State And National News

RAF Pays Duesseldorf Blazing Visi

It was the 51st raid on the

great industrial center. The Air

Ministry, terming the attack "Duesseldorf's quickest blitz,"

said most of the thousands of bombs carried were dropped

within 10 minutes of the 20-

Only six bombers were lost out

of a force officially designated as "heavy" indicating several

hundred planes were in action.

In the last raid on Duesseldorf,

on October 9, 1942, the British

lost 31 planes, but the disparity

in losses probably was due to

differences in weather condi-

tions rather than to enemy ac-

Last night was so black that

the RAF pilots saw only a few

As Representative

To Giraud

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN

NORTH AFRICA, Jan. 28 .- (A)-

Gen. Georges Catroux, Fighting

Syria, may soon take his place

Giraud as Gen. Charles de Gaulle's

Catroux, it was stated, would

It is expected that Gen. Giraud

will have a similar representative

London, it was reported that Ca-

troux may be sent instead to Washington to head Gen. de Gaulle's

Catroux is one of the Fighting

French leaders who enjoys some

popularity among officers of the

French African army. Some sources have predicted that he

would replace Gov-Gen. Auguste

He has been criticised for failure

to repeal anti-Jewish and anti-Free

Mason laws which were enacted

under German influence, and for

continued operation of the Fascist

'groupement' systems of trade

Under the clothing rationing sys-

tem still in force in Morocco an

applicant for clothing must state

on his questionnaire whether he

is Jewish, a Free Mason or a

a Free Mason, his request for a

ration coupon may be delayed for

weeks or months, according to lib-

eral elements who complain of

The anti-Free Mason feeling in

As a result of the mass selling

able to compete.

the system.

was reliably reported today.

tive of de Gaulle.

delegation there.)

enemy fighters.

Of Bor

VOL. 49-NO. 61

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1943

ESTABLISHED 1867.

MAIKOP MENACED

Kastornoye, 75 Miles From

Big Base Of Kursk,

Captured

REDS CLOSE ON ENEMY

Russian Troops Rapidly

Overruning Area Near

Oil Fields

(By The Associated Press)

Russians were fast encircling

the two key Caucasian rail-

way junctions at Tikhoretsk

and Kropotkin, and also the

oil fields at Maikop tonight.

while on the Voronezh front

the Red army seized the im-

portant junction of Kastro-

noye, 75 miles from the big

These developments were

With the seizure of Kalni-

bolotskaya in the Caucasus,

the Russians were only 18

miles northeast of Tikhoretsk.

The occupation of Gulkevichi

put the Red army only eight

miles southeast of Kropotkin.

Prisoners and Materials Taken

A special communique and

nounced the capture of Kastornoye,

intersection of the Voronezh-Kursk

and Valuiki-Yelets railways. "War

materials and prisoners were tak-

The regular midnight bulletin

then announced the capture of Kal-

nibolotskaya and Gulkevichi in the

The Red army seized Novopo-krovskaya, only 27 miles east of

Tikhoretsk where the Rostov-Baku

line connects with the Stalingrad-

Novorossisk railway. Only 28 miles

to the southeast the Russians oc-

Thirty-five miles below Tikhor-

Here the Red army took Otrada-

Kropotkin on the main railway

With the occupation of Petropav-

lovskoye and Mikhailovskoye the

reported here by the Soviet

Nazi base of Kursk.

radio monitor.

en," it added.

cupied 1

in on Tikhoretsk.

pments of the day

LONDON, Jan. 28 - The

AMERICAN TROOPS NARROW ROMMEL'S ESCAPE ROUTE AS BIG OFFENSIVE LOOMS

French Threaten Southern End Of Protective Mareth Line

FOE LEAVES GADAMES

Italians Reported To Have **Evacuated Important** Sector

(By The Associated Press) LONDON, Jan. 28—American troops were reported to have narrowed Marshal Erwin Rommel's escape corridor to 33 miles and a combined Giraud and de Gaulle French column threatened the southern end of his protective Mareth line today as indications grew that the Allies were beginning a major offensive in Tunisia.

The Algiers radio, as heard by Reuters, said American troops had reached Maknassy, only 33 miles from the Gulf of Gabes in an advance toward the rear of the Mareth line only 75 miles to the southeast.

British Showing Activity

Simultaneously, the broadcast said, Brilish troops to the north were showing marked activity in the Medjez-el-Bab and Bou Arada regions facing Tunis and Bizerte, and a French communique an nounced that the Italian garrison had evacuated Gadames, in Trip olitania, some 195 miles south of of the fortified Mareth line, and that the fort had been occupied by the combined forces of Gen Henri Giraud and Gen. Charles de Gaulle of the Fighting

aimed at either Sfax or Gabes or at the coast between, put these roops in a position to sever the connection between Rommel to the south and the Axis forces of Col. and Bizerte to the north.

American raid early this week one of his two girl accusers. when the Americans answered a The end of the defense case

The Ankara radio said, meanwest of Tripoli.

ports hrough the Paris and Vichy ed at Balboa.

REACH MAKNASSY Massive Allied African Command Appears Near

Von Arnim's Forces Hold About Half Of Tunisian War Sector

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Jan. -(P)-Col.-Gen. Jurgen von Arnim's Axis army holds approximately half of Tunisia as Marshal Erwin Rommel's forces try to squeeze in.

The opposing lines are long and straggling, over mountains and vast plateaus.

At many places there are no clearly defined lines where Germans and the Allies hold strong positions in patrol areas and send out armored units every day to cover the

Roughly the German line runs as follows:

Beginning at a point 28 miles due west of Bizerte on the coast, the line drops south to Salum, 7 1-2 miles northwest of Mateur. It then runs southwest to a point 12 miles southwest of Mateur where it swings southeast and passes two miles east of Medjez-el-Bab.

Dropping down near Goubelthe line extends due south almost 30 miles to a point 14 miles southwest of Djebibina: From there it zigzags through the Ousseltia valley to to a point 25 miles northwest of Kairouan. It then swings to the southwest slightly and runs south to a point 20 miles due east to Gafsa. After that there are only patrol areas.

The American thrust, obviously End Of Testimony Comes in Tunisia. Abruptly After Cross Examinations

Errol Flynn's defense rested its The radio broadcast said the case today, with the stipulation by enemy troops retreated to the Attorney Jerry Giesler that he may north and a number of them were request a visit by the jury to the luxurious yacht where the prose-Maknassy was the scene of an cution claims the film star seduced

German dare to "come out and came abruptly after the state had fight and captured 80 prisoners. completed its cross-examination At Maknassy the Americans of the actor, charged with statuwere separated by only about 200 tory rape of teen aged Peggy la miles from the British in Tripoli- Rue Satterlee and Betty Hansen Giesler made his announcement after brief re-examination of the

while, that the Axis was 'evacu- actor. The attorney referred to ating the port of Zuara, 70 miles Flynn's statement on cross-examination that he had been worried The Axis, apparently anticipat- during a visit paid by Miss Sattering the all-out attack, put out re- lee to the yacht when it was moor-

radios saying that British-Ameri- Asked what had been troubling can forces concentrated in the re- him, Flynn responded it had been Flynn as minister to Australia al- ative. Under this system dealers gions of Medjez el Bab and Bou the loss of his pet dog, which had Arada already had "begun an of- strayed away a few hours earlier. basis of membership polls. fensive against the Axis forward Earlier in the day Flynn was An Associated Press can

positions" in Tunisia and that in taken once again on a figurative the southern sector strong Amer- voyage to the Pacific isle of Cataican and French forces were mass- lina, and only once did he give the ing for a companion offensive. slightest indication he was getting No such present activity was in-dicated from Allied North African The tall actor permitted himself

Continued on Page Three; Col. 6) (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 5)

Citizens Service Corps Plans Underway In City

ice Corps for this area.

cil was present.

Bruce B. Cameron was named

Another meeting will be held sale of war bonds an stamps. ext Thursday afternoon to com-

ply the battle front. In every community the war has brought new problems, new tasks and new problems, new tasks and new problems. problems, new tasks and new op-portunities for service to our ci-vilian population.

| Elmore | 1:19p | Call times | Eastern Standard | Sunrise, 7:11 a. m.; Sunset, 5:39 | Moonrise, 12:33a; Moonset, 11:59a.

The Office of Civilian Defense government have been charged met Thursday afternoon to begin with the responsibility for directing the formation of the Citizens Serv- specific parts of our national war effort. The effective development Louis J. Poisson, chairman of the New Hanover Defense council presided over the meeting and the executive control of the New Hanover Defense council presided over the meeting and the executive control of these war programs depends upon cooperation between and with governmental and private agencies and organizations, executive committee of the coun- and upon effective use of local

citizen participation. director of the new organization deal with such matters as salvage "We must organize locally to with W. J. Riley, assistant director. A woman member will also tion problems, labor supply and be named as an assistant director training, the full development of our agricultural resoure 3, and the

"We must likewise organize to plete plans for the organization. At the meeting Thursday Louis which must be met if the home Poisson Poisson presided and the following front is to be kept secure, and if is the text of his statement to the we as a people are to make the committee on the Citizens Service all-out effort which we must make.

"We must organize our efforts "We are fighting a total war and our resources to deal with and a total war can be won only new and intensified problems of by the united effort of every man, health, nutrition, consumer servwoman and child in America. The ices, housing, education, welfare home front must sustain and sup- and child care, and recreation for

RESULT OF PARLEY Leaders Of British And

American Military

Might Confer ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Jan. 28.-(A)-The formation of one huge Allied Mediterranean theater command bristling with troops pointed to-ward Greece, Italy and France, appeared in sight today as a result of a Mediterranean war con-

AFRICA MAY GET and British military chieftains. For 48 hours the military brains of the Allies conferred here at Lieut.-Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters close upon the policy-making conference of President Rooseveit and Prime Min- Gen. Catroux Mentioned ister Churchili at Casablanca, it

ference held here among American

was announced. The fact that so many top-flight military leaders of the Allied nations met on African soil so soon after the decisions reached at Casablanca was taken by military observers as an almost sure sign that the Allies rate a Mediterranean offensive as tops in their French high commissioner in plans for 1943.

Military experts pointed out that in the government of Gen. Henri there are six Allied armies in this theater now, which form the nucleus for a vast and powerful strik- representative in North Africa, it

Those are the British Eighth Army in Tripoli, the Ninth and have the dual role as a member Tenth Armies in the Middle East, at the same time as representaand the First in Tunisia, the American Fifth Army in Tunisia, and

the French Army.

The welding of these armies into one military force was rapidly bewill have a similar representative in the de Gaulle National committee in London, it was said. (In coming a military necessity as the army of Gen. Sir Harold Alex-ander and the Fighting French in Tripolitania rapidly neared a junction with Gen. Eisenhower's forces

For the United States, Genera George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff, Admiral Ernest J. King, commander of the U. S. Fleet, Lieut. Gen. H. H. Arnold, chief of the Army Air Forces and other is under heavy fire from several

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

OVER FR'S ENVOY

Senate Almost Deadlocked In Controversy Over Flynn

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.- (AP) -One of the hottest controversies in years found Senate supporters most deadlocked tonight on the

An Associated Press canvass which reached 89 of the 96 members showed 31 Senators publicly committed to vote against confirmation and 30 on record as supporting the President's choice. Twenty-eight Senators, including 20 Democrats and 8 Republicans.

either had not made up their minds or declined to say publicly how they would vote. Seven Senators were away from Washington.

While most Republicans were expected to oppose confirmation, at de Gaullists. least four Democrats—George of Georgia, Glilette of Iowa, Van Nuys of Indiana and Wheeler of a new height under the Vichy re-Montana—were on record against a new height under the Vichy regime, prodded by the Axis. sending the former Democratic na-

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

WEATHER

FORECAST:

North Carolina Slightly warmer Friday.

(Eastern Standard Time)

(By U. S. Weather Bureau)

Meteorological data for the 24 hours cuding 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

Temperature

1:30 a. m., 45.2; 7:30 a. m., 46.8; 1:30 p. m., 41.1; 7:30 p. m., 39.

Maximum 47; Minimum 39; Mean 43; Normal 46.

Humidity

Normal 46.

Humidity

1:30 a. m., 100; 7:30 a. m., 95; 1:30 p.
m., 98; 7:30 p. m., 96.

Precipitation

Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. n., 1.04 inches.

Total since the first of the month, nches.

Two taxi-drivers are among the "Many agencies of the national (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1) (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 4) four persons whom the Paling (Continued on Page Five; Col. 2)

Of eight cases considered at the | board has not yet passed judge-

ings Thursday afternoon on per-sons cited by OPA investigators not guilty by the ration board ofas possible violaters of pleasure ficials is a man who, en route from regulations, only one motorist was the shipyards to his home stopped dismissed as "not guilty", and driver's car remained in front of four cases were continued until the eating establishment for two more information can be gathered. hours, during which time OPA in-The individual found guilty is a vestigators found it.

Hearings on the other cases, of 7:51p pay for alleged pleasure driving OPA officials declare there are will be a loss of gasoline ration more than 100, will be continued Monday afternoon at 3 p. m. in

SOVIET ARMY FAST WELDING BAND OF STEEL AROUND TWO IMPORTANT RAILWAY POINTS

Russian Victories Reopen Three Strategic Rail Lines



Russian armies, claiming to have smashed all except two small groups of Nazi troops (indicated by swastika) near Stalingrad, have thereby reopened three rail lines which will be useful in sending supplies and reinforcements to the front, London sources have heard. These lines feed from Stalingrad north (1) toward Povorina; (2) west toward Tatsinskaya, and (3) southwest toward Salsk. Arrows show where Russian pressure is greatest against the Germans. Broken line is the front line as it existed Nov. 19 when the current Russian drive began.

Army Airmen Establish GERMANY BEGINS 4-1 Advantage Over Foe

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28—(P)—The Army's air power, "brilliantly successfully" operations around the globe, has established a four-to-one combat superiority over the aerial strength of the Axis, Secretary of War Stimson reported today.

In a review of the war's progress on all fronts, Stimson presented at his press conference a box score on the work of the Army Air Forces in the last eleven months of

planes.

enemy anti-aircraft guns.

dead, wounded and missing.

bor facilities and air fields.

ridor of escape along the coast.

NOTICE!

you by special messenger.

U. S. HITS JAPS

member of the pro-Fascist Veterans Legion. If he is Jewish or MacArthur's Air Arm Busy Pounding Foe In Many Quarters

Most heavily criticised is the and opponents of President Roose- "groupement" system, a sort of velt's nomination of Edward J. Fascist-distorted farmers' cooper-—General Douglas MacArthur's falling out of control or in flames, been dwelling with increasing fre- oil fields. The former is 37 miles in all essential commodities in ever busy air arm has struck the but the actual crash—or abandon- quency on the date of January 30, northeast of Maikop, and Moscow Morocco, such as wheat, barley, Japs in 10 places, the noon com-

salt, fish and eggs, were organized munique reported today. buys up the entire crop and sells strafed the Fuiloro airdrome on it for high prices. Some leaders Portuguese Timor. In Binnen in these groups are reported to Bay, an Allied heavy bomber at-

000,000 francs during the past two shot down one of five Jap planes years selling foodstuffs for transwhich attempted to intercept. shipment to Germany.

The groupement rules provide In the Aroe island area, long range fighters strafed enemy for numerous restrictions as to float planes on the water off Dobo. membership, which usually are One was destroyed. aimed at Jews, Free Masons and

Japs ships in Open bay, New Britain, were strafed by an Al- war Stimson suggested that Presi-

In New Britain's wide bay, an Churchill "undoubtedly were heart-Allied heavy bomber scored near ened" during their conference at hits from a low altitude on a Jap Casablanca by these reports from cargo vessel and capsized a near- the battle fronts. by these groupements, persons by boat. It also strafed a coastal

trading outside them are seldom At Gasmata, New Britain, medium bomber raided the air- tary disaster in Russia. Even the American Army has been buying from the groupements drome. The arfield at Cape Glou-(Continued on Page Three; Col. 5) | bomber.

Taxi Driver Found Guilty Of Violating OPA Gas Ban

War Price and Ration board hear- ment. found guilty, three drivers were at a drive-in food place.

taxi-driver; the penalty he will

DRAFT OF LABOR Caucasus, and these other devel-

Drastic New Decree Institutes Compulsory Work For People

(By The Associated Press)

LONDON, Jan. 28 - A drastic etsk the Red army began also to new decree instituting compulsory encircle Kropotkin, which is the craft shot down or probably de- labor for all German men from 16 junction for the Rostov-Baku line stroyed in aerial combat, against to 65 and all women from 17 to 45 ning from Novorossisk on the was announced by the German ra- Black Sea to the Kalmyck steppes. losses of only 309 American planes. dio today with strong hints that Nearly a third of these enemy the death penalty will be applied Kubanskaya, 16 miles southeast of osses were inflicted by Army fliers to slackers.

The announcement was made line. They also seized Petropayin December, when Stimson said, air operations increased considerably after days of intense propaganda lovskoye and Mikhailovskoye, 27 due to the North African campaign. barrage in the German press and and 30 miles south of Kropotkin. In that month, 419 Axis aircraft radio warning that Adolf Hitler's Other Russian units are about 25 were definitely or probably destroy- Reich is at a crisis in the war be- miles to the east of the junction. ed with a loss of only 98 Army cause of continued reverses on the Eastern Front.

"Probables" are claimed by the In their discussions of the grow- Russians disclosed their troops ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN air forces, Stimson explained, only ing seriousness of the situation now are rapidly overrunning the chuting pilot—is not observed. coming to power, and there were of Apsheronskaya, 19 miles southcoming to power, and there were of Apsheronskaya, 19 miles south in groupements. The groupement Long range fighters heavily the secretary, was confined to the use the occasion Saturday to dis- ently launched by Red army units bag of aerial combat - no enemy cuss full implications of the dras- pushing from Tuapse on the Black planes brought down by anti-air- tic measure.

Although there was no official an- The Soviet units pushing west craft fire were included. However, have made from 15,000,000 to 20,- tacked a Jap merchant ship and the Army losses of aircraft in his nouncement of a forthcoming Hit- from Armavir to join the Tuapse report included those destroyed by ler speech, the German Fuehrer forces captured Kurgannaya, 30

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 4) (Continued on Page Three; Col. 2) Stimson also disclosed at the press conference that American casualties to date in Tunisia have totaled 1,258

ACL Revenues For 1942

Sea coast.

As to other developments of the Highest In Road History dent Roosevelt and Prime Minister Revenues realized by the Atlantic amount required for taxes, \$4,345,

1. In recent days German officials were the highest in the history of amount paid for rent of equipment have begun to tell the German public for the first time of Nazi mili-2. Marshall Rommels' forces, in ment of revenues and expenses was 404. full flight toward Tunisia, aban-doned the Libyan capital of Tripoli The operating revenues r

The operating revenues repre without a fight, pausing only for an sented an increase over 1941 of \$47,by \$65,020,836.

3. French and American troops in Tunisia threw back a German thrust pared with \$46,859,449 in 1941.

designed to widen Rommel's cor-4. General MacArthur's Australian the amount of \$27,900,000 were paid of either phase of the transportaand American troops have cleaned -\$20,250,000 more than 1941 - by tion work. (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 4)

the ACL spent \$3,065,622 during the distribution of such vehicles.

If your carrier fails to leave your copy of the Wilbest December in the history of the the order has been filled. mington Morning Star, railroad, as revenues reached \$12,- In addition to its purchases of new Phone 331f before 9:00 a. m. and one will be sent to

over the final month of 1941.

Coast Line railroad during 1942 000; operating income \$2,411,080; net the firm-\$115,108,820-it was re- and joint facilities \$356,676; and net vealed Thursday, when a state- railway operating income, \$2,054,

Despite the unusual load of business handled by ACL in both unsuccessful effort to destroy har- 704,568 and surpassed 1940 figures freight and passenger service during the final month of the year, Operating expenses for the firm firm officials declared that the cars were listed at \$62,947,631, as com- and manpower were entirely adequate to the task, and that no de-The report showed that taxes in lay was experienced in taking care

ACL, as all other railroad com-The operating income was said to panies, could well use additional be \$2,261,189; the net railway oper- cars for its service, it has been ating income \$21,195,567. For rent pointed out but the government has of equipment and joint facilities, greatly restricted manufacture and

In February of 1942, the Coast It was also reported by ACL offi- Line placed an order for 2,000 new cials that December 1942, was the freight train cars and a portion of

730,132 - an increase of \$6,277,758 equipment, the company carried on, in its own shops, a program of re-Operating expenses for December building and repairing old equipwere quoted as being \$5,974,052; net ment to fit it for use during the operating revenues, \$6,756,080; the current transportation emergency.