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REDS PUSH 36 MILES NORTHWEST OF KHARKOV

Yank Subs Raid Jap Supply Lines In Pacific

Rommel In 18 Mile Advance

American Counter-Attack Beaten Back By Germans In Tunisia.

By DANIEL DE LUCE
Associated Press Staff Writer

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NORTH AFRICA, Feb. 17—(AP)—Marshal Rommel, using two divisions of his veteran African tank fighters and his heaviest armor, has smashed an American counter-attack, at least for the time being, and with a fresh 18-mile thrust in Central Tunisia yesterday has scored a net advance of some 35 miles in the last three days.

This check to Allied plans and disarrangement of their positions was announced today in an Allied headquarters communique which said armored battles raged all day yesterday in the area west of Faid Pass and were still continuing at nightfall "on the outskirts of Sbeitla," 100 miles inland and about 120 miles southwest of Tunis.

The Germans thus had marked up a gain of about 18 miles yesterday after a check from the United States counter-attack near Sidi Bouzid, southeast of Sbeitla.

Tonight, as German tanks slashed at American rearguard armor striving to check the onslaught until a new defence line can be consolidated in the hills west of Kasserine near the Algerian border, U. S. air force headquarters announced three of its forward bases had been evacuated.

One of these was at Sbeitla and two were at Thelepte, near Feriana, close to the Algerian border. This announcement said some fuel, rations and a few planes damaged beyond repair were left behind.

Rommel's 35-mile forward drive was launched just after American armored and combat teams had taken over defence of the area from French forces and before the new units had time to familiarize themselves with the territory or develop strong defences.

In the southern Tunisian sector, 170 miles distant, however, the British 8th army of Gen. Sir Bernard Montgomery was reported nearing the Mareth Line for an assault whichh might retrieve the situation by forcing Rommel to regroup his forces.

American casualties were heavy, it was reported at headquarters, and several units of American troops were cut off in the push of Rommel's two armored divisions, which included some huge new Mark VI tanks. These U.S. units had not been heard from but headquarters hoped they would yet make their way back to the main forces.

The new Allied line, observers believed, may run along the hills westward of Kasserine and Feriannum.

An officer at Allied headquarters commenting on the communique from Cairo which announced that the 8th Army is advancing upon Medinine in the Mareth Line, 65 miles this side of the Libyan border, said Rommel might soon be forced to recall his tanks to meet the southern threat.

Another headquarters source commented that Rommel may already have got all that he wanted in the current offensive—plenty of elbow room.

BULLETIN

SAINT LUCIA, B.W.I., Feb. 17—(CP)—The Germans apparently have started the long-awaited renewal of their submarine campaign in the Caribbean with the sinking of a large British West Indian schooner off the coast of South America.

Three of its 62 passengers are known dead and 46 others are reported missing. Three of the 12 crew members also are missing.

The schooner belonged to Capt. Wilbert Compton, one of a family of schooner owners, who was reported injured by an enemy shell and last seen floating on a raft with other men.

Coming Events

—o—

**Talkies—Montague Saturday. 2-17-3i.

**Talkies — Souris Monday. 2-17-3i.

**Buying used jute bags. W. I. Bowman. 2-8-11-15-18-4i

**Box Social and dance Corran Ban, Friday, February 19th. 2-18-1i.

*East Royalty Rink tonight, Roughriders vs Rovers. Skate after. 2-18-1i.

**Due to arrive, bulk oats and bulk wheat. Book now. McGuigan and Boyle. 2-15-10i

**Kinkora Hall, Friday night, February 19th Bingo and Dance. Mulligan Orchestra. 2-16-18-2i.

**Free Sound Movies, Bradalbane Thursday. Hunter River Friday 2-17-3i.

**Dance in Stanhope Hall Monday, February 22nd. Lunches. If stormy, Tuesday night. 2-18-20-2i.

**Reserve Friday, February 26th, Card Party, St. Joseph's Sodality Hall. 2-18-1i.

**Loading live hogs at Breadalbane every Friday till 11.30 a.m. Arthur Haslam. 2-15-17-18-3i

**Loading hogs this week. Albany Thursday afternoon; Emerald Friday untill 11.30 a.m. G. C. Green and A. C. Green.

**Card Party in Holy Redeemer Hall, Thursday, February 18th. Good prizes. Lunch. Tickets 25c. Dancing after. St. Charles Auxiliary. 2-18-1i.

**Distributing Centre Ration Book No. 2 will be distributed at the Public Library, Crapaud, February 19th to March 1st. From 10 A. M. to 6 P. M. Saturday to 10 P. M. The time in previous ad being incorrect. Brent Wood, distributor. 2-18-1i.

**Livestock Marketing Board loading hogs at Murray River Monday afternoon, Feb. 22 and alternately with Murray Harbour every two weeks thereafter. John W. MacLean, High Bank in charge. 2-18-2i.

**Loading hogs during week of Feb. 22 east of Charlottetown as follows: Monday afternoon, Souris, Elmira, St. Peters, Montague, Cardigan, Melville, Uigg, Millview. Tuesday forenoon until train time, St. Theresa, Bedford, Charlottetown. Highest market price assured. Livestock Marketing Board. 2-18-1i.

**Loading hogs during week of February 22 at points west of Charlottetown as follows: Monday Tignish, Alberton, O'Leary, Northam, Miscouche, Summerside. Tuesday forenoon, Kensington, Freetown, Wiltshire, Hunter River, Bradalbane, Kinkora and 12 to 3 Albany. Livestock Marketing Board. 2-18-1i.

Five More Enemy Ships Destroyed

In Addition Enemy Cruiser Said Probably Sunk And Cargo Ship Damaged.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17—(AP)—Raiding Japanese supply lines in the Pacific, United States submarines have sunk five more enemy vessels, probably sunk a Japanese cruiser and damaged a cargo vessel, the navy reported today, while United States aircraft continued pounding Japanese airbases in the Solomons Islands area.

Most of the craft sent to the bottom or damaged presumably were engaged in transporting men and equipment to the scattered Japanese bases throughout the south Pacific area.

Little detail was given. The Navy reported only that the submarines accounted for the vessels in the "Pacific and Far East" waters.

Topped by the successful torpedo attack on a cruiser which the Navy said probably went to the bottom, the submarines' bag also included an escort vessel, a medium-sized tanker presumably carrying needed oil to Japanese bases; a transport which might have been carrying troops, and two medium-sized cargo vessels—all sunk. An additional medium-sized cargo vessel was reported damaged.

Meantime, American planes flying out from Guadalcanal hit at Japanese air ports in the northwestern Solomons and made new raids on two bases.

Maritime Trust Company Meeting

SAINT JOHN, N.B., Feb. 17—(CP)— Howard P. Robinson, Saint John, was re-elected president today at the 14th annual meeting of the Maritime Trust Company. Cyrus F. Inches, K.C., Saint John, and Peter G. Clark, Charlottetown, were re-elected vice-presidents for New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

True Bill In Fraud Cases

SYDNEY, N.S., Feb. 17—(CP)—The Grand Jury returned true bills in Supreme Court today against Mayor D. J. MacLean of Sydney and Max Siegel of Glace Bay, charged in connection with alleged fraudulent insurance transactions.

They will go on trial before petit juries at the current term of the court. The Mayor is charged with uttering a forged document and attempting to obtain money under false pretences. Siegel is accused jointly with him on these counts, and also is charged separately with forgery and conspiring to defraud.

Three other Cape Breton men face similar charges, and their cases are expected to go to the Grand Jury tomorrow.

Reveal Names Of Crash Victims

HALIFAX, Feb. 17—(CP)—Names of the two R.C.A.F. pilots killed in a mid-air collision yesterday near Chicoutimi, Que., were announced tonight by Eastern Air Command here.

Pilots of the two single-engined aircraft were:

FO E.C. Gagnon, whose wife lives at the Commercial Hotel, Bagotville, Que., and PO. A.J Gilson, whose mother, Mrs. E.M. Gilson, lives in Iroquois, Ont.

Both fliers are officially listed as "missing, believed killed."

The two aircraft were from the R.C.A.F. Station at Bagotville and were on a routine training flight when they collided. They caught fire and plunged to earth, landing in a farmer's field at Ste. Anne, a small village near Chicoutimi. The pilots were the only occupants of the plane.

Soldier Killed At Debert Camp

DEBERT, N.S., Feb. 17—(CP)—Lieut. Bernard Labarge of Quebec City was killed yesterday afternoon at Debert Military Camp when he was pinned beneath a universal Bren Gun Carrier. Two other occupants of the carrier, the driver and an air force officer, were thrown from the vehicle when it overturned and escaped with slight injuries.

WINS AIR MEDAL

LONDON, Feb. 17—(CP)— Capt. Billy Southworth, Jr., United States Army Air Force pilot and son of the manager of St. Louis Cardinals, was among 200 airmen award air medals, army headquarters announced today.

War Situation Last Night

By Kirke L. Simpson, Associated Press War Analyst

Quick collapse of the Kharkov Bastion not only further imperils heavy Nazi forces seeking escape from the Don-Donets Basin to the south. It exposes the north face of the Dnieper bend to Russian attacks that could re-enact the Stalingrad tragedy on an heroic scale and force the invader back behind the line of the Bug, Dnieper and Dvina Rivers.

* * * * *

There is little doubt that the Nazi high command had planned eventual evacuation of Kharkov. There is even less doubt, however, that its garrison had been charged to hold out against all odds until huge Nazi armies southward to the sea of Azov coast, desperately trying to stall off many-pronged Russian encirclement thrusts, had effected escape behind the Dnieper.

Kharkov in German hands was the vital defence pillar covering the main rail and road crossings of the Dnieper at the northeast corner of its great southern bend. Russian forces in the Losovaya sector, 75 miles down the Kharkov-Crimea railroad, are already threatening those crossings at a 60-mile range.

* * * * *

It seems clear, as Moscow advices state, that the Nazi command had counted on the main Russian attack in the Kharkov area falling east and south of the city itself. A concentrated defence in the Losovaya-Kharkov sector was obviously aimed both at delaying the fall of Kharkov and retaining an effective barrier against Russian southwestward lunges at the Dniepropetrovsk River crossings and the rail junctions east of the Dnieper bend.

If that is true, as Moscow asserts, Russian leadership outguessed the Nazi high command. Kharkov was taken by a flanking movement from the north, not the south. That it fell days before Nazi Generals had expected it to give way is strongly indicated. And with its fall not only is the whole Nazi front from Smolensk to the sea of Azov shaken and tottering; but an outside Russian trap is taking shape designed to force enemy retreat from the Dnieper Plateau and the Crimea.

* * * * *

Soviet armies which crushed Nazi defence of Kharkov are reported by Moscow to be surging on westward without pause. Ahead of them lies Poltava junction on the Kharkov-Kiev railroad. They have some 100 miles or less to go across rolling, open country to reach that point of the Vorikla, northern tributary of the Dnieper.

The Vorikla is a minor stream but does offer the retreating enemy the first water-guarded defence position of any consequence west of Kharkov. It also covers the Kremenchug crossings of the Dnieper, 70 miles southwest of Poltava, which must be a main objective now of the Russian westward thrust from Kharkov.

Used Sub To Carry Supplies To Malta

A BRITISH PORT, Feb. 17—(CP)—Save some laurels for the porpoise, the Royal Navy's first submarine tanker, when it comes to distributing honors for the historic defense of Malta. Britain's George Cross Island.

For without the porpoise the Royal Air Force and dare-devil pilots like FO. George (Screwball) Beurling of Verdun, Que., "hero of Malta" wouldn't have been able to stem the vicious Axis air onslaught during the garrison's blackest hour.

When bombing reached a peak of intensity the amount of gasoline and ammunition supplies getting through to the heroic defenders was practically negligible.

But the porpoise, a 2,000-ton vessel designed for mine-laying and torpedo attack, came to the rescue in the nick of time, the Admiralty revealed when the submarine arrived here after completing 14 month's service in the Mediterranean. She was hurriedly converted into a "hidden merchantman" and torpedo and mine racks were loaded with vital war materials. Then with additional supplies towed in a small satellite craft she cracked the Axis blockade.

"An unspectacular job," Commented Lieut. L.W.A. Bennington as he docked his ship.

He didn't mention the thrill of destroying a large tanker and an armed vessel as well as surviving nearly 100 depth charges. Others however, were more than anxious to describe those battle actions.

Increase In Cheese Quota For Britain

OTTAWA, Feb. 17—(CP) — Agriculture Minister Gardiner tonight told a meeting of the Ontario Cheese Producers' Association here that Britain has asked Canada to provide 150,000,000 pounds of cheese in the 12 months beginning April 1.

In the year just closing, he said, Canada undertook to supply 125,000,000 pounds to Great Britain, but has been able to exceed that amount. During the 12 months, about 143,000,000 pounds will be exported to the United Kingdom.

INTERNATIONAL AT A GLANCE

RUSSIA — Bogodukhov, vital railway junction on Kharkov-Sumy line, taken by Russians who continue to smash Germans back from Kharkov; other towns in Kharkov area also captured.

NORTH AFRICA—Germans break American counter-attack, advance 18 miles in central Tunisia; Americans try to consolidate new defence line; three Allied airfields evacuated.

AERIAL— R. A. F.-R. C. A. F. bombers, in most extensive night raids of war, hammer Lorient U-boat base; also attack targets in Germany, Holland, Belgium and northern France.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — U. S. submarines sink five enemy ships, damage one cargo ship and probably sink one cruiser; Allied planes attack Japanese airdrome and other targets in South Pacific area.

FAR EAST — Japanese land forces in Kwangchowwan, French-leased territory on southern Chinese coast, presaging operations in Kwangtung province.

CROSS DOGS IN MISSOURI

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 17—(AP)— Despite a plea by a spokesman who said 7,992 of Missouris 8,000 letter carriers were bitten by dogs last year, the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee killed a bill making dog owners liable for damages if their pets bite a carrier or newsboy on the owners' premises.

FIRE AT SUSSEX

SUSSEX, N.B., Feb. 17—(CP)—Loss estimated at $12,000 occurred on Main Street today when fire destroyed a two-storey building owned by George H. White. The building was occupied by the Franz-Blow grocery, Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Teakles and the owner.

"SALADA" COFFEE

"Now that's what I call good coffee!"

Demands Full Discussion On Dieppe Attack

Debate On Throne Speech May Be Concluded Today.

OTTAWA, Feb. 17—(CP)— Demand that the government permit full discussion of the combined operations attack on Dieppe, with explanation of why plans for a preliminary air bombardment had been abandonec, was made in the House of Commons today by Rev. T. C. Douglas (C.C.F. Weyburn).

The discussion could be public or private but it should be held without fail because much remained to be told concerning the attack, said Mr. Douglas, continuing the Throne Speech debate.

He said tribute could be paid the men who carried out the raid last August but the same could not be said for those who organized it.

L. P. Picard (Lib. Bellechasse) and Howard C. Green (Prog. Con. Vancouver South) also spoke in the Throne Speech today.

J. A. Blanchette (Lib. Compton) will continue the debate tomorrow, with the possibility it will be concluded in the evening. In all, 72 members now have participated in it.

Navy minister Macdonald told the House he would be "quite content" if the House wished to inquire into administration of the Canadian Navy or any part of it when he made a long statement in answer to critical articles published in the magazine "boating."

Mr. Macdonald said that some of the statements in an article by Andrew D. MacLean, a retired naval officer, might be deemed to constitute an offence against the defence of Canada regulations. He disputed Mr. MacLean's statements that the navy had too many high-ranking officers, that permanent force men got too large a share of promotions and decorations, that fairmile boat men were not given special training before being assigned to these vessels and that there were avoidable delays in production which kept crews waiting long periods.

Mr. Douglas said it should be explained why tanks were landed at Dieppe on a beach facing a 12-foot seawall which had not been breached, as air photos would have shown the impossibility of scaling this wall unless it had been partially demolished by air bombardment.

Madame Chiang Kai-Shek To Speak

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17—(AP)—Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, wife of the Chinese Generalissimo, arrived in Washington today and was welcomed personally by President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Madame Chiang had been in the United States since Nov. 27. But she has been undergoing medical treatment for an old injury and this was her first appearance in the National Capital.

Will Visit Ottawa

OTTAWR, Feb. 17—(CP)—Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek, wife of the Chinese Generalissimo and now a visitor in Washington, will come to Ottawa for a brief visit but final arrangements have not yet been worked out, it was understood today.

Another Blow At German U-Boat Lairs

LONDON, Feb. 17—(AP)— The Allies chalked up another sharp blow against U-boat lairs—a heavy raid on Lorient last night by the R.A.F. and R.C.A.F.—and jubilant fliers declared that photographic evidence proved their persistent hammering of the Nazis' continental bases were successful.

Giant bombers carried a heavy load of the largest bombs for the short haul to Lorient, at the northern end of the Bay of Biscay on the French coast, and laid a fiery pattern of explosives over the favorite base of German submarines.

The Air Ministry described the raid as heavy and concentrated, indicating that hundreds of bombers again battered the port which has concrete pens for 30 submarines. Only two bombers failed to return, one of them from the R.C.A.F. bomber group, and one intercepting fighter was shot down.

Operating over Britain in stronger force than recently the Germans bombed a place in South Wales which the Berlin radio identified as Swansea. Twelve persons were killed. Three of the raiders were brought down.

An east coast and a south coast town were attacked by strafers today.

Heavy Blows Rained On Routed Nazis

Enemy Loses Another Important Railroad Town; Soviet Drive Still Developing.

(By Eddy Gilmore, Associated Press Staff Writer)

MOSCOW, Feb 17—(AP)—Soviet troops smashing the Germans back from Kharkov in hasty retreat have driven 36 miles to the northwest to capture Bogodukhov, on the Kharkov-Sumy railroad, the Russians announced tonight in a special communique.

(Red army men rained "heavy blows on the remnants of the routed German units" and "the Hitlerite path of retreat is covered with bodies of dead enemy officers and men as well as abandoned German heavy and light arms," declared the Russian midnight communique as recorded in London by the Soviet Monitor.)

The fall of Bogodukhov leaves open only the Poltava-Kharkov railroad for the Germans in their retreat to the west, and the Russian drives in the Kharkov region were reported still developing.

Soviet soldiers also captured Graivoron, 20 miles north of Bogodukov, and Zmiev, 20 miles due south of Kharkov, the Soviets announced. To the south in the Donets offensive the Red Army seized Slavyansk, railroad junction on the Lozovaya-Donets basin railroad, and 60 miles north of the German stronghold of Stalino.

(The Germans were losing heavily in equipment in their retreat from Kharkov, the midnight communique reporting that one Russian formation alone in three days "destroyed 70 German tanks, 11 self-propelling guns, and a large number of troop-carriers and trucks." One Russian unit captured a plane, nine tanks, 16 aerosledges and several dozen trucks.)

In the Donets basin fighting, the Russians also captured Rovenki and Sverdlovsk on the branch railroad line leading to Gorlovka, 26 and 20 miles off the Moscow-Rostov thoroughfare.

(In the Rostov region, where a Russian column has pushed halfway to Taganrog, guerillas led Soviet infantrymen "by little known paths" on to the enemy flank and in a sudden attack the Russians with guerilla aid took two "important populated places," said the late communique.)

42 French Ships To Aid Allies

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 17—(AP)—Forty-two French warships in addition to four which steamed across the Atlantic last week soon will be fighting on the side of the United Nations, Vice-Admiral Raymond Fernard, Chief of the French naval mission to the United States, said today.

The stocky Admiral skirted questions on "politics" asserting that "all the men and officers of the French fleet want to do is fight the Germans alongside the United States and her Allies."

"For more than two years," he said, "we have been out of the fight against Germany This is the opportunity we have been longing for. We want to be friends with the mericans and British forever—to fight beside you and win."

Bracken Leaves Today For N.B.

OTTAWA, Feb. 17—(CP) — Hon. John Bracken, National Leader of the Progressive Conservative party, will leave tomorrow for New Brunswick to familiarize himself with social and economic problems in that province.

An announcement from the party said he would probably be away from Ottawa for about a week and would visit several war establishments while in New Brunswick.

MAY EXTEND RESTRICTIONS

SYDNEY, N.S., Feb. 17—(CP)—T. A. Bridgeford of Saint John, N. B., port passenger agent of rail traffic for the Canadian Pacific Railway, said today civilian travel restrictions my be extended if travel by the armed forces shows a further increase in volume.

SAINT JOHN, N.B., Feb. 17—(CP)—Formation of a second company of the Canadian Women Army Corps here was announced at District Militiary Headquarters today, indicating steady growth of the Corps in this city.

News Briefs

LONDON, Feb. 18—(Thursday) — (CP) — The Daily Herald said today the Soviet government has sent a note to the Yugoslav government here formally accusing Draja Mihailovic, Serb guerilla chieftain, of "collaborating" with the Axis."

CHUNGKING, Feb. 17—(AP)—The Japanese have landed considerable forces in Kwangchowwan, French-leased territory on China's far southern coast, the Chinese high command announced tonight, indicating that the invaders are preparing for extensive operations in China's southern province of Kwangtung.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17—(AP)— Rationing of milk in the United States, representatives of dairymen contended today, inevitably will result from current restrictions on prices paid to producers.

BRITAIN'S OLDEST MAN DEAD

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 18—(CP)—The oldest man in Britain, a bachelor all of his 109 years of life, died today.

He was Thomas Pope, former partner in a distilling firm. Pope lived during the reigns of six British rulers and has seen wonderful changes—telephone and locomotives.

High tide this morning at 11:2[illegible] and tonight at 10:39

Sun sets this evening at 6:31 and rises tomorrow morning at 7:57

Full moon Feb. 20, 1:45 a.m.

Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

CAR FERRY SERVICE DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

From Borden—Leave 9.05 a.m., 11.40 a.m. 2.00 p.m., 4.30 p.m. 7.00 p.m.

Leave Cape Tormentine — 10.30 a.m 1.15 p.m. 3.05 p.m., 5.45 p.m 8.15 p.m.

DAILY AIR SERVICE (EXCEPT SUNDAY)

Charlottetown Summerside-Moncton

Leave Charlottetown 8.30 a. m. 12.30 p. m., 4.30 p. m.

Arrive Charlottetown 1 p. m. 5.45 p. m., 7.05 p. m.