REDS HEADED TOWARD GREAT VICTORIES

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

Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

ESTABLISHED 1888 — CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1943 — 22 Pages—Price Five Cents

ALLIES WIN BRIDGEHEADS ACROSS VOLTURNO IN MIGHTY OFFENSIVE

Rabaul Given Deadly Blow In Air Attack

Great Pacific War Raid Wrecks 177 Jap Planes, Sinks 3 Destroyers

By C. YATES McDANIEL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—(AP)—Gen. MacArthur threw every bomber and fighter plane he could risk in a gigantic smash Tuesday at Japan's key sea-air bastion of Rabaul on New Britain, and the resultant devastation prompted the conservative General to say, "I think we have broken its back."

The raid by the biggest air armada ever amassed in this area "marks the turning point in the war in the South Pacific," declared the Air Force Commander, Lt. Gen. George C. Kenney.

RESULTS OF RAID

The far-reaching results — they may speed the unhinging of the whole perimeter of defenses anchored to Rabaul—were:

Destruction or severe damage of 177 enemy planes, an estimated 69 per cent of the air force on Rabaul's airdromes.

Sinking of at least 17,000 tons of ships, including three destroyers and three merchant ships, as well as 43 small seagoing cargo vessels and 19 harbor craft.

Severe damaging of a submarine, its 5,000-ton tender, a 6,000-ton destroyer tender and a 7,000-ton cargo ship.

Wrecking and firing of wharves and waterfront installations at Simpson Harbor, one of the finest in the world.

These accomplishments cost the Allies five planes out of the participating hundreds, the bulk of

See GREAT RAID on page 4

Soviet Army Within Or On Outskirts Of 4 Cities

Fight Way Into Melitopol

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW — (AP) — The Red Army, now inside or on the threshold of four of Russia's large cities—Kiev, Gomel, Zaporozhe and Melitopol—appeared on the way today to winning some of its greatest victories.

Surging across the mud flats of the lower Dnieper River, the Soviets fought their way into Melitopol, a city of 70,000 inhabitants, after breaking the German hold on the Molochna River line.

PRESS ON KIEV

On the middle Dnieper River, Red Army forces within two miles of the Ukrainian capital of Kiev hastened their efforts to take the city before the Nazis could complete demolitions.

Capture of Kiev would be a prize of the first order for the Red Army. At the time of its capture by the Germans in September, 1941, its population numbered 850,000.

Gomel, at the northern end of the active front, became a battleground as Soviet forces which crossed the Sozh River came to that White Russian center.

The Red Army of the south appeared battling for a substantial prize—the bottling up in the Crimea of the German Seventeenth Army. Front line dispatches said no withdrawal appeared underway. They added that the Germans' main railway communication with the Crimea was already cut at Melitopol, leaving the Germans only the single-track line, recently completed farther west to Kherson, to effect their evacuation.

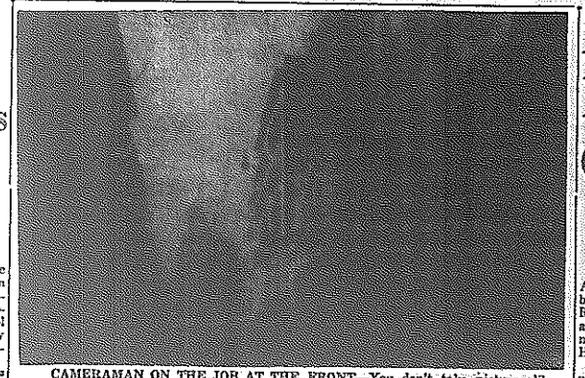
Yanks Bomb Central Reich

LONDON—(AP)—U. S. heavy bombers, supported by Thunderbolts, attacked targets in Central Germany today.

It was the first daylight raid for the American bombers since their big Münster and Cassidy Sunday.

The targets were not specified in the first announcement from U. S. Army Headquarters, but the use of the description "Central Germany" suggested the possibility of a fairly deep penetration.

The attack marked the resumption of major operations which, in addition to the Münster and Cassidy raids, included a record long — distance flight to Eastern Germany, Poland and East Prussia last Saturday.



CAMERAMAN ON THE JOB AT THE FRONT—You don't take pictures like this by "accident." You stand in a town that's under vigorous enemy shell-fire, with camera ready—and wait for a big one to pop near you. Credit the photo above to NEA-Acme War Photographer Charles Corte, who aimed his lens down a deserted, rubble-strewn street on the outskirts of Terre Annunziata, Italy, and caught the burst of a German 88-mm. shell only a half-block away.

American And British Troops Cross Stream

German Defenses Cracked In Furious Allied Night Assault

By NOLAND NORGAARD

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGIERS — (AP) — American and British troops, swarming across the storm-banked Volturno River in a resumption of their drive on Rome, have cracked German defenses in a furious night attack and established several strong bridgeheads on the north side of that greatest obstacle in their path, Allied Headquarters announced today.

The troops of Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army unleashed the mighty new offensive Tuesday night. They had the support of a thundering artillery barrage which tore German defenses to shreds and the aid of powerful armadas which swept the area unchallenged and pinned to earth the tanks and guns which the enemy attempted to bring forward in counter-attack.

Held motionless by several days of rains which had swelled the 100- to 200-yard-wide Volturno to a torrent and bogged down his vehicles, Gen. Clark took advantage of subsiding floods and drying ground to send his warriors into battle, with the words "Hit them hard" after the Germans had attempted to throw the projected offensive off balance by a desperate attack of their own against Capua on the south side of the river.

ALLIES HIT HARD

The Allied troops did hit them hard.

Plunging across the stream in the face of a lashing hurricane of sleet from German machine-guns, mortars, rifles and concentrations of artillery, Gen. Clark's troops swam and crossed the barrier in assault boats and amphibious trucks, and speedily established their bridgeheads.

They were quickly reinforced by American tanks which rolled across bridges hastily constructed by combat engineers under fire. Reports from the front today said Allied armor was jamming out in all directions and threatening to isolate German forces on either side.

All through the night and all day yesterday the battle of the bridgeheads raged, with the Germans rushing reinforcements from the Rome area in an effort to beat back the attack. Seven German divisions were strung across Italy to withstand the onslaught.

DRIVE AT NAZI FLANK

Simultaneously, the Allied forces to the northeast put new impetus into their wheeling attack threatening the German flank. They pushed forward in a hard battle and captured Guardia, fourteen

See ALLIED TROOPS on page 4

Kesselring Recalled?

Reported In Dispute With Rommel

STOCKHOLM — (AP) — The Swiss newspaper La Suisse said today that Field Marshal General Albert Kesselring has been recalled as commander of German forces in Southern Italy after a dispute with Marshal Erwin Rommel, commander in Northern Italy.

Kesselring was transferred to an unannounced post and another commander, who was not named, has been sent to Southern Italy where he will be under Rommel's orders, the newspaper added.

(The Berlin radio said that Mussolini had received Rommel, and "in a long conference present military problems were discussed.")

La Suisse added that the Kesselring-Rommel dispute dated back to Rommel's earlier victorious push toward Egypt. Although they outranked by Kesselring, Rommel refused to take orders from Kesselring or Italian generals. Rommel's feats won him promotion to field marshal's rank, equal with Kesselring.

Viscount Astor Named Lord Mayor Plymouth

LONDON—(AP) — Viscount Astor, husband of Lady Nancy Astor, American-born member of Parliament, has been named Lord Mayor of Plymouth for the first consecutive year.

Lord Astor, owner of the influential London Sunday Observer, has long been prominent in public life and was parliamentary secretary to Prime Minister David Lloyd George in 1916. Later he was attached to the Ministries of Food and Health. His brother, Lt. Col. John Jacob Astor, is chairman of the London Times.

Nazis Boasting of Huge Troop Glider

LONDON—(AP)—German military magazines are displaying for the first time, the Berlin radio said today, pictures of a giant glider Nazi glider known as the Gigant, 240 and capable of carrying troops in numbers "unimaginable to the layman."

Slavs In Stinging Repulse Of Nazis

Germans Retreating After Attempting To Storm Point Near Belgrade

LONDON — (AP) — Strong German forces attempting to storm the town of Turla, industrial center dominating the plain leading to Belgrade, have been beaten back and are retreating westward toward Doboj, a communique of the Yugoslav National Liberation Army, broadcast by the Free Yugoslav radio, said today.

This stinging repulse of Nazis and Ustashi forces which for the past several days have been battling for this strategic stronghold, followed by a few hours the announcement by Dr. Dinz Tito's headquarters that the entire Italian Venezia Division, until recently fighting with the Germans, had come over to the Patriot cause.

At the same time, however, Tito declared that the Chetnik forces of Gen. Draja Mihailovic, King Peter's field commander, and War Minister, were armed with the German equipment the Partisan forces of liberation.

Today's communique said that bitter but inconclusive fighting between Partisan regiment and German forces was raging around the cities of Otuilo, Karlovac and Zagreb in Croatia, Gacinski, Zara and Imotski in Dalmatia and along main railway arteries in Slovenia and on the Istrian Peninsula.

"Units of the First Great Corps operating along the railway from Ogulin to Zagreb have killed 250 Germans and Ustashi troops and have taken 125 prisoners," the war bulletin said. "The main fighting is taking place near Duga Resa, an industrial town near Karlovac."

Partisan bands, operating between German-held Zara and Split on the Dalmatian coast, launched a German freight train and captured stocks of war material, the communique added, and in Montenegro, just north of the Albanian frontier, other Partisan forces seized an important road junction at Mattice.

In the Balkans, under the Germans, reinforced with tank brigades, alarmed Patriot positions near Sarajevo, the communique said, "and by great superiority of numbers succeeded in advancing toward Crkvenice and Bakar" on the Croatian coastal plain.

Lose 2 U.S. Destroyers

Warships Are Lost In Mediterranean

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Loss of two American destroyers in the Mediterranean was reported today by the Navy in a communique which also told of an unsuccessful Japanese bombing raid on Attu Island in the Aleutians.

The destroyers, the Buck and Bristol both sank as a result of underwater explosions, the Navy said.

The Buck, a 1,500-ton ship, went down off Bizerta October 9 and the Bristol, a 1,500-ton vessel, was sunk yesterday.

The Navy said casualty details had not been received and that proof of kin of all casualties will be notified immediately upon receipt of information.

The bombing raid on Attu, taken from the Japanese late in May, was the first carried out since American occupation of that little island on the tip of the Aleutian chain.

Ten Japanese bombers flew high over Massacre Bay at a great height, the Navy reported. Their bombs were dropped without causing damage.

American fighting pilots flew up to intercept the bombers and they were driven off. No planes were shot down in the engagement.

The Japanese bombers presumably came from the enemy base on Paramushiro, at the northern end of the Kurile Island chain, of which Japan is a part. It was assumed that the unsuccessful bombing assault was an attempt to halt American attacks on the Paramushiro base, largest Japanese installation in the North Pacific, which has been hit on various occasions by American bombers flying over the 620 nautical mile route from Attu.

Italy's Victims Cannot Forget

Described As Not Yet Ready To Fight With Italians As Allies

LONDON —(AP)— Italy's former misdeeds remained strongly alive today despite the Badoglio Government's declaration of war against Germany and most unofficial quarters appeared to have adopted an attitude of wait-and-see.

The Daily Mail summed it up thus:

"Actions will count . . . The terms to defeated Italy can only be adjusted in the light of the assistance which she gives us. To put it another way—Italy will be punished for her misdeeds, but she may obtain remission for good conduct."

No official comment has been forthcoming so far from the exiled Governments of France, Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania — Italy's four chief victims—but men of these nationalities have emphasized that they and their compatriots will not forget easily.

"We certainly are not yet ready to fight shoulder to shoulder with them as Allies," declared one Greek.

A high Yugoslav said he welcomed "anything that will shorten the war," but added that "it is merely a move whereby any new Italian regime will be given concessions at the expense of the Yugoslav nation, battling now for life. We will be disappointed."

The provisional committee of directors of the Italian Socialist Party in London was frankly antagonistic.

The committee labelled the Badoglio Government "an imposition" and asked that President Roosevelt's pledge that the Italians would be allowed a chance to form their own Government after the war be put into effect immediately.

Argentina At Crisis

Cabinet Men Favoring Axis Break Resign

BUENOS AIRES—(AP)—The Government of Gen. Pedro Ramirez has accepted the resignations of three Cabinet members, all regarded as favoring a break with the Axis.

An official announcement last night said unity of the Government would not be accepted by the resignations.

Argentina still maintains relations with Germany, the only Latin American nation to do so. The Government's foreign policy has been a bitterly debated issue in secret Cabinet meetings and in the press.

Demonstrators shouting "neutrality" jammed the Calle Florida, one of Buenos Aires' main shopping streets, a block from the United States Embassy. Norman Armour, U. S. Ambassador to Argentina, had returned yesterday from a visit to Washington. Police used tear gas to halt the demonstration and arrested more than a score of persons.

Leaves From A War Correspondent's Notebook

By HAL BOYLE

CAPODICHINO AIRFIELD, Italy, Oct. 5—(Delayed)—(AP)—The German Air Force is slowly dying month by month, week by week, day by day, and when you inspect a once-great Axis air base such as Capodichino you readily see how the nests are being blasted from it one after another by the never-ceasing pounding of Allied bombers and fighters.

BOYLE

The grass grows high on Capodichino Field. It has not the same fate that befell Bir Hacheim and Bir Hacuna and Sidi Rezegh fields at Tobruk and Bizerte in Tunisia, and Gerbini and Castelvetrano in Sicily. It has undergone the same systematic pattern of destruction, a pattern German air power never has been able to break.

I drove around the great field which lies just outside Naples with Cpl. Harry Cone of Seattle, Wash., an Air Corps photographer. We counted more than 100 wrecks of German and Italian airplanes scattered around the green acres. They had been shattered by "frag" bombs dropped by Flying Fortresses and other bombers, or riddled by incendiary bullets from low-flying fighter-bombers.

The planes were of all types. Ruined German fighters stood by ruined German bombers. Several great six-matched transports had been caught on the field and burned. Of one there was little left, but its skeleton framework looked like the bones of a prehistoric monster and the wind blew through it with a melancholy moan.

There sky giants appear to have been one of the German Air Force's poorest investments. They look as if they were built to be shot down, and they are as helpless against a swift fighter plane as a tired cow against a wolf.

The Capodichino landing field itself showed less signs of damage, fewer craters than many other German air ports had been knocked out by swarming Allied raiders, but the administration buildings and hangars were in terrible shape.

In addition to being bombed Capodichino was subjected to heavy demolition by the Germans and afterward came in for considerable shelling in the battle during which the British drove off the defending Nazis.

GUARD FIELD

The job of guarding the field was turned over to a specialized

See GERMAN AIR on page 4

Mexico May Send Troops

MEXICO CITY—(AP)—The newspaper Excelsior says Mexico is ready to send an expeditionary force to the battlefronts and predicted that troops would be on their way within six months.

The plan for more active participation in the war has been espoused by a group of young generals, general staff officers and aviators," Excelsior stated, adding that the Government looks favorably upon the idea.

German Convoy Attacked

LONDON —(AP)— British submarines and torpedo planes attacked a German convoy off northern Norway yesterday but failed to inflict any damage, the Berlin radio said today.

"There was no immediate report of any such engagement from British sources.

—Eyewitness Account—

Japs In Frenzy As Great Allied Air Assault Is Made On Rabaul

(The following eyewitness account of Tuesday's big air raid against Rabaul, New Britain, was dispatched to The New York Times by its staff correspondent, Frank L. Kluckhohn. Eleven newsmen went on the mission and Kluckhohn was among the seven who got over the target. Kluckhohn's dispatch was made available to the Associated Press by The New York Times after the bomber in which AP's William F. Hall was a passenger failed to reach the target because of engine troubles.)

By FRANK L. KLUCKHOHN

ABOARD A BOMBER, OVER RABAUL, Oct. 12—(Delayed)—Far below us ships are bursting into flames or leaving white wakes as they circle frantically. A fully of black and pinkish gray smoke dims the wide area of airfields and installations where waves of United States medium bombers strafed earlier.

A big salvo of 1,000-pound bombs has lifted a large vessel from the water, covering it with smoke. Docks are being blasted from existence.

WARSHIP FIRES

Black puffs of ack-ack appear frantically far off from us. Yellow gun lashes from a warship break along her whole length.

This is the greatest blow yet struck anywhere in the Pacific, with hundreds of planes, heavy bombers, medium bombers and swarms of fighters pounding the harbor, airfields and gun installations at this north end of New Britain Island, which is the anchor of the Japanese position in the Southwest Pacific and South Pacific. General Douglas MacArthur had scraped together and had repaired for this effort every Liberator, Flying Fortress, Mitchell and Boston he could lay hands on for this powerful assault. Some RAF Beauforts were employed for special attack.

Before many squadrons of Liberators arrived over the target medium, large Mitchells, with a heavy fighter escort, had strafed airfields and gun positions at a

See BIG ATTACK on page 4

WEATHER

Scattered showers tonight and Friday

Temperatures

Today's Temperatures

2:30 P. M. 68

Sunset Today

Sunrise Tomorrow

Full report on page 2