BRITISH CONSOLIDATE EGYPT GAINS

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

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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NAZIS LAY CLAIM TO ROSTOV BUT ADMIT STIFF RED FIGHT

Another Hero

Crippled Bomber Guided To Target By Walter Clark

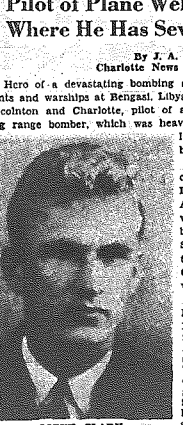
Pilot of Plane Well-Known Here, Where He Has Several Relatives

By J. A. DALY
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Hero of a devastating bombing attack on Axis military establishments and warships at Bengasi, Libya, was Lieutenant Walter Clark of Lincolnton and Charlotte, pilot of a Consolidated four-motored B-24 heavy range bomber, which was heavily damaged and set on fire but later safely landed at its Egyptian base.

Details of the hazardous, but successfully accomplished, mission of Lieutenant Clark and his crew of American Army Air Forces fighters were announced today in London by the British Air Ministry News Service. The report was cabled to the United States and brought into Charlotte by the Associated Press wires.

Lieutenant Clark is a nephew of Mrs. R. I. Dalton, David Clark and B. B. Gossett, members of prominent Charlotte families. Mr. and Mrs. Thorne Clark of Lincolnton are this Air Forces' pilot's parents. The late Chief Justice Walter Clark of the State Supreme Court was his grandfather. Lieutenant Clark during many years has spent much of his time in Charlotte, where he was a popular member of the younger social set. He was graduated in the class of 1940 from the University of North Carolina and immediately joined the Air Corps for pilot training.



LIEUT. CLARK

BRITISH PRAISE TWO

The British Air Ministry paid a high tribute to Lieutenant Clark, the giant plane's pilot, and his co-pilot, Lieutenant Louis Perchal of

See LIEUT. CLARK on page 8

Former Shelby Man Held In Morale Plot

DePriest Native of Town; Reynolds Once on Pay Debts Committee

By PETE McKNIGHT
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Brpadus Hudson DePriest, native of Shelby and one-time publisher of a newspaper there, and Prescott F. Dennett of Washington, organizer with George Sylvester Viereck of the Make Europe Pay War Debts Committee to which North Carolina's Senator Robert Rice Reynolds belonged two years ago, were among the 28 defendants indicted yesterday in the nation's capital on a charge of conspiring to promote revolt in the Army and Navy.

DePriest was listed in press dispatches as a writer for Gerald B. Winrod of Wichita, Kansas, editor of "The Defender" and a conducted of prize contests for Winrod, Lemer J. Garner and James F. Garner, also of Wichita, Kansas, publishers of "Publicity."

He is a native of Shelby, the son of George DePriest, one-time postmaster there, and is a graduate of the University of Michigan. In the early twenties he organized a weekly newspaper in Shelby called "The Highlander" which he published for some time.

NOT OFTEN IN SHELBY

Later DePriest formed an organization to promote circulation contests for newspapers all over the country, and is understood to have been very successful financially with his enterprises. In recent years his trips to Shelby have been infrequent. His connection with Winrod and the Garners has not as yet been fully explained in press dispatches from Washington.

Senator Reynolds admitted his connection with the Make Europe Pay War Debts Committee in correspondence with Editor J. E. Dowd recently published in The News and also in The Vindicator, Reynolds' personal newspaper. In that exchange of letters, the Senator denied any affiliation with the Islands for War Debts committee (although he advocated such a proposal in Congress) and the War Debts Defense Committee, both of which were also organized by Prescott Bennett.

Mr. Dowd's first inquiry, dated May 5, 1942, asked Senator Reynolds: "Statement made to us that you were key member of Make Europe Pay War Debts Committee, War Debts Defense Committee and Island for Defense Committee. Is it true? Would appreciate reply."

The Senator's long answer, printed in full at his request, explained that a Mr. Gale, proprietor of the Gale News Service, approached him in the Spring of 1940

See SHELBY MAN on page 8

WEATHER

Little change in temperature, with scattered thundershowers this afternoon and tonight.

Today's Temp.: H. 83; L. 70
Sunset today 8:32
Sunrise tomorrow 6:27

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 8.

Note To Readers

Dispatches from Berlin, Rome, Tokyo and other enemy countries are published by The News with the caution that they frequently contain false statements intended for propaganda purposes. This should be taken into consideration when reading the stories credited to Axis sources.

High Air Claims Made by Japs

TOKYO (From Japanese broadcasts)—(AP)—Imperial Headquarters said today that Japanese Naval airmen had shot down 325 enemy planes and destroyed 109 more on the ground in operations over New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and adjacent areas north of Australia between Feb. 2 and July 30.

Japanese losses were put at 54 planes.

(The period covered by the Japanese communique includes the Coral Sea battle in which, the U. S. Navy claimed sank, the enemy lost more than 100 planes, a 20,000-ton aircraft carrier and numerous other ships. Many other Japanese planes have been listed as shot down or destroyed on the ground during the same period in communiques from Allied Headquarters in Australia.)

Continue To Strike at Axis Forces In Desert

Blast Enemy Gun Emplacements

CAIRO. — (AP) — British armored forces continued to stab at the Axis forces west of El Alamein while consolidating positions won on the northern and central sectors in two days of sharp fighting, General Sir Claude Auchinleck's Headquarters announced today.

At the same time the enemy was subjected to a steady bombardment by artillery and by the RAF, which blasted at Axis gun emplacements, concentrations of motor vehicles and communication lines.

CENTRAL FRONT

Most of the action, the communique said, again centered on the central front, where the British have driven the enemy from the western end of El Ruweisat Ridge, and in the coastal area, where Australian forces were reported in control of the "Hill of Jesus" and neighboring ridges.

In the southern sector fringed by the salt marshes of the Qattara Depression there was no fighting worthy of mention, the bulletin said.

There was some enemy air activity over the front, in which Nazi dive bombers took a hand. RAF fighters, however, were quick to engage the enemy planes, and were credited officially with shooting down four dive bombers, one Messerschmitt fighter and a reconnaissance bomber.

Two other Axis aircraft were shot down yesterday during minor air activity over Malta, the RAF reported.

The British acknowledged the loss of five planes.

Occupation of Oasis Announced by Rome

ROME (From Italian Broadcasts)—(AP)—The Italian High Command announced today the occupation of Siwa Oasis, 30 miles inside Egypt and 60 miles southeast of Girabub, Libyan Oasis village reported recaptured earlier from the British.

(The Axis forces presumably moved into Siwa after the occupation of Giarabub, 160 miles south of Tobruk, which the High Command said yesterday was taken on July 15. The German High Command also announced Italian occupation of Siwa.)

On the El Alamein front in Egypt the Italian communique said lively fighting continued yesterday with the British sustaining heavy losses.

OLD ROUTE

The Siwi Oasis is on an old caravan route which runs south of the Qattara Depression.

(These movements might indicate a plan of Nazi Field Marshal Erwin Rommel to stab at the British flank and rear by way of the waterless sands south of the Depression, a great natural barrier to the movement of a mechanized army.

SUB'S CREW BURIED IN AMERICAN SOIL — U. S. Army men here carry one of 29 caskets, containing bodies of a Nazi submarine crew, to a grave in the Hampton National Cemetery at Hampton, Va. The submarine was destroyed in a battle with an American destroyer and the bodies recovered and brought ashore. The mass funeral was carried out with full military honors. This photo was made and released by U. S. Navy.

Say Russian City Taken In Great Onrush

Assert Resistance of Fresh Red Troops Broken in Big Bend Area

BERLIN (From German Broadcasts) —(AP)—Rostov has been taken by storm and resistance of fresh Russian troops has been broken in the big bend region of the Don, the German High Command reported today.

Fall of Rostov, on the Don 25 miles from the Sea of Azov, was announced in a special communique which said:

"Troops of the German Army, troops of the S. S. (Elite Guard), and Slovak units, supported in splendid manner by the air force, have broken through the entire front of strongly fortified and deeply echeloned positions of the defenses of Rostov and, after hard fighting, have captured the town by storm.

"It is important as a traffic and harbor center.

"Mopping-up of the remnants of the enemy in the town is continuing."

The German Transocean News Agency said this indicated most of the city was in the German hands, declaring, "only in one section of the town are the Soviets continuing to offer resistance, but breaking of this last resistance is only a question of a very short time, according to competent military circles."

VORONEZH FIGHTING

The same agency acknowledged that around Voronezh Soviet attacks were continuing, saying:

"At a few places German troops were slightly drawn back to avoid unnecessary casualties, as German military quarters explain."

It said Voronezh itself was in German hands.

While asserting that German forces held several bridgeheads on the lower Don, it said these were presently only of local importance, because large operations in the direction of the Caucasus had not been started.

The regular daily communique issued a little later repeated the special announcement and added:

"In the great bend of the Don infantry divisions and mobile units broke resistance of Soviet troops that had been newly brought up. Sixty-nine tanks and 29 guns were destroyed in this action."

The report on Rostov indicated a lightning conquest of that city for only yesterday did the High Command announce that its troops had reached the outskirts. (Rostov was captured last Nov. 21, but German forces later withdrew at the start of the Russian Winter campaign.)

The Transocean News Agency reported that the special communique on Rostov's fall occasioned the greatest enthusiasm in Berlin, "where everyone knows that Stalin and Timoshenko did their utmost to make the city of Rostov a symbol of Soviet force of resistance."

Stalin had ordered Rostov held at any cost for this reason, but German and Slovak troops now have stormed it, said Transocean.

SECOND PHASE OVER

"The second phase of the large German offensive has thus been

See CLAIM ROSTOV on page 8

Red Army Takes Stand

Last Ditch Defense Of Northern Caucasus

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW—(AP)—The Red Army took its stand today on the banks of the broad Lower Don for a last ditch defense of the northern Caucasus against a still further reinforced Axis onslaught which overran the Donets Basin, beat at Rostov, and heightened the menace to Stalingrad.

United States built planes—especially two-motor Douglas Boston bombers—were thrown into the fight for the Caucasus in greater numbers than ever before on the Russian front.

The Russians reported holding as best they could in positions to which they withdrew in the Novocherkassk area, twenty miles northeast of Rostov, and said they developed a flank attack against the right wing of the Nazi Don River front at Tsimyanskaya, halfway between Rostov and Stalingrad. (The Germans claimed the capture of Rostov.)

The Red Army counterattack bespoke the Russians' determination at any cost to keep the Caucasus from isolation by holding the Tikhoretsk - Stalingrad rail line, last railway link to the far southern front.

NAZI ADVANCE

The threat to this line was sharply drawn by the Nazi advance upon Tsimyanesk, just north of the Don at a point where the

See RED ARMY on page 8

Ruhr, Rhineland Targets Attacked

Strong Force of British Planes Strikes in Western Germany

LONDON. — (AP) — A strong force of Royal Air Force bombers attacked objectives in Western Germany's industrial Ruhr and Rhineland, the Air Ministry announced today.

Nazi-occupied airdromes in the Low Countries also were bombed and railways and other targets in invaded territory were attacked in the night by fighters, the Ministry said.

SEVEN MISSING

It reported that seven British bombers were missing, but two enemy aircraft were destroyed during the continental raids and seven German bombers were shot down during night attacks on Britain.

The Nazi craft bagged over Britain were among formations losing the heaviest attack in many weeks.

(The Germans said one of their targets was Bedford, industrial town 40 miles north of London.)

A British Air Force commentator said that in all about 40 German planes participated in last night's raids on this country.

Taking up where the RAF night crews left off, a steady stream of British planes began speeding across the channel toward northern France at dawn today.

Sweden Protests to Reds About Bombs on Island

LONDON—(AP)—Reuters reported from Stockholm today a Swedish Government announcement that bombs dropped by three aircraft on Oeland Island last night were Russian, and that a diplomatic protest had been sent to the Soviet Government.

Oeland is off the east coast of Sweden. First reports of the bombing said no damage was caused.

Finn Feeler Circulated

Way To End Tie With Germany Suggested

NEW YORK—(AP)—Finland gave world-wide currency today to a suggestion that the United States might help extricate her from her position as an ally of Germany and as a possible sacrifice to Soviet Russia in the event of a United Nations victory.

Some sort of post-war guarantee from the United States appeared to be the price—and much was made of the point that for six months, Finnish forces have sought only to maintain their lines against the Red Army, without making any aggressive moves.

As is the way with such feelers, the manner of publication was complicated. First, the idea appeared in an editorial in the Stockholm newspaper, Dagens Nyheter. Then it was given wide front page republication in the Finnish press. Lastly, the essentials of the editorial were broadcast to the world by the official Finnish radio, with comments and explanatory remarks of its own.

WANT MORE INFORMATION

That editorial, as broadcast from Helsinki, said it was urgently important that the United States give more exact information than hitherto about her aims for the protection of small democracies such as Finland from a Bolshevik-dictated peace if the trend of the war should lead to such an end.

If the United States could give Finland more exact information on Allied political aims after the war, the Finns would gain greater confidence, it continued.

There was no specific suggestion that in such a case Finland would drop her role as Germany's confederate in the fight against Russia.

The editorial added significantly, however, that during the past half-year the Finnish-Russian front has been relatively fixed—"not a matter of a truce, but of standing guard. . . ."

PLACE a Service Flag in your window if you have a son, brother, husband, father in the armed forces. Service Flags are free at The News office, if you call in person.

Japs Suffer On Aleutians

Being Attacked Two or Three Times a Day

NEW YORK —(AP)— The Toyko radio broadcast a Domei dispatch today in which a Japanese correspondent on Kiska Island at the western end of the Aleutians reported that United States bombers were attacking Japanese forces there two or three times a day, dropping bombs through the fog.

The broadcast quoted the correspondent as saying that Japanese forces who have moved into barracks on the island suffered from loneliness and hardships and faced a bitter cold Winter which would set in during September.

He reported that since the Japanese landing a month ago the Japanese had changed the name of the island to Narukami, and said roads were being built across the black treeless hills.

"We are having the best weather here now," his dispatch said, "with the temperature about the same as Japan and Slovak troops now have stormed it, said Transocean.

SECOND PHASE OVER

"The second phase of the large German offensive has thus been

See CLAIM ROSTOV on page 8

Guide to Good Reading

ANOTHER SPARKLING SERIAL STORY

There's fun, in Cecile Tanner's excitement and romance in "Banners Flying", our new serial story which starts today. Written by Mary Roberts Rinehart, "Banners Flying" packs a punch in every installment and you'll enjoy it each afternoon. Start at the start. Turn to page 2-B.

★ ★ ★

THEY LIVE HARD —AND BRAVELY

Keith Wheeler, Chicago Times reporter whose descriptions of the fighting in the Aleutians have been published this week in The News, gives a graphic description of a flight over 10,000 miles of and far northwestern territory in a copyrighted dispatch on page 7 of this edition.

★ ★ ★

HENRY WALLACE, RECORD-BREAKER

A record-breaking Vice President in Henry Wallace, who throws boomerangs, speaks Spanish and knows his votes in the Senate. Having broken more than one other mark in his office, he has become a Gallup Poll bigtoken figure. Come, come, says one story on today's editorial page, the man who cast no vote in the Senate can't be only vote and panel of measure.

Nazis, Feeling Shipping Pinch, Move To Salvage Sunken Craft

By EDWIN SHANKE

LONDON—(AP)—Germany, pinched for shipping space after almost three years of war, has started a campaign to salvage vessels sunk along the European coast and is pushing a program for construction of standardized merchantmen similar to the American "Liberty ships," British sources declared today.

The situation facing the Reich is reflected in official British reports that, of the 9,000,000 tons of merchant shipping with which Germany and Italy started the war, 5,250,000 tons had been sent to the bottom prior to last December.

HEAVY LOSS

How much tonnage the Axis has lost since then is largely a matter of speculation, but Allied communiques indicate that it is considerable.

While British and United States navies have virtually throttled Germany's overseas commerce, she is struggling tremendously to maintain vital supply lines in European waters—particularly in the Baltic and the Mediterranean.

In the Baltic, German freighters are moving iron ore from Lulea, Sweden, to north German ports and supplying Nazi troops in Russia and their Finnish allies.

With Soviet submarines on the loose in the Baltic this is becoming a hazardous job, and the Germans are reported to have resorted recently to convoying.

TAKE HEAVY TOLL

In the Mediterranean, Germany is largely dependent upon Italian shipping space to keep her armies

See NAZI FEEL on page 6

July 13 . . . Spuds, Stones From Sky . . . Devilish Fire . . . Haunted?

SPINDALE — Falling stones, falling potatoes, devilish fires and other such agents of the supernatural have the neighborhood around Claude Forney's home on their ears. Making matters worse Claude is a Negro, and like all his race, things that happen without rime or reason make his spine do tricks.

The general feeling hereabouts is that Claude's house, located about five miles from here, is haunted. And, by tracky, it's one of the most versatile haunts Rutherford County folks have ever seen. Rocks fall out of a clear blue sky. Irish potatoes come tumbling from the trees. Fruit jars move from one room to another, but never get broken.

One day Claude even marked a stick of stove wood in his backyard. In a little while it came sailing over his house.

One distinguished Rutherfordton citizen, imbued with doubts, spent a while at the house, became a firm believer when a big stone came tumbling through a tree in the front yard.

Fires built under the washpot won't stay put. They hop up into the pot, too, and at times have burned the Forney family's clothes. To top it all off, it got its start on July 13.

Negroes in these parts are beginning to believe the world is near its end. None of their charms have been able to do anything with the unruly force.

What the cynics would like to know is: just what's going on around the Forney place; what is this force, if any, and where do the spuds and rocks come from?

The news has spread and has the county agog with interest. The person is still being sought who can solve this whatchamacallit.