Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

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ALLIED FORCES MOVE IN FOR KILL OF HEMMED UP FOES IN TUNISIA

U. S. Hold On Guadalcanal 'Very Secure'

American Drive Against Other Solomons Bases Appears Near

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — An American drive to pe out remaining Japanese bases in the Solomon Islands peared near at hand today as terrific destruction of emy troops and ships seemed to clinch the United States ld on Guadalcanal.

nnouncing for the first time t the American grip on the d island and its strategic air- e is "now very secure" Secre- y of Navy Knox reported yes- day that half of a force of 1,500 pponese landed on Guadalcanal d been slaughtered and the rest ted.

SHIPS SUNK

Possibility of duplication in the vy's report of enemy ships lost the great American sea victory last week also was dispelled by nox who declared 28 Japanese ssels had been sunk. Three comprised a battleship, another battleship or heavy cruiser, six heavy cruisers, two light cruisers, six destroyers and twelve transports and cargo ships. Ten more were damaged.

The reported American losses of two light cruisers and six destroyers in the same battle brought the nation's total of destroyed vessels in the Pacific war to 50 combat and 34 noncombat ships since Pearl Harbor.

Official announcements of the

See U. S. SECURE on page 9

Marines Talk About Next Move West

Japs Got Such a Licking on Guadalcanal That Americans Pepped Up

PEARL HARBOR, T. H.—(AP)—The United States Marines on Guadalcanal, cheered by the Navy's great triumph over the Japanese fleet last week-end, are looking for more islands to conquer.

Lieut. Dewitt Peterkin, first American naval officer to arrive here from the Solomons since the Navy's victory Nov. 14-15, said he believed some 10,000 Japanese have been killed on Guadalcanal.

"The Marines and other forces felt better after last week-end's big naval battle than anytime since I was there," said Peterkin, of New York, an assistant to the J. P. Morgan partners before he entered the service.

OPTIMISTIC

"They feel that they have been through everything, and have taken everything the Japs could give. They're optimistic and already are talking about the next move westward."

Peterkin, attached to an air squadron, arrived on Guadalcanal late in August and left there Nov. 16. His squadron sank 13 Jap ships and probably sank a fourteenth. Earlier in the war, he was ground officer for the famous carrier torpedo squadron eight, which lost all but one flier, Ensign George Gay, in the Midway battle last June.

He praised the spirit of comradeship among the Army, Navy and Marine Corps fighters on Guadalcanal, saying that "the Army Air Force is doing a marvelous job in ground strafing, dive bombing and pounding hell out of the Japs on Guadalcanal all the time."

Most of the action against Jap-

See MARINES on page 9

Sink Axis Destroyer

Second Warship Probably British Victim

LONDON—(AP) — Three British submarines have sunk an Axis destroyer and an Axis tanker and probably have sunk a second destroyer and another Axis supply ship in the Mediterranean, the admiralty announced today.

The tanker was sunk in the Aegean, and the supply ship damaged was one of a convoy of three ships attacked in the same area, the communique said.

OFF SICILIAN COAST

The destroyers were hit off the Sicilian coast.

The text of an Admiralty communique said:

One enemy destroyer and one enemy tanker have been sunk and an enemy destroyer and a supply ship probably sunk by His Majesty's submarines operating in the Mediterranean.

The submarine under the command of Lieutenant A. J. W. Pitt, R. N. intercepted an escorted south-bound enemy tanker in the Aegean and in spite of being in

See BLAST AXIS on page 9

Turin Hard Hit by RAF In New Raid Upon Italy

Attack Called Heaviest Yet

LONDON. — (AP) — The arsenal city of Turin was attacked last night by RAF bombers in a raid which an authoritative British source termed the "heaviest yet made on Italy."

O fthe scores of Stirlings, Halifaxes, Lancasters and Wellingtons assigned to the mission, three failed to return.

LONG TRIP

The others made the 1,500-mile round trip successfully in another of the mass attacks that are proving an economical way to tear at the industrial vitals of the Axis.

A terse air communique said only:

"The attack was heavy and concentrated but dense smoke from many fires made observation of the results difficult."

Clear weather gave the targets sharp outlines, however, and an Italian communique itself said the British, attacking in waves, "dropped incendiary bombs in great quantities, mainly in the central district of the town."

The Italians said the British inflicted damage and spread fires and listed casualties at 29 dead and 120 wounded.

Members of several Canadian squadrons which participated in the raid said Turin's air defenses included only one searchlight.

Fires were visible 50 miles from the city, they said, and smoke from one notably large one rose to almost 5,000 feet. One flier said it was so thick he believed an oil dump was hit. Another said he saw "one big building fall apart" when a two-ton block-buster burst on it.

CROSS IN WAVES

An Associated Press correspondent at a southeastern port said the heavy bombers rumbled across the channel in waves for an hour last night, flying high above an overcast.

It was the fourth raid on Italy in eight nights, and the tenth, including one by day, since the lat-

See TURIN UNDER on page 9

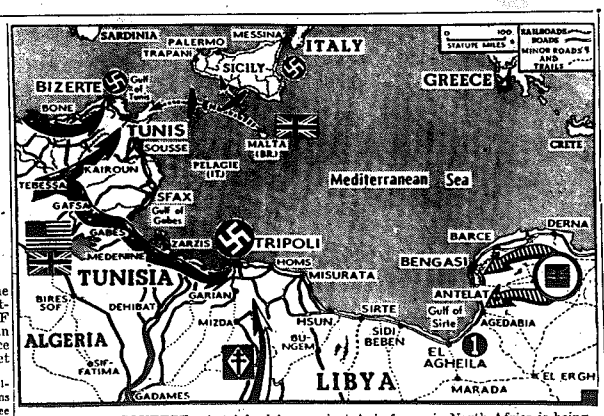
War Plant Work Stoppage Ends

CLEVELAND—(AP)—More than 1,000 employees of the National Malleable & Steel Casting Co. return to work Monday under an agreement ending a work stoppage which began Thursday.

Members of the AFL United Automobile Workers Union voted to go back to their jobs after hearing pleas from union officials, Mayor Frank J. Lausche and the War Labor Board.

The strike was attributed to discontent over a WLB referee's recommendation that no wage increases be granted workers.

The unionists sought increases based on cost-of-living clause in their contract. Union leaders reminded members that the WLB had not acted on the referee's report and would not act while workers were idle.



TRIPLE SQUEEZE—A triple drive against Axis forces in North Africa is being pressed. One prong of the British push in Libya (striped arrows) by-passed Bengasi, which the Axis have abandoned, and reached Antelat to cut off German and Italian stragglers between Bengasi and Agedabia. The main body of General Rommel's Axis army headed for El Agheila (1) where he may try to make a stand. From Algeria, the American and British forces (shaded arrows) were advancing along the coast, and vanguards had smashed forward close to Bizerte and Tunis, last Axis strongholds in northern Tunisia. Meanwhile, Allied units also approached Tunis from Tebessa. A third prong of the American-British drive from the west headed across Tunisia toward Tripoli. The third drive in the general pincer campaign was being made by a strong force of Fighting French (black and white arrow), reported moving toward Tripoli from the Lake Chad area in French Equatorial Africa.

Soviets Display Fresh Strength

Heights at Stalingrad and in Caucasus Stormed by Russians

MOSCOW. — (AP) — Succesfully storming heights at Stalingrad and in the Caucasus, the Russians were reported showing fresh strength today in their bloody give-and-take with the German invaders.

During the night a Red Army unit dislodged the enemy from a strongly fortified height southeast of Nalchik in the Mid-Caucasus and killed 300 Germans, the midday communique said. In the Mozdok sector to the northeast of Nalchik another Soviet unit was credited with killing 100 foemen in a small scale attack such as the Russians have been launching in increasing numbers for several days.

Overnight at Stalingrad attacks by small enemy groups were reported beaten off in the southern outskirts, where Red counter thrusts had taken a height a few hours earlier. Aggressive scouting activity in which enemy trenches were entered and 60 Germans killed also was credited to the Stalingrad garrison.

LINES STAND UP

The Red Army lines in Stalingrad were reported to have stood up under all German assaults since a gap made by a recent breakthrough into a northern workers' settlement was filled in and the enemy ejected.

The German Command, defeated in its Caucasian drive on Ordzhonikidze apparently was struggling to repair its broken lines southeast of Nalchik and recapture positions lost to the Russian counterblows.

Laval Urges Nazi Tie-Up

Vichy Leader Wants Entente With Germany

VICHY (From French Broadcasts.)—(AP)—Pierre Laval advocated an alliance with Germany as Europe's sole hope for peace in a broadcast to the people of Nazi-occupied France last night and declared new volunteer legions would be raised to answer "the fresh insults which France has had to suffer" from the Allied campaign in North Africa.

"We are again seeking reconciliation and an entente with Germany," Laval declared in his first address since he was given dictatorial powers and named as political heir to Marshal Petain.

He accussed the United States and Britain of "tearing away bit by bit at the French Empire because of their losses in the Pacific; said he was certain of a German victory.

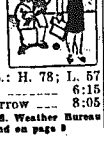
"From what has happened in North Africa we have discovered the fate that waits us tomorrow if Roosevelt gets away with it," Laval said. "We would have to submit to a domination by Communists and Jews."

(The dark little collaborationist's talk of volunteer legions—such

See LAVAL on page 9

WEATHER

Continued mild.



Today's Temp.: H. 78; L. 57
Sunset Today ——— 6:15
Sunrise Tomorrow ——— 8:05

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 9

Hit Rommel Rearguard

Seek To Prevent El Agheila Defense

CAIRO—(AP)—Racing westward at a speed unequaled in modern desert warfare, the British Eighth Army today hurled its forward elements against Marshal Rommel's rearguard at Agedabia, some 70 miles from the narrow El Agheila defile.

The British, apparently making a supreme effort to keep Rommel from organizing a defense at El Agheila, pressed on without pause at the heels of the enemy after triumphantly hoisting the Union Jack over Bengasi yesterday for the third time in this war.

HALF WAY TO TUNISIA

Already the Eighth Army was half way to Tunisia from its starting point at El Alamein in Egypt, and more than half way to Tripoli.

Contact was established with the Axis rearguard at Agedabia, on the coastal road 100 miles south of Bengasi, by one of General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's forces which made a beeline across the Libyan hump. Other Eighth Army forces followed the longer route around the hump and marched into Bengasi.

Supporting the two-way Allied drive against the Axis in Libya and Tunisia, Malta-based bombers yesterday bombed Catania, Augusta and Cosimo airdromes in Sicily and struck new blows against Axis shipping in the Mediterranean.

Many straggling Germans and Italians were trapped in the area between Bengasi and Agedabia by the swift British

See REARGUARD on page 9

Axis Cut Off From Retreat By Land Route

Movement of Allied Troops Indicates Encirclement of Enemy Completed

LONDON—(AP)—Cut off from retreat except by sea or air, the beleaguered Axis Army of Tunisia braced itself in the outer defenses of Bizerte and Tunis tonight and prepared to fight it out with a more powerful British and American force moving in grimly for the kill.

That the Nazis' hope of establishing a rear door of retreat for Marshal Erwin Rommel in Libya already had gone glimmering was seen in a broadcast by the Berlin radio, quoting Allied sources in Spanish Morocco, that Allied columns of Lieut.-Gen. K. A. N. Anderson's British First Army had reached the area of Hammamet, southeast of Tunis on the Mediterranean.

Occupation of Hammamet by the investing forces would complete the encirclement of the Nazis on the landward side of the tip of Tunisia and leave them no alternative but to fight it out in the fast-contracting area they had chosen to defend. The German radio also reported that a Fighting French-American column was moving up from the south of Tunisia, aiming to strike the coast at Sousse, below Hammamet.

NAZIS DIG IN

Thrown back and badly mauled when they sent three columns to impede the advancing British and Americans two days ago, the Nazis had dug in on a line estimated to be about 30 miles both from Tunis and Bizerte while their air force struck desperately at the Allied columns of men, armor and supplies pushing eastward from the Algerian border.

Though there had been no official confirmation today, it was presumed that the Axis continued to shoot a stream of reinforcements by air into Tunisia in hopes of building up a force that could withstand the Allies' onslaught. A week ago there were estimated to be 10,000 Axis troops in the Tunis-Bizerte area, but the number was believed to have been heavily increased, perhaps doubled.

Overnight, four-motored British bombers carried out the "heaviest raid yet" on Italy as they dumped tons of explosives on Turin, home of the royal arsenal.

From Cairo the British reported successful bombing attacks on Sicily, fountainhead of Axis aerial reinforcements to Tunisia.

As a British flag was run up over Bengasi, valuable Libyan port, for the third time in the war, an advance column of the British Eighth Army was reported to be harrying the fugitive Nazi Africa Corps in the neighborhood of Agedabia, within 70 or 80 miles of the El Agheila line where Marshal Erwin Rommel was expected

See AXIS FORCES on page 9

Blue Devils Leading State

DUKE STADIUM, DURHAM—The Duke Blue Devils drew first blood here this afternoon in the state championship football contest with the North Carolina State Wolfpack. The Duke shoved over a touchdown in the first period which ended with the score Duke 7; State 0.

Guide to Good Reading

ISOLATE PRUSSIA FROM GERMANY

First step in writing the peace order in Europe should be to isolate Prussia from the rest of the German states, says Emil Ludwig, famed contemporary biographer who lives in Switzerland. Ludwig's article on page 5 of this issue.

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MORE & MORE WORK GOING TO WOMEN

With most of the young men called to the services or on the way, women and girls are working harder than ever in the wage-earning field, reports provided vital home data in Western states. Miss Mildred Weston reports on the work done by girls at the Kaiser shipyards in Richmond, Calif., and from the front of a plane. Her story is on page 5.

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LEND-LEASE SHIPMENTS TO MANY FRONTS

What's happening to Lend-Lease shipments? Lend-Lease Administrator Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., reports to Congress on the work done in North Africa, Russia, Iran, Iceland, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, Liberia, Belgian Congo, Chungking and Chile. It's going to pay off in victory.

—Action Off New Guinea—

Battle To Death Raging In Guinea With Japs Already In Trap

By DEAN SCHEDLER

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—(AP)—Japanese forces trapped in a narrow coastal strip in the Buna-Gona District of New Guinea were reported fighting back desperately today as American and Australian ground troops moved in relentlessly to drive them into the sea or force their capitulation.

One Allied States Force was within a mile of Buna and engaged heavy fighting and another was attempting to wrest a landing field on the outskirts of the village from the defending Japanese. This second unit reported that it had met heavy machine-gun fire within 300 yards of the field.

Japanese fighter planes entered the fighting near Buna yesterday and seven Zeros strafed Allied troops already under attack from light artillery and mortars. Allied observers said the Buna area also had been reinforced with anti-aircraft guns.

Bad weather prevented Allied air units from giving the ground troops the aerial support which they have had in the difficult advance over the Owen Stanley Mountains.

One American force approaching Buna from the south along the coast was trying to overcome opposition at Cape Endaiadere, a few miles from the village. Heavy fighting was in progress at Soputa, about eight miles inland from the coast on the Kokoda-Buna trail.

The main body of the Japanese forces, however, has been driven into a triangular area bound by a six-mile coastal strip between Buna and Gona and irregular lines running inland from these hamlets to Soputa.

The bitter struggle of the Japanese in this area indicated to observers that they had no intention of surrendering and a battle of extermination seemed to be in progress. At both Gona and Buna the Australian and American troops were at close quarters with the enemy.

An Allied force mopping up in the jungle in the wake of the advanced units reported it had encountered a band of fleeing Japanese near Wairopi. Twenty-four of the Japanese were killed and 30 others were widely dispersed, it was said.

Allied Generals Aboard Trawlers Swim Ashore After Craft Sunk

By MURLIN SPENCER

WITH ALLIED FORCES NEAR BUNA, New Guinea, Nov. 19 (Delayed) — (AP) — The officer at headquarters who writes the communiques used a half-dozen words Wednesday to tell how Japanese bombers sank two Allied trawlers off the Buna coastal area, but he didn't mention that two Allied generals were aboard the trawlers and had to swim to shore.

One general watched the bombers swooping in for their attack and called for a rifle. He blazed away until he was forced to leave the sinking craft. The other also took the attack with fine disdain and remained at a commanding post.

Both officers had to swim nearly a half mile to shore with the men and both refused any help, insisting that others needed it more. Their names are still a military secret.

Lieutenant W. H. Thackston of Anderson, S. C., telling of the experience, said that "as soon as one man reached shore, he would get his breath and then go back into the water to help someone else."

The Japanese bombers also attacked the Allied positions along the shore and, after the bombing, I walked down the beach to a small native hut built on stilts where the doctors were at work on the wounded.

They had been on the ships, too, and were dead tired, but they worked on.

I watched Lieutenant Leonard Milcareks of Chicago, Major Parker Harbin of Charleston, Ill., Captain Georgs Pugeley of Bayard, Neb., and Lieutenant A. P. Rogers of Milwaukee bandage the wounded by flashlight.

Helping them were Sergeants Leonard Hart of Chicago, and J. E. Quinn of Indianapolis and Private Phil Rosenberg of Oak Park, Ill.

Some of the men were injured badly, but they did not complain.

During the height of the attacks on the ground troops, as Robert Doyle of the Milwaukee Journal and I lay flat, hugging the shelter of a tree, we heard a soldier saying over and over:

"Damn them—but we'll get them yet."

The soldier was Sergeant Fred Nightingt, an American

See 1 GENERALS on page 9