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U. S. Planes In Mediterranean

U. S. Fliers Gain Third Great Victory

Eight Jap Ships Sunk Or Damaged

Navy Announces Score in Battle off Aleutians; North African Desert Battle Appears Near Finale; Nazis Claim Victory.

(By The Associated Press) U. S. Army and Navy fliers pressed home a third great victory over Japanese invasion forces in the Aleutian islands off Alaska today while in north Africa the flaming desert battle between British and axis armies appeared to reaching a finale.

Adolf Hitler's high command asserted broadly that axis troops had already won the latest battle of Libya which started May 26.

"The battle in Libya to the west of Tobruk has ended in favor of German and Italian troops," a Nazi communique said. "After destroying enemy defensive forces near Acroma in a pursuit to the north, our troops crossed the Via Balbo and reached the coast."

"British and south African troops at Ain el Gazala (coastal anchor of the British defense line) were cut off from Tobruk. The extent of the victory cannot yet be estimated."

Imperial British headquarters acknowledged that British troops had withdrawn from positions below Ain el Gazala, 40 miles west of Tobruk, as Marshal Erwin Rommel's armored columns attempted to cut off the key British stronghold.

A British communique said the withdrawal was executed successfully by the 50th division and the south African first division "under cover of a magnificent night by troops holding positions around Acroma and the first armored division who beat off determined enemy attacks throughout the whole of June 14."

Acroma lies ten miles west of Tobruk. In the El Adem sector, due south of Tobruk, the British reported that three strong axis attacks yesterday were repulsed "with heavy loss to the enemy."

Military observers in Cairo, headquarters of General Sir Claude Auchinleck's British forces, said both sides appeared near the exhaustion point after three weeks of furious seesaw fighting and that fifth Libyan offensive probably would fizzle out in a stalemate.

Meanwhile, the Italian high command claimed victory in "a great air and naval battle" which ended in the Mediterranean last night, asserting that three British warships were sunk and 17 ships sunk, set afire or damaged.

An Italian heavy cruiser was acknowledged sunk and a destroyer seriously damaged. In the northern Pacific theatre, American fliers battering at Japanese invaders of the Aleutian islands were credited with having sunk or damaged eight enemy ships.

Japanese losses—sunk, one cruiser; damaged, one aircraft carrier, at least three cruisers, one destroyer, one gunboat, one transport.

American losses—none reported. A Navy communique, breaking a three-day silence on the Japanese landing in the bleak, fog-bound island chain, said both U. S. Army and Navy fliers were continuing the attack in a smashing sequel to the earlier American victories in the battles of Midway and the Coral sea.

INDICTMENTS MADE IN LOTTERY KING

Detroit, June 16.—(AP)—U. S. District Atty. J. C. Lehr disclosed today that 63 residents of the United States, Cuba and Panama had been indicted as conspirators in an international lottery operation described by postal authorities as one of the most extensive in the United States.

FDR Receives War Heroes at White House



C. P. Phonephoto

British members of the group of United Nations heroes now touring the country to boost the sale of war bonds, are shown as they were received by President Roosevelt at the White House. The war heroes, who have seen action and won glory on far-flung battlefronts, were presented by Viscount Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, who is seated beside the President.

Six Vessels Sunk; Total Reaches 271

(By The Associated Press.) Six newly announced ship sinkings in the submarine dotted western Atlantic put the war total of destroyed allied and neutral vessels in that area at 271 today while the Navy pondered the fate of an American freighter missing for four months.

Navy and other reports of the recent victims said that the ever active U-boats had picked off two American merchantmen in Cuban waters, a large Panamanian cargo vessel in the Gulf of Mexico, a Norwegian tanker off South America, an unidentified ship in the Atlantic, and a British seaplane off the British West Indies.

Naval and shipping circles were discussing the disappearance of the New Orleans freighter Miraflores of the Standard Fruit and Steamship Co., last sighted February 15.

Like the U. S. Navy collier Cyclops, which vanished in 1913 during the World War on route home from Brazil and was never heard of again, the Miraflores provided another wartime mystery.

Neither the ship nor its crew has been reported since last seen off the Haitian coast. The Navy recalled yesterday the Miraflores, a vessel of 2,138 gross tons and 270 feet long, sailed from New Orleans February 6 with a crew of 34 on a routine voyage to Haiti, and departed from Haiti for New York February 14.

The mystery of its disappearance was deepened by the fact that at that time the axis submarine campaign had not been extended into the waters in which the Miraflores was sailing.

Income Limit Debate Put Off

Washington, June 16.—(AP)—Chairman Doughton, Democrat, North Carolina, said today the House ways and means committee had decided "it should not take the responsibility now" of considering the administration's request for a \$25,000 limitation on individual incomes after payment of taxes.

Members said that they understood the request probably would not be considered in connection with the pending tax bill.

Word spread on Capitol Hill that President Roosevelt would like action expedited on excise taxes.

Mr. Roosevelt was reported to have suggested that the pending tax bill be divided into two parts, with all efforts being directed first to final congressional action on excise levies that would produce at least \$1,000,000 a day.

Navy Concentrates On Aerial Strength

TWO L. & N. TRAINS INVOLVED IN WRECK

Evansville, Ind., June 16.—(AP)—Four ambulances were sent from Evansville to the suburb of Howell today after county officers received word that a Louisville and Nashville railroad train bound for this city from Louisville had collided with a freight train.

Navy Money Bill OKed

House Naval Committee Approves Measure Calling For Construction Program.

Washington, June 16.—(AP)—An \$8,550,000,000 ship construction measure—an impediment to program designed ultimately to double the size of the United States fleet—was approved today by the House naval committee.

The measure, demonstrating the Navy's increasing emphasis on plant carriers and pointedly omitting any provision for new battleships, will provide for more than 1,400 ships of all types, including more than 400 combatant craft in the carrier-cruiser-destroyer category.

Chairman Vinson, Democrat, Georgia, said construction of the carriers would be started this year and the rest of the big boat program next year. He said the keels for the carriers would be laid "immediately."

The bill authorizes construction of 500,000 tons of carriers, 500,000 tons of light and heavy cruisers and 900,000 tons of destroyers and destroyer escort vessels.

COMMITTEE APPROVES APPROPRIATION BILL

Washington, June 16.—(AP)—The House appropriations committee approved today a \$53,548,999 omnibus bill primarily for acceleration of guayule rubber production and for financing increased business in the nation's postoffices.

The measure would give the post-office department \$38,688,000 because of what the committee said was an "unprecedented volume of mail and postal business." Revenues so far this fiscal year are \$65,000,000 more than expected and expenditures are up \$32,000,000.

Plans for Huge Battleships Delayed as Cruisers are Converted to Aircraft Carriers; Recent Battles Show Needs.

Washington, June 16.—(AP)—Two members of the Senate naval affairs committee said today that Navy officials had decided to defer all plans for huge new battleships in order to concentrate upon expanding fighting power in the air.

Senators Ellender, Democrat, Louisiana, and Brewster, Republican, Maine, in separate interviews said that top ranking admirals had informed them that no new battleships would be started and that plans for cruisers now underway were being converted so that these would be completed as aircraft carriers.

"The Navy finally has decided it must have more air power to protect our present fleet," Ellender said. "Some of the cruisers being converted were pretty well along."

Senator Brewster said that the new decision would mean abandonment for the present of Navy plans for constructing five huge super battleships of 60,000 tons each "that were to have been the largest things afloat."

Brewster said that naval authorities had been working on the plans for the huge battleships—larger than any previously built—for more than a year and probably had learned that "some of our enemies have announced plans for similar huge battleships."

The Maine senator said that the new decision would not interfere with completion and commissioning of several battleships that would be launched within the next few months.

Ellender said he believed that loss of the huge British warships, "Repulse" and "Prince of Wales," victims of aircraft, was the turning point in the old argument about relative power of air and surface vessels in sea battles. He said recent results at Midway and the Coral Islands had confirmed this.

RAF OVER PARIS London, June 16.—(AP)—The RAF announced today that a British plane dropped two French tri-color flags on Paris last night and attacked the former ministry of marine with cannon fire.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA Scattered thundershowers this afternoon and tonight, little change in temperature.

Reds Assume Offensive At Kharkov

German Cannon Bombarding Sevastopol Include Big Bertha; Red Forces Hold Firmly; News From Other Fronts.

(By The Associated Press) A three-day German assault in an attempt to cross an important river in the Kharkov sector has been balked by Russian hill top defenses and the nazis now have been forced back to the defensive. Front line dispatches declared today.

The Germans claimed today they had expanded a bridgehead which they won across the Donets river in the Kharkov area yesterday.

Around Sevastopol, the other major scene of current fighting on the eastern front, the Germans have massed seven artillery regiments on their main line of assault in an effort to batter down the Russian fortifications of that besieged Crimean city, the Russians said.

The German cannon include one of the Big Berthas like those with which the Kaiser's troops shelled Paris during the last World War, the dispatches said, but despite this weight of artillery the Red army forces are holding firmly to their rockbound positions.

Tass, official Soviet news agency, said the Germans were using at least seven infantry divisions and more than 150 tanks against Sevastopol in addition to the massed artillery.

On the Kharkov front, where a Soviet communique said 180 German tanks were destroyed or damaged yesterday, Tass reported the invaders struggled all day to gain one-third of a mile, only to be hurled back in the end.

German war planes again raided Moscow, the Soviet capital, and attacked airbases near the Russian Arctic port of Murmansk.

The Germans announced that a Nazi submarine sank a British cruiser with three torpedos and damaged a merchantman in an attack upon a convoy in the Mediterranean.

On other worldwide fronts, Australia—General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters reported a new triumph by allied airmen over Japanese raiders, announcing that six enemy planes were shot down out of an attacking force of 27 heavy bombers and five Zero fighters over Darwin, in northern Australia.

Two allied planes were missing. China—The Chinese high command announced tonight a further Japanese advance in east Kwangsi province, but indicated that the Chinese were exacting a heavy toll from the Japanese columns striving to close a pinhead on the Chekiang-Kiangsi railway.

A communique said the Chinese abandoned Kwangtung, 25 miles within Kwangsi, on Sunday after an all-night battle in which the Japanese, thrusting westward along the railway, suffered more than 1,000 casualties.

Lions Elect At State Meet

Raleigh, June 16.—(AP)—North Carolina Lions concluded their annual business sessions today with election of district governors and selection of Greensboro for the 1943 convention.

Thomas S. Payne of Washington, N. C., was elected governor of eastern district 31-C, succeeding Norman Trueblood of Hertford; Wesley W. Brown of Asheville, of western district 31-A, succeeding J. Milton Craig of Mt. Holly; and John A. Naylor of Winston-Salem, for middle district 31-B, succeeding E. J. Irvin, of Concord.

Payne defeated Dr. Zeno Spence of Goldsboro, H. B. (Ted) Spight of Roanoke Rapids, and Louis M. Wade of Fuquay Springs, for district governor.

Bos'un's Pipe



Official U. S. Coast Guard Photo Familiar to all nautical men is the shrill sound of the Bos'un's pipe—that short whistle cupped in the hand which gives out orders more potently than any lusty bellowing of the old sea captain. Here is an unusual character study of a U. S. Coast Guard boatswain's mate portraying the determination in America's fighting men.

China Urges Major Drive

Chungking Spokesman Says Japan 'May Become Most Difficult' to Defeat.

Chungking, June 16.—(AP)—A government spokesman urged today that the immediate launching of a major Pacific offensive be given at least equal consideration with possible drives in other war theatres.

"If the United Nations continue to be complacent" toward Japan, he warned, she may become "the most difficult of the axis powers to defeat."

The spokesman prefaced his appeal by asserting that Japan's successes could be explained by what he called the false impression that she was the weakest link in the axis chain.

He said he differed from any theory that Japan would collapse once Germany was defeated. Although he did not say China would collapse unless help were forthcoming, he declared her situation would be serious.

War Injuries Compensation Measure Vague

Washington, June 16.—(AP)—Objections by some senators to what they termed "vague provisions" of a bill to reimburse civilians for war injuries appeared likely today to provoke demand for revision of the measure.

Senator Taft, Republican, Ohio, said that he for one would seek to amend the proposal when it comes up Thursday to restrict payments for injuries or damages to those incurred in actual war conditions.

The measure, introduced by Senator Pepper, Democrat, Florida, would pay monthly benefits ranging from \$10 for partial disability to \$85 for total disability. Surviving children and widows of civilians fatally injured would be eligible for awards from \$20 to \$85 a month.

Other sections would establish a system of social insurance and public aid for civilians within the United States injured or permanently disabled by enemy action.

Stock Market Trend Upward

New York, June 16.—(AP)—The buying was better than the selling in today's stock market, especially for steels and specialties and favorites were lifted to profits to around a point.

Prices began to harden selectively after a fairly steady and active start. The late Monday flurry in air transports and mining issues seemed to have played out. Plus market was in the mid-range near the fourth hour. Dealings slowed.

Army Fliers In Sea-Air Assault

Two Italian Battleships Set Afire, Cruiser Sunk, Another Cruiser and Destroyer Damaged in Four-Day Battle.

(By The Associated Press) The United States army air force, in action for the first time alongside the RAF in the central and eastern Mediterranean, was credited officially today with a part in a smashing air and sea assault in which two Italian battleships were set afire, a 10,000-ton cruiser was sunk and a smaller cruiser and destroyer were damaged.

The RAF announcement in a special communique from Cairo that American fliers had been in the Mediterranean fight for the last four days began to bring into focus the picture of the thundering sea-air fight in the straits between Italy and Africa which the axis previously has sought to pass off as their own success.

Taking part in the attack, said the RAF communique, were "a force of Liberator aircraft the majority of which were American manned by the United States Army air force."

The Consolidated Liberators are several four-engine United States bombers akin to the big flying fortresses which helped shower destruction upon the Japanese in the battles of the Coral sea and Midway.

Altogether, two strong Italian naval formations were attacked, the RAF announced.

A communique said torpedo planes attacking from bases in Africa and Malta scored a number of hits and spread fires on Italian warships Monday night.

A fascist cruiser of the Trento class was first set afire by bombs and then sunk by an aerial torpedo.

The Italian warships then turned outward and throughout last night were shattered as they returned to sea, the communique went on, thus indicating that the Italians had broken off the engagement to flee.

A German version of the spectacular sea-air battle said Nazi air and army forces sank four cruisers and destroyers, probably sank another destroyer and damaged six other warships in attacks on British Mediterranean convoys.

The Germans also asserted that six merchant ships were sunk, eight others probably sunk and six damaged, and implied that these losses were inflicted on a westbound convoy.

FARMERS PROTEST CIO WAGE DEMAND

Memphis, Tenn., June 16.—The nation's cotton farmers today carried direct to President Roosevelt their case protesting a 41 per cent southern textile mill wage increase demanded by the CIO textile workers union.

This action followed closely testimony before the war labor board by President Oscar Johnston of the National Cotton Council who stated that granting of CIO demands would turn the President's "all-embracing program of inflation control into a hypocritical farce."

In a letter to the President, Mr. Johnston emphasized that granting CIO demands would gravely and adversely affect the welfare and income of the cotton farmer as well as the future of the inflation control program.

A PEANUT VENDER MAY SEE A KING

Washington, June 16.—America is like this— Steve Vasilakos, Greek peanut vendor who has been doing business at the White House corner for years, asked and received an audience with a king—George II of his native land.

Steve, an American citizen told all about it later at a "press conference" at his peanut stand: "So, da king he say, 'You speak Greek.' " "I say, 'Sure, sure,' so we spik in Greek." "Da king he say 'How's business.' " "I tell him I'm a makin' living." "AT's a good boy," he says. "So I say to da king—'You good boy, too!'"