WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1943

Axis Stand In Africa Be-

coming 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 at-

tacks on a light cruiser, two

tankers and a supply ship

boosting to 40 or more the

or badly damaged in a single

week of the Allied naval-

golo class, which the Admir-

otherwise unobserved results

in the strait of Messinia, was

known to have been caught

Many Ships Damaged

believed sunk off Sicily, anothr

damaged and possibly sunk off

tip of Italy, and a medium-sized

supply ship torpedoed in a convoy

Even then the attack had to be sectors.

bomber attacks yesterday. Many

By WALTER LIPPMANN

Walter Lippmann Says:

The Admiralty announced that

since last December.

larger than destroyer size midnight communique.

or undersea striking range essential change in battle positions

the Admiralty announced that mans had suffered heavily in the besides a torped ohit on the cruis-

A Middle East communique re- the Germans lose the city, they

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FDR's Remark On Eden

May Have Meant A Lot

At the end of Mr. Edens visit not only the assault on Europe but

the President said that the United the strategical offensive against

Nations, including Russia and Chi- Japan But Field Marshal Sir

er, one tanker was torpedoed and sian lines near Izyum, 70 miles

Cape Spartivento at the southern that sector yesterday,

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

Governor On Possible

Use Of Terminal

Two members of the Wilmington

Port Commission, J. T. Hires and

Cyrus D. Hogue, conferred

Wednesday with Governor Brough-

According to Mr. Hogue, details

authorities in Washington. The lo-

cal Chamber of Commerce has

At the present time both Char-

ships. No port in North Carolina

has been designated to handle the

that the city has thousands of feet

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.

"The citizens of the city and of New Hanover county achieved notable success in the motion picture industryonsored War bond sales last Sep-* when't the mayor declared.

"We must surpass that effort PORT HEADS TALK

eatest financial undertaking the orld has ever seen. To do our art to finance the war effort, we must make it the greatest finan-ial undertaking Wilmington has Local Group Confers With

"It calls for us to purchase War bonds and government securities above and beyond the amounts we are now regularly subscribing through the payroll deduction plan and other methods of systematic

bond purchase. "It means, in fact, that every n woman and child must pur- ton in Raleigh on plans for securhase bonds, stamps and securiies to the very limit of their abil- plies through North Carolina ports, in order to bring this war to it was learned here Wednesday speedy and successful conclunight.

ere during the Second War Loan later in a statement from the govdrive are still maturing. They will, ernor's office. owever, include the sponsorship The effort on the part of the of a War bond sales booth in the Wilmington Port Commission to setoffice, to be managed by mem- cure the privilege of shipping lend bers of the Wilmington Army in- lease supplies through this port formation filter center's volunteer has extended over a period of personnel, and special bond pro- three years, during which time motion on the parts of merchandis- commission officials have made ing centers and civic organizations numerous contacts with lend-lease

BROUGHTON'S STATEMENT assisted the commission in its RALEIGH, April 7.- P-Gover- fight to make Wilmington a lend-Broughton called on the peo- lease shipping point. ple of North Carolina today to do their part to make the U. S. Treas-leston, S. C., and Norfolk, Va., are dry's Second War Loan drive a recognized ports for lend - lease

The secretary of the Treasury shipments as announced that the United It is the contention of those in States Treasury will on April 12th the city who favor the naming of aunch the Second War Loan drive, Wilmington as a lend-lease port which will be the greatest moneyaising campaign in the world's of storage and terminal space and history. The goal set for this cam-paign is 13 billion dollars, and the could be used to advantage.

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WEATHER

North Carolina: Rising temperature to-

eteorological data for the 24 ng 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

Temperature
30 a. m., 46; 7:30 a. m., 44; 1
53; 7:30 p. m. 53.

Swatter Bureau

Temperature
30 a. m., 46; 7:30 a. m., 44; 1
59; 7:30 p. m. 53.

Humidity 70: 7:30 a. m., 70; 7:30 a. m., 49; 1:30 p.

Precipitation
otal for the hours ending 7:30 p. es. the first of the month Tides For Today

Topsail Inlet

All times Eastern Standard)
Sunrise, 5:50 a. m. Sunset, 6:38 p
liconrise, 3:31a.;; Moonset, 10:30p.

BANK CLEARINGS **REACH NEW HIGH**

Money Handled In First **Ouarter Of Year Near** Entire 1938 Figure

Bank clearings for the first quar- near Marittimo. ter of 1943 in Wilmington were The Regolo class cruisers were \$31,998,489.96 in excess of clearings laid down in 1938, and scheduled made in the first three months of for completion in 1941. Their armade in the first three months of lot competence in the lot compet the amount of money handled by firepower consists of eight 5.3-inch the Smolensk front resulted in the association, announced Wednesday. the North African front and re- when a German reconnaissance ton banks cleared \$124,000,000; dur-solini's fleet has been wary of fense positions.

During the year 1938, Wilming- peated attacks on convoys, Mus- party tried to scan Russian de- to plague the delicate negotiations ing January, February, and March any mid - Mediterranean meeting The German communique said of this year they handled \$113,- with Allied sea or air power for that the Nazi offensive on the cen-624,025.77, Mr. Darden revealed. months, and the last blows at ma-tral Donets reached "planned For the first three-months pe- jor Italian warships were reported goals" and that only lively local not flatly deny that Eisenhower riod of 1942, the clearing house last December.

association reported \$71,025,535.81. According to Mr. Darden, FebU. S. Liberators hit a battleship close to the Black Sea naval base

The Caucasian battlelines are London, Eisenhower 'has no doubt the coast of Bougainville by a merunry clearings were "the largest and two cruisers in a dusk attack of Novorossisk, the only large for a single month in at least ten on Naples December 4. years." He described bank activity during February as "abnority during February as "abnor-mal", but assigned no reason for were sunk, and an ammunition in the Caucasus to win back ter-Plans to speed the sale of bonds of the conference will be released the large upswing in bank busi-ship blown up in the Straits of ritory they overran last summer ness. Clearings during that month Sicily by medium and fighter after paying great sacrifices. totalled \$47,734,686.34. Clearings for the same month in 1942 were

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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

Mr. Reavis has been with the Employment Service since last July stationed in the Burlington office. Prior to that time he was engaged in the insurance

business in Chapel Hill. In the capacity of supervising interviewer, Mr. Reavis will have charge of commercial, cler-

ical and civil service divisions of the local employment office.

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 8)

LONDON, April 7.—(F)—The RAF | The full reconnaissance study is ing with this problem is to drop a down, so to speak, our vital indisclosed through a commentator not yet ready on the American hint, or to make a gesture, which, terest in dealing only with entoday that American heavy bomb- attack last Sunday on the Renault while it discloses nothing that tirely reliable French authority in today that American heavy bomb-ers in their daylight attack March 18 at Vegesack had inflicted se-vere damage on seven of 15 U-doubt "extremely successful and to the rule that a word to the wise vere damage on seven of 15 U-vere damage on seven of 15 U-ver damage on seven of 15 U-

two being readied for mid-May ber of raids was increasing ap- that the die was cast.

boats building there and subma-scarcely a single building in the is sufficient will be impaired for many damage."

Statistical the interval of a subma-scarcely a single building in the issummer for popular agitation as summer for many damage. "a second front," the President and we need have little doubt that Other American attacks especi- dropped what looked like an in- there will be other developments. ally praised by the RAF were significant casual remark — that To be sure, it would be simpler if of reconnaissance photographs was those on Hamm's railway station agreement had been reached on these great matters did not have of reconnaissance photographs was those on Hamm's railway station our military plans. When he made that the Americans had struck in which 250 casualties resulted; our military plans. When he made to be handled so subtly. But we the past several days to develop

have said more at the time with- do not outwit them.

WITH THE BRITISH 8TH ARMY' NORTH OF GABES, the Mareth line with a brilliant desert maneuver. Tunisia, April 6.—(Delayed)—(A) -The Eighth Army is lashing Today the British moved forward to wipe out the enemy out once again toward Tunis, and General Montgomery ap-

Steadily On Smolensk

persed an infantry concentration on the Donets defense

on the long Russian front.

The communique, recorded by SURPRISE NOTED

fighting was reported from a few had asked de Gaulle to delay his

ITALIAN SHIPS LOST Montgomery May Have Outfoxed

Rommel by surprise in his sudommel by surprise in his sudden thrust. The attack was under way this morning as the stars were being washed away by the first cold light of dawn and as this is

written the British have gained virtually all their objectives in the opening phase. Indications are that Rommel

did not expect the British to move so soon after the break-

boosting to 40 or more the number of Italian ships sunk Red Steamroller Moves

alty announced had been at- tured two more localities on the Smolensk front, and de-

tacked with an explosion but stroyed nine German guns and three blockhouses and dis-

the first of Italy's warships line in the Ukraie, Moscow announced early today in its

the Soviet monitor, said the Ger-

southeast of Kharkov. No enemy activity was displayed however in

Near Belgorod, 50 miles above

Kharkov, a German artillery bat-

tery of nine guns was reported destroyed and 20 gunners wpied

The Germans are dug in firmly

on the long Russian front.

Forces In Southern Tunisia

Americans And British Join

defenses along the wadi Akarit, 18 miles north of Gabes and to push the enemy deeper into the

Tunisian pocket.

The wadi Akarit was Rommel's best natural defensive position between Gabes and Sousse. In some features it was similar to the Mareth position as the enemy right flank was protected by mountains, the left by the sea, and with the wadi and anti-tank ditches shielding the more vulnerable sectors. The thunder of the guns' op

presses Wonder At

French Statement

trip, but said cryptically that since

that a full statement of the cir-

Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)

On Axis Governments

Bolivia Declares War

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 can-nonading and the explosion of enemy and British shells.

Red, white and green signal flashes streaked lace-like in bright colors across the sky. The Eighth Army was on the

move again in its historic drive across Africa. The British main thrust centered on driving two bridge-

ROMMEL PURSUED

ESTABLISHED 1867.

Rommel In Latest Desert Drive Africa Corps' Ranks Ripped By Low Flying U. S. Attack Planes

6,000 PRISONERS HELD

Enemy Positions At El Akarit Completely Smashed By Eighth Army

ALLIED HEADQUAR-TERS IN NORTH AFRICA. April 7.—(P)—The British Eighth Army has smashed completely Marshal Rommel's wadi Akarit defenses 20 miles north of Gabes, and today joined forces with American troops under Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., in relentless pursuit of the fleeing Africa Corps, whose ranks were ripped by low-flying Al-

Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons in London that more than 6,000 prisoners already had been taken in this new victory, which led to a quick union between the British and Amerthree-ship Japanese convoy at Ka- ican armies on the Gafsa-

Enjoying Common Targets

The long anticipated junction of where on April 2, 3, and 4 Allied the British and Americans also planes sank or probably sank sev- merged the air forces which were declared in a special communique to be "now enjoying common tar-

Advanced troops of the Second American corps fought through the ed recently by fliers on reconnaissance, is approximately 550 miles forces and united with the British ALGIERS, April 7.- P-Gen. northeast of allied base of Port on the ridge of Chemsi, 15 miles east of el Guetar on the road to

the coast. the amount of money handled by lifepower consists of eight 5.3-lifely local banks during the entire year of 1938, D. M. Darden, secretary of the Wilmington clearing house of the Wilmington clearing a new misunderstanding had arisen of Kavieng," reported the noon Billy Mitchell bombers with a earlier, heavy forces of American communique from General Doug- Spitfire escort were bombing the enemy transports fleeing north-

> anese destroyer was sighted off to the coast has performed the has been trying to batter through the coast of Bougainville by a me-dium Allied bomber which scored Rommel's armor in this sector, thereby weakening his defenses, first at the Mareth line and then

on the new line along the wadi Babo, on MacCluer gulf in Dutch el Akarit which the Eighth Army New Guinea, was raided by Alliied cracked in two hours yesterday. ed explosions and fires on the air- scaled two hills commanding the drome and in the town. In the wadi Akarit line early yesterday, gan mopping up, Rommel's gamble

New Britain and New Guinea bases of the Japanese drew more the Americans was lost. of the daily series of bombings. Enemy planes on the ground el Guetar and Maknassy, the were strafed on the airdrome at Americans had waged day after Cape Gloucester, New Britain. In New Guinea, a heavy bomber made a midday raid on the harbor of Wewak; a medium bomber bombed and strafed the villages

day night and must be referred to the Bolivian congress for confirmation. No date has been announced for congress' meeters bombed and strafed Finschhafen in two attacks; a heavy The move — beginning with the national defense council urging President Enrique Penaranthe town sector of Salamana da to sign such a decree - co-

incided with the visit of U.S. Vice President Henry A. Wallace, who conferred with Penaranda and cabinet members yes-

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 1) JAPANESE SHIPS

LONDON, Thursday April 8.—(P)—Russian troops cap-Vessel Convoy Strafed lied airmen. By Flying Fortress At Kavieng

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN Dispatches from Moscow also reported sharp local fight-AUSTRALIA, Thursday, April 8. within Allied aerial, surface, ing in the Kuban delta near Novorossisk, but there was no -(P)- Flying Fortress strafed a vieng, New Ireland, the high com- Gabes road. mand announced today. ON PARLEY DELAY

The Fortress returned to an area en Japanese warships and five General Eisenhower Exmerchantmen.

Kavieng, where concentratons of gets." enemy shipping have been report-Dwight D. Eisenhower today ex- Moresby, New Guinea.

"One of our heavy reconnaisfor union of Giraudists and de las MacArthur's headquarters. The headquarters statement did

"An escorting float plane at- ward from the area. tempting interception was driven that an American infantry division

In the northern Solomons, a Japtown held by the Germans. Should cumstances will be made in Lon- near misses - blows which frequently seriously damage the tar-The national committee state- get.

ment in London Monday said in four-motored bombers which startsame area, a heavy bomber attacked the town of Fak Fak.

LA PAZ, Bolivia, April 7.—
(P)—The Bolivian government tonight published a decree declaring Bolivia at war with the Axis powers and ordering general mobilization. The decree was formulated by the cabinet at a meeting Tuesof Mur, Savei, Fungair, Wilwilan and Yamai in the Saidor sector, starting many fires; heavy bomb-

> bomber attacked the airdrome at Lae; and a heavy bomber attacked In the area to the northwest of Australia, a two - motored plane \$24,551,070,000 appropriation for bombed and strafed the town of the Navy for the fiscal year of Saumlaki on the Tanimbar islands.

Dobo, on the Aroe islands, also

British Indian Forces Leaving Mayu Peninsula

CALCUTTA, April 7. — April 7. — Japa- | sary readjustments have been of the monsoon forced the British peninsula." Indian army to start pulling out Burma port of Akyab to more ten- activities which was maintained, for the Navy, but that figure covable positions in the Kyau Apandu, three miles northwest, Marstatement, because "it is not deemergency appropriations as well shal Archibald P. Wavell's command said today.

The communique said: "The enemy dug in at Taung-Mayu river." maw and then proceeded during south of Kwazoc, the enemy sucmounting a direct threat to our vantage of the situation. communications in the narrow

nese infiltrations and the approach made in our positions on the Mayu and \$9,024,000,000 for increase and

The communique broke a 12-day of the Mayu peninsula above the silence on the Arakan front land 630,000,000 appropriated last year according to a supplementary ered supplemental, deficiency and sirable to give the enemy any in- as the regular 1943 allotment of dication of our reaction to his in- approximately \$14,000,000,000. filtration movement across the

> The communique was the first indication that the British had started withdrawing from the Mayu peninsula and it disclosed

"The enemy has committed considerable air and land forces to Largest Appropriation For Navy Is Requested For Coming Fiscal Year

When the British infantrymen

to hold his triangular flank against

In this triangle between the sea

day the bitterest kind of struggle

to gain a few hundred yards

across a rugged terrain pocketed

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 6)

WASHINGTON, April 7 .- W-A 1944 -- the largest amount ever sought for the nation's sea-fighting forces in one year—has been requested of Congress by President Roosevelt, it was learned to-

Included are \$3,476,800,000 for the Bureau of Ordnance, \$4,286,211,000 for the Bureau of Supplies and Docks, \$1,887,000,000 to finance the ship-building program, \$1,640,000,-000 for the Bureau of Aeronautics, replacement of naval vessels.

The total compares with \$23,-

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.

U. S. Raid On Vegesack Damages 7 German Subs must continue to communicate ments of France and in other Euwith the people who have the right to know his purposes.

duction will be impaired for many damage

The consensus after examination what may have been the heaviest standard so subtly. But we was subtly that remark, the convoys were being assembled and loaded for the single blow of the war against our exposed north-tion was badly damaged, and Wil-7:33p U-boat production.

showed that one U-boat almost ready for launching was capsized full growth in mid-June and two Continued on Page Ten; Col. 4) in the embryonic stage.

boats building there and subma- scarcely a single building in the is sufficient. At the height of the not casua, but were genuinely sig-

tion was badly damaged, and Wilhelmshaven, where nearly all the African expedition. He could not helmshaven, where nearly all the hour said more at the time withhelmshaven, where nearly all the hour said more at the time withhelmshaven, where nearly all the hour said more at the time with-Detailed study of the pictures harbor fixtures were damaged. Of the RAF night bombing fore-runner of European invasion, the runner of European invasion, the 4:27p in her berth; hits were scored on commentator said that the num- cause responsible men to know cent agreement with Britain, Rus-

launching, two which would reach full growth in mid-June and two full growth in mid-June growth (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2) port on the military decisions (Continued on Page Six; Col. 2) this outflanking movement, neces- Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)

na, were about 95 per cent togeth- John Dill and General Arnold er on war and post-war problems. were sent from Casablanca to There have been many who won-confer with General Wavell in Indered whether the remark meant dia and with General Chiang Kaimuch or meant little. Judging by shek in Chungking. Measures past performances, there is reason were also taken at Casablanca to to think it meant much. For we revolutionize for the better the pomust remember that at the high- litical situation in North Africa est level of diplomacy and strategy the chief of a Democratic clusive hint that told the story was state is often in a position where the President's emphasis on "unthe safety of the country and the conditional surrender." This ruled success of the negotiations require out American collaboration with secrecy; yet at the same time he the Quisling-Petainist-Vichy eleto know his purposes.

The President's method of dealreferences to Dakar, which nailed ture was the President's pointed

which covered, as we were told

sia and China meant quite a lot.