut. Col. Joseph V. Thomas of Rosin, Va., saved one group of bombers from crashing into the mountainous terrain as they exhausted their gasoline.  
Whether the barges were to be used for evacuation or whether they brought in supplies during foul weather was not known, but they would have been available to one from privates to colonels kept

Late Bulletin

NAVAL HEADQUARTERS  
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The British Navy, which has been in the Mediterranean since the beginning of the war, has been ordered to move its fleet to the Atlantic Ocean, according to a statement issued today by the British Admiralty.  
The statement said that the British Navy was ordered to move its fleet to the Atlantic Ocean, and that the British Navy was ordered to move its fleet to the Atlantic Ocean.  
ARMY PROMOTIONS  
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—President Roosevelt announced today that he had promoted several officers in the Army, including several who had served in the Pacific.  
COLUMBIA DEAN DIES  
NEW YORK.—(AP)—Dr. Robert C. Marsh, dean of Columbia University, died today in the hospital after a long illness.  
GOP SPOKE  
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The GOP spoke today in the Senate, with several members of the party speaking in support of the administration.  
U. S. TROOP IN BURMA  
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The U. S. Army announced today that it had sent a troop of soldiers to Burma to assist in the fighting against the Japanese.