

How To Shrink An Air Force



The wrecked hanger in the background, at Castel Benito airfield, Tripoli, is crowded with smashed Axis planes. The wrecked Italian fighter planes in the foreground tell their own story of Allied bombers' accuracy. And it is also the story of why Mussolini's air force isn't as big as it used to be. (NEA Telephoto)

Wilmingtonians Urged To Support Bond Drive

Wilmingtonians were urged Wednesday night to put "100 per cent support" behind the Treasury department's \$13,000,000,000 Second War Loan drive, which opens next Monday, by Mayor Edgar L. Yow.

PORT HEADS TALK LEND LEASE PLAN

Local Group Confers With Governor On Possible Use Of Terminal

Two members of the Wilmington Port Commission, J. T. Hires and Cyrus D. Hogue, conferred Wednesday with Governor Broughton in Raleigh on plans for securing shipments of lend-lease supplies through North Carolina ports, it was learned here Wednesday night.

According to Mr. Hogue, details of the conference will be released later in a statement from the governor's office.

The effort on the part of the Wilmington Port Commission to secure the privilege of shipping lend-lease supplies through this port has extended over a period of three years, during which time commission officials have made numerous contacts with lend-lease authorities in Washington.

At the present time both Charleston, S. C., and Norfolk, Va., are recognized ports for lend-lease ships. No port in North Carolina has been designated to handle the shipments.

It is the contention of those in the city who favor the naming of Wilmington as a lend-lease port that the city has thousands of feet of storage and terminal space and excellent port facilities which could be used to advantage.

WEATHER

Table with weather forecast for Wilmington and surrounding areas, including temperature, humidity, and precipitation data.

U. S. Raid On Vegesack Damages 7 German Subs

LONDON, April 7.—(AP)—The RAF disclosed through a commentator today that American heavy bombers in their daylight attack March 18 at Vegesack had inflicted severe damage on seven of 15 U-boats building there and submarine experts believe the yards' production will be impaired for many months.

Americans And British Join Forces In Southern Tunisia

ITALIAN SHIPS LOST Axis Stand In Africa Becoming Death Trap For Il Duce's Navy 40 SHIPS ATTACKED Large Number Of Enemy Vessels Either Sunk Or Damaged In Week

LONDON, April 7.—(AP)—The Axis' Tunisian stand is fast becoming a death trap for Italy's hard-hit shipping, with British submarine attacks on a light cruiser, two tankers and a supply ship boosting to 40 or more the number of Italian ships sunk or badly damaged in a single week of the Allied naval-aerial onslaught.

BANK CLEARINGS REACH NEW HIGH

Bank clearings for the first quarter of 1943 in Wilmington were \$31,998,489.96 in excess of clearings made in the first three months of 1942, and were not far short of the amount of money handled by local banks during the entire year of 1938, D. M. Darden, secretary of the Wilmington clearing house association, announced Wednesday.

New Interviewer Added To Employment Service Office In Wilmington

The local office of the U. S. Employment Service has added to its staff Peter Reavis, a supervising interviewer. Felix A. Scroggs, manager, announced Wednesday.

Walter Lippmann Says: FDR's Remark On Eden May Have Meant A Lot

By WALTER LIPPMANN At the end of Mr. Edens visit to the President said that the United Nations, including Russia and China, were about 95 per cent together on war and post-war problems.

Montgomery May Have Outfoxed Rommel In Latest Desert Drive

WITH THE BRITISH 8TH ARMY NORTH OF GABES, Tunisia, April 6.—(Delayed)—(AP)—The Eighth Army is lashing out once again toward Tunis, and General Montgomery appears to have surprised Rommel by surprise in his sudden thrust.

Red Steamroller Moves Steadily On Smolensk

LONDON, Thursday, April 8.—(AP)—Russian troops captured two more localities on the Smolensk front, and destroyed nine German guns and three blockhouses and dispersed an infantry concentration on the Donets defense line in the Ukraine, Moscow announced early today in its midnight communique.

SURPRISE NOTED ON PARLEY DELAY

General Eisenhower Expresses Wonder At French Statement

Bolivia Declares War On Axis Governments

LA PAZ, Bolivia, April 7.—(AP)—The Bolivian government tonight published a decree declaring Bolivia at war with the Axis powers and ordering general mobilization.

British Indian Forces Leaving Mayu Peninsula

CALCUTTA, April 7.—(AP)—Japanese infiltrations and the approach of the monsoon forced the British Indian army to start pulling out of the Mayu peninsula above the Burma port of Akyab to more tenable positions in the Kyau Apan-du, three miles northwest, Marshal Archibald P. Wavell's command said today.

ROMMEL PURSUED Africa Corps' Ranks Rippled By Low Flying U. S. Attack Planes 6,000 PRISONERS HELD Enemy Positions At El Akarit Completely Smashed By Eighth Army

ening barrage at 4:15 A. M. trumpeted the attack. In the last hour before dawn the flashes of many guns stabbed the night like a giant fireworks display and the earth shuddered with the steady roll of cannonading and the explosion of enemy and British shells.

JAPANESE SHIPS BOMBED BY U. S.

3 Vessel Convoy Strafed By Flying Fortress At Kavieng

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Thursday, April 8.—(AP)—Flying Fortress strafed a three-ship Japanese convoy at Kavieng, New Ireland, the high command announced today.

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NOTICE! If your carrier fails to leave your copy of the Wilmington Morning Star, Phone 2-3311 before 9:00 a. m. and one will be sent to you by special messenger.