

It Takes America To Do It!



These 28-ton M-3 tanks, named "General Grants" by the British who have been using many of this type in Libya, roll off the assembly lines in mass production at the Detroit Tank Arsenal operated by the Chrysler Corporation near Detroit. They are armed with 75mm and 37mm cannon and several machine guns. Finished tanks at the left are undergoing minor adjustments. Tanks in the right foreground have already been tested and will be loaded on flat cars for rail shipment.

British Forces Strengthen Libyan Line In Effort To Save Vital Tobruk Port

London Admits Nazis Are Stronger Than Supposed

LONDON, June 19.—(AP)—British troops sought tonight the reason for her sudden reversal in Libya, and competent military critics supplied the least palatable answer: the German Rommel had better guns and tanks and used them with greater skill. A week ago Britons were assured that the battle was going satisfactorily and only a few subdued voices uttered reminders of other reversals in the wild desert fights of the past two years.

Thus the public was not prepared for the abrupt discovery that the new positions had become traps from which troops were forced to flee and the public was not consoled when correspondents reported that Rommel lacked sufficient gasoline to push his tanks on into Egypt.

One of the first acid comments came from the Evening News, which asked the reason for repeated "frustrations" in Libya and supplied its own answer: "Quite simply and bluntly the reason is that from the beginning we have underestimated the strength, cunning, resources and recuperative power of the enemy. We did not believe he could have better tanks than ours, but he did."

"We did not imagine he would have a still deadlier anti-tank gun." The whole story has not come yet from the battlefields but from available information military experts drew these conclusions: 1. Lieut. Gen. Neil M. Ritchie, commander of the British eighth army, lacked sufficient numbers of United States 28-ton tanks. When the excellent 88-millimeter guns of the Germans knocked many of them out of action the British had to depend too much on light cruiser tanks whose two-pounder guns had been relegated to the peashooter class.

4. Establishment of a strong, static defense line anywhere in Cirenaica in the vicinity of El Aghella is out of the question because of limitations on the number of troops which can be maintained efficiently in the desert.

TALK IS REVIVED ON BUYING TIRES

Idea Of Getting Rubber From Non-Essential Autos Discussed

WASHINGTON, June 19.—(AP)—New talk of buying up tires from owners of "non-essential" automobiles was heard in the capital today, while officials sought to step up the nation-wide scrap rubber drive with week-end "treasure hunts."

Wendell Lund, director of WPB's labor production division, told a special House committee studying means of getting workers to war plants: "Tires on non-essential private automobiles must be purchased by the government and allocated to war workers who are cooperating fully in carrying full loads of workers."

The petroleum industry war council, which has charge of the scrap rubber collection, said it had "set Saturday and Sunday, when most Americans will be at home, for a nation-wide week-end treasure hunt of every attic, cellar, bin, and shed for unused and scrap particles of rubber."

"Rubber brought to light in the treasure hunt may be dropped off at a local service station on the way to church Sunday morning or on the way to work Monday," the council said.

The Office of Price Administration announced during the day that under the permanent gasoline rationing system to be set up in the east on July 15, every automobile will carry a sticker showing the kind of rationing book held by its driver.

By this method of publicity, the OPA hopes to deter motorists from obtaining or using cards to which they are not entitled.

WEATHER (Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday): (EASTERN STANDARD TIME) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Temperature: 1:30 a. m. 73; 7:30 a. m. 76; 1:30 p. m. 86; 7:30 p. m. 71; maximum 86; minimum 71; mean 78; normal 77. Humidity: 1:30 a. m. 85; 7:30 a. m. 84; 1:30 p. m. 46; 7:30 p. m. 88. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.00 inches; total since the first of the month, 1.14 inches. TIDES FOR TODAY: (From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey): Wilmington High 9:00, Low 2:01a, 8:25a, 2:30p, 8:50p. Masonboro Inlet High 9:01a, Low 2:02a, 8:26a, 2:31p, 8:51p. Sunrise 5:09a; sunset 7:59p; moonrise 11:05a; moonset 11:59p.

Rommel Believed To Have Orders For Egyptian Attack At Once

By EDWARD KENNEDY CAIRO, June 19.—(AP)—British mobile forces, fanning out northward from their new line along the Egyptian border, jostled German preparations for an all-out assault on Tobruk today and gave that isolated but vital British seaside fortress time to perfect its defenses.

Tobruk, Libyan port 80 miles from Egypt, bristled with newly-strung barbed wire, fresh-laid mine fields and strengthened pillboxes curving in great arcs around all its shoreward approaches.

The Germans were hastening to bring up great 210-millimeter (8.26 inch) cannon to try to reduce the defenses which defied them for nearly eight months last year.

(A German communique Friday claimed that Axis forces had completed encirclement of Tobruk and had once more laid siege to the Libyan port.)

The South Africans and British who withdrew yesterday from the El Adem and Acroma strongpoints now are within the port's fortifications.

These forces are not purely on the defensive, however, and today strong raiding parties hampered German attempts to strengthen their positions in the El Adem area, 20 miles to the south of Tobruk's outer perimeter of defenses.

It was not known whether the enemy had made contact with the British positions on the Egyptian frontier. The action between Tobruk and Salum remained fluid with British mobile columns seeking to prevent the Axis from fanning out from the coastal belt along which they were moving.

Already, Tobruk's outer works were under attack, as indicated by a British communique which reported destruction of three Axis tanks and damage to four others in the Tobruk area.

But the hour of decision was delayed by British armored sorties from their strengthened frontier lines. These, said a communique, have succeeded in confining the enemy columns to the desolate coastal strip.

Heavy Wind Strikes City At Nightfall

Many Telephone, Power And Telegraph Lines Knocked Out

NO INJURIES REPORTED

Police Hear of No Persons Hurt During 35 Mile Per Hour Wind

A 35-mile-an-hour wind, bringing with it nearly one inch of rainfall in 20 minutes last night about 7:30 o'clock, disrupted telephones, telegraph and power lines throughout the southeastern section of North Carolina.

Striking with heavy force, the wind blew down trees in some sections of the city and county and in the area near the Gordon road a number of Tide Water Power company poles were blown over, it was learned from C. H. McAllister, chief engineer.

The Associated Press wire service, furnished to the Star-News, was interrupted about 6:45 o'clock p. m. as the storm was moving eastward from the mountains, and no news service was available until nearly midnight.

Clinton reported only one telephone wire open and many small villages were isolated for hours. Within the city limits here, falling trees brought down power and telephone lines.

The power company reported many transformers burned out due to short circuits, when the branches crossed them. The entire Wrightsville Beach area was blacked out for several hours, but power was restored about 11 o'clock.

Telephone service to Carolina Beach was broken as the storm reached its peak, when a tree fell across the lines. At midnight, (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

ALLIED FLIERS BLAST RABOUL

Smash 10,000-Ton Jap Transport; Other Craft Damaged

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Saturday, June 20.—(AP)—Allied fliers, blasting a Japanese force and installations at Rabaul, New Britain, destroyed an undetermined number of Japanese bombers, fighters, and seaplanes and scored direct hits on a large transport and other vessels, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced today.

One 10,000-ton transport received three direct hits, a communique said and "other vessels were probably damaged."

Seven Japanese naval planes and two seaplanes rose to intercept the Allied attackers but their efforts to stave off the raid were unsuccessful, the communique declared. At least one Japanese plane was shot down. "There were no Allied losses."

TRANSPORT SMASHED SAN FRANCISCO, June 19.—(AP)—Allied fliers smashed a 10,000-ton Japanese transport in Rabaul harbor on New Britain, scoring three hits on the craft, the Allied headquarters in Australia announced tonight.

The communique, broadcast over the Melbourne radio and heard by the CBS listening station, said also that three bombs landed in the middle of a group of Japanese bombers on the Rabaul airfield, and on other ships in the harbor.

Other planes rose to intercept the attackers. One Japanese plane was shot down and another was believed destroyed.

220 Trailers Ordered For Shipyard Project

With eight new trailers here, 17 more will be in within the next few days for installation at Camp Number Two, of the shipyard worker trailer project, it was announced yesterday by Henry C. King, project manager.

Following the arrival of these units, an additional 195 trailers will be sent here within the next 60 days.

The order for the new units was placed with the Farm Security administration after housing accommodations in this area became depleted.

Ground is being prepared for the new group of portable houses and all utilities and highways will be ready upon their arrival, Mr. King said. The new units will be much

Heads Bombers



Col. Caleb V. Haynes, a native of Mount Airy, N. C., has been appointed chief of the United States army bomber command in China. The big, 46-year-old southern mountaineer personally directed the harrowing aerial evacuation of Allied forces in Burma recently. He was decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1939 for his mercy flight to Chile with medical supplies for earthquake victims.

Today Is Last Chance To Register For Bond Election Here July 1

This is the last day to register for the bond election to be held in Wilmington on July 1. The general election registration books will be used. Persons already listed thereon need not re-register, but all eligibles whose names are not upon this register must be listed to participate in the forthcoming election. Registration books will be open at all polling places all day.

Churchill-Roosevelt Conference Shrouded In Military Secrecy

Charleston Navy Yard To Launch 2 Destroyers

CHARLESTON, S. C., June 19.—(AP)—Two new destroyers for the United States' far-flung battle lines will slide down the ways next Wednesday at the Charleston Navy yard.

The ships are the U. S. S. Bell and the U. S. S. Stevens. They take the names of two destroyers scrapped by this country under the London naval treaty after the first world war.

The U. S. S. Bell is named for the late Rear Admiral Henry Bell, born in North Carolina in 1808. It will be christened by Mrs. Cleo Cooke Hulse, of Kansas City, Mo., great niece of the admiral.

The U. S. S. Stevens is named in honor of the late Commodore Thomas Holdup Stevens, USN, a native of Charleston, and his son, the late Rear Admiral Thomas Holdup Stevens 2nd.

Sponsors for the Stevens will be Mrs. Roland Curtin of Carval Hall, Annapolis Md., great granddaughter of Commodore Stevens and Mrs. Frederick Stevens Hicks of Englewood, N. J., whose husband is a great grandson of the Commodore.

220 Trailers Ordered For Shipyard Project

larger than the present type at the camps. Measuring 26 and one-half feet long by eight feet wide, the trailers will have a double bed divan at each end with a small dinette in the center of the coach.

The trailer camp office now has a total of 391 certified applications from shipyard workers on file and receives from 10 to 25 more each day, it was learned.

A total of 310 government owned trailers and 36 private owned vehicles are now parked in the large court opposite the shipyard.

The arrival of 220 new trailers should do much toward alleviating the critical shortage of dwellings here, Mr. King pointed out.

NAZIS STILL POUNDING HARD AT SEVASTOPOL; RED DEFENSES FIRM

Berlin Radio Reports U.S. Planes Over Turkey

NEW YORK, June 19.—(AP)—The Berlin radio broadcast an Ankara report today that 13 or 14 United States warplanes flew over Turkey again last night on their way to the Black Sea coast and that they were fired on by Turkish anti-aircraft batteries.

The Berlin broadcast, heard here by CBS, said: "According to information from Ankara, American planes have again flown over Turkish territory on their way to the northern coast of the Black sea. "There were 13 or 14 ma-

chines, which were fired at by Turkish anti-aircraft batteries. According to the latest reports the shooting took place in the coast district during the evening of Thursday. "An official Turkish communique has not yet been received."

United States bombers visited the Black sea region a week ago today and were reported to have bombed the Rumanian oil fields at Ploesti and the German-occupied Russian ports of Nikolae and Odessa. Four of the raiding craft made forced landings in Turkey.

CHINESE REPORT LOCAL SUCCESSES

News Slightly Offsets The Gains Made By Japs In Fukien

CHUNGKING, China, June 19.—(AP)—The Chinese reported local successes tonight in operations against Japanese bases in Kiangsi and Hupeh provinces, offsetting somewhat what new enemy gains in a threatening backdoor drive upon coastal Fukien province and an additional seaborne invasion of neighboring Chekiang.

Nanchang, Japanese Kiangsi base, was said to be under mounting pressure by Chinese forces which have had the city under attack for more than a week, and the high command announced recapture of Kinki, 80 miles to the south. Repossession of Kinki checked one thrust of the hydra-headed Japanese overland drive against Fukien, but the Chinese acknowledged that the enemy had made

SINKING REPORTED BEFORE IT HAPPENS

Berlin Radio Tells of Attack 2 Days In Advance; Five Missing

AN EAST COAST PORT, June 19.—(AP)—A Berlin propaganda broadcast boasted sinking their big ship two days before the actual attack came, crewmen from a large American-owned merchantman flying the Panamanian flag said on reaching this port.

Those aboard the ship said circumstances caused them to believe that it was the definitely-sought target of a submarine which received orders from Berlin. Five of the 60 persons aboard the vessel are missing.

Six seamen were lost when another ship, a medium-sized American vessel, was sunk on June 10, five days after the attack on the merchantman. News of the sinkings was released today by the Navy. The undersea marauder that attacked the merchantman was de-

Berlin Claims Troops Are At Outer Gates of Crimean Port

RUSSIANS HOLD FIRMLY

Moscow Says Two Enemy Spring Drives Have Brought No Change

MOSCOW, June 19.—(AP)—Masses of Germans hammered steadily at the gates of Sevastopol tonight, but Soviet dispatches said the Nazis were repulsed despite the tremendous weight of tanks, bombers, heavy artillery and infantry hurled against the Black sea naval bastion, now in its third flaming week of all-out assault.

A companion attack 400 miles north on the blood-soaked steppes below Khar'kov was declared continuing on a much reduced scale. On the Kalinin front northwest of Moscow, the Soviet communique declared that "the enemy was driven out of several positions" and that prisoners and booty were seized.

(The Germans claimed decisive success" at Sevastopol with Gen. Erich Von Mainstein's troops piercing "the last defense lines" and reaching Severnaja Bight opposite the city. The high command said the entire northern part of the defenses had fallen and the "capture of the last fort is imminent. The Germans claimed also that the Arctic ports of Murmansk and Jokonga were bombed.)

Several thousand bombs were loosed on the deep defenses of Sevastopol two days ago, dispatches said, and mass attacks of tank-supported infantry tried vainly to crack the southern positions. Artillery was said to have dispersed the foe.

Tonight a great artillery battle was thundering on the northern approaches to the Crimean while the Russians persisted with counterattacks in some sectors.

The Russian high command ignored the Sevastopol siege and declared "no significant changes took place at the front." The communique said seven Red fliers attacked planes, shooting down ten and losing but one in a 45-minute dog-fight.

Heavy thunderstorms around Khar'kov turned the terrain to bog where 1,000 Germans died in the last three days. The fighting there was limited to a 15 mile sector.

In their main onslaught the Germans used 1,000 planes to soften the defenses of Marshal Semeon Timoshenko before the Donets river, Major Gen. Nikolaj Zhuravlev wrote in the Moscow news. Skillful maneuvering of Soviet forces which dealt powerful counterattacks prevented any breach in the lines, he added. He said the very narrowness of the front indicated the Germans lacked the manpower for an all-out assault.

In the Orel sector midway between Moscow and Khar'kov, the Germans were reported by Red Star to have sent the sixth and seventh Hungarian infantry divisions on a punitive expedition against Guerrillas. The Army newspaper said one of the mercenary battalions mutinied after a futile week of attacks in which 3,000 Hungarians were killed.

While the Russians claimed their forces held firm against all major assaults, the military press pointed out the Germany's two major spring efforts appeared to have brought no important changes in positions but had cost the Nazis heavily in reserves, desperately needed for the summer campaign.

Strain On Relations

MOSCOW, June 19.—(AP)—The official Soviet news agency Tass tonight declared the conviction by an Ankara court of two Russians on charges of complicity in a bomb plot against Franz Von Pappen, German ambassador to Turkey, was the result of a Gestapo plot. Tass asserted the conviction put a strain on Russian-Turkish relations.

Moscow newspapers printed Tass' resume of the trial, completed two days ago, under such headlines as: "Disgusting verdict of Ankara court in provocative case of 'attempt' on Pappen." Von Pappen and his wife escaped serious injury when the bomb exploded some distance from them on an Ankara street last Feb. 24, but it was testified that Von Pappen's hearing in one ear was impaired.