

# Eighth Army Storms Into South Tunisia In Two-Way Thrust

## British Vanguards Clash With Axis In Ben Gardane Area; Other War News

(By The Associated Press)

Britain's eighth army was officially reported to have stormed 20 miles into axis-held Tunisia in a renewal of the two-way allied offensive in north Africa.

British headquarters said General Sir B. L. Montgomery's vanguards clashed with axis troops in the Ben Gardane sector, 25 miles inland, Tunisia, while the German-controlled Vichy radio asserted that two British attempts to break through axis lines had failed.

Today British command reported they had pushed into the axis lines in the Ben Gardane sector, on the Tunisian coast, and said British paratroopers had landed on the island were at taking the enemy.

As the north African conflict flared toward a showdown, the plight of Adolf Hitler's invasion armies in Russia grew ever darker.

The German drive at Kharkov, and the German offensive in the East, were reported to have been checked with 22 miles of the city and 200,000 German troops were already encircled by the Red army center.

Swedish reports that Russian shock troops were attacking within six miles of the city.

Official Soviet dispatches indicated that the new defense system was complete.

A letter from Red army headquarters to Russian speakers, speaking toward Kharkov, said that the city, some 22 miles from the front, is under 30 miles east and 50 miles north.

At the same time, other swift-moving Soviet units were reported fighting the axis around 250,000 German troops and their satellites at Berlin, putting across the Moscow-Berlin highway and fighting their way into series of strong axis fortifications.

Soviet reports on the south shore of the Don report the German position to be continuous here.

British forces, another 200,000 axis troops were being steadily driven back.

A British radio broadcast reported that the Russians landed 100,000 men in a move to cut off the German attempt to retreat across the Don.

### Nazi Leader Slain



**LONE TRAITOR** among Dutch generals, Lieut. Gen. Hendrik, Alexander Seyffardt, 70, commander of the Dutch Nazi Legion, died after having been shot by unidentified assailants in front of his home in the Hague, Seyffardt had tried to raise a Netherlands volunteer force for Germany. (International)

# United Nations Military Leaders Agree on Offensive Against Japan; Churchill Tells of African Drive

## Churchill Declares Half-Million Men In Africa Under Unified Command

London Feb. 11—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill declared today that the allies had landed nearly a half-million men in Africa and planned an offensive campaign during the next nine months with the goal of engaging the enemy "on the largest possible scale and at the earliest possible moment."

In a war review vibrant with his usual fighting spirit and brightened by unusual optimism, the prime minister brought back from the Casablanca unconditional surrender conference the news of a new unification of command in north Africa and the pledge that Europe would be invaded as soon as the United Nations were ready.

These were high points of his address to the cheering house of commonwealthers.

As the British eighth army moved into Tunisia, the north African command is unified under the American commander, Lieutenant General Dwight Eisenhower, with

## DEAD JAPS WASHED ASHORE AFTER FALL OF BUNA



When the battle ended at Buna Mission, New Guinea, between Jap and Yank-Aussie forces, a good number of dead Japs remained. The two lying on the beach were washed ashore after allied planes had bombed vessels trying to carry them off. (International)

## Dill and Arnold Meet Chiang and Wavell; Allies Make Gains On New Guinea Front

(By The Associated Press)

A concerted United Nations offensive against Japan was foreshadowed today with the official disclosure that high ranking American, British and Chinese military leaders have met and agreed on "offensive plans" against Japan's far flung invasion armies.

The British government announced in London that Field Marshal Sir John Dill, representing Prime Minister Churchill, and Lieutenant General Henry H. Arnold, representing President Roosevelt, had held a series of conferences with Chiang Kai-shek in Chungking and with Field Marshal Sir Archibald P. Wavell in India.

A British communique said the fullest possible coordination would be insured by subsequent conferences between Marshal Wavell and General Douglas MacArthur, allied commander in chief in the southwest Pacific.

Prime Minister Churchill told parliament in London that General Chiang had expressed satisfaction about "strong additional help that will be provided for China at this stage of her long drawn, undaunted struggle."

Amid this augury of heavier United Nations blows to be delivered against the Japanese, dispatches from the New Guinea battle front reported that allied troops had killed nearly 800 Japanese in a 13-day drive toward Salamaua, killing 125 of the enemy.

General MacArthur's headquarters and the allies, in a sudden display of offensive power, had thrown the main Japanese force back six miles toward Salamaua, killing 125 of the enemy.

Front line reports said that what started out as a surprise Japanese attack on the allied air field at Wau has turned into a victory for Australian infantry and artillery blown to the jungle scene by American pilots in American transport planes.

Simultaneously, General MacArthur ordered a Japanese communication "attempting to minimize the sweeping victory which the allies won last month in the Papuan campaign" in lower New Guinea.

Challenging Tokyo's assertion that Japanese forces left the Papuan battle zone after accomplishing their mission, General MacArthur declared:

"There was no evacuation of Japanese from Buna at the end of January. At that time, the last scattered remnants of the enemy were annihilated; that evacuation was a ludicrous possibility. General Horii and his army perished."

# Cooley Sees Chant's End

Washington, Feb. 11—(AP)—Has the tobacco auctioneer, whose unintelligible chant means dollars and cents to tobacco growers, sung his last song for the duration?

Fear has been growing in the South that he has, and the feeling has moved to the halls of Congress.

Representative Cooley, North Carolina Democrat, whose district grows about as much golden leaf as that of any other members of Congress, described the threat to the auctioneer's future thusly:

"Government price control of tobacco by grades, government grading of the crop and a demand larger than supply. Public auctions of tobacco, he said, become useless, constituting this triangle of situation.

"The government grades the tobacco, the OPA says what each grade shall bring and the demand is greater than the supply, so why, one might say, is there any reason for public auction?" Cooley bemoaned.

# Japan Eyes Siberia

Stewart Says Rumors Indicate Grab; Aid Of China Sought; Other Worries

(By CHARLES P. STEWART)

Central Press, Columbia

Washington, Feb. 11—Japan is suspected of a plan to grab all Siberia from Russia. It is a suspicion based not on definite news, but on rumors and calculations. Nevertheless, there appears to be considerable basis for it.

The possibility has Washington diplomatic and military experts agitated. One consideration is that the move must be exceedingly quick, as the Soviets, torn by their eastern frontier, barely manage that Tokyo will have the inclination to utilize them, for their own Tataric benefit. However, it is a convenient moment for Japan to undertake to gobble territory that it wants to gobble anyway.

By stringing up the eastern Asiatic trumper, the assumption is that the Jap hope to keep the United States from concentrating on them prematurely from their standpoint. As long as their objective, before we have time to get busy in their direction.

It is reported that Tokyo has been making very liberal offers to Chinese Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. It would like the support of his name against Russia, but all it asks for is his sympathetic attitude—in Japan's favor—not necessarily in favor of the whole axis.

I would say that Chiang's good faith toward the United Nations was pretty well guaranteed by his previous policy. Still, the Japs have their own reservations in such matters. And they know that he has complained of neglect by the United States, in particular, and the rest of the United Nations in general.

Additionally, Tokyo has proposed independence to the Philippines.

The Jap aim is Asiatic solidarity.

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## Guadalcanal Safely Held

Washington, Feb. 11—(AP)—All organized Japanese resistance has been halted on Guadalcanal, and United States planes are attacking enemy bases in other parts of the south Pacific, the Navy reported today.

Announcement that Japanese resistance had ended, except for isolated patrol skirmishes, followed an announcement by Major General Alexander M. Patch yesterday that his troops had gained complete control of Guadalcanal on Tuesday.

The Navy communique, No. 277, which also told of a bombing raid on Japanese positions at Kiska and Tons.

"On February 10, during the morning, United States heavy and medium bombers, with fighter escort, bombed Japanese positions at Kiska. Many hits on enemy installations were observed. A single enemy float-type plane attacked United States surface units in the western Aleutians. No damage was suffered.

"In the south Pacific, Japanese forces on Guadalcanal island have ceased all organized resistance. Patrol operations, except isolated enemy groups continue. During the night of February 9-10, a patrol bomber attacked enemy positions at Munda.

"On February 10th, United States planes attacked enemy positions at Munda. Results were not reported."

(Secretary of War Stimson said that Lieutenant General Millard F. Harmon, commander of all Army forces under Admiral William F. Halsey in the south Pacific, reported that during the last two weeks of January the two Army divisions on Guadalcanal killed 4,000 Japanese and took 100 prisoners, while losing only 189 killed, 387 wounded and five missing.)

## Hershey Opposes Draft Limitations

Washington, Feb. 11—(AP)—Major General Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, said today he opposes legislation that would require the deferment of men with children and all single men and married men without children are drafted.

"I feel that it would be unwise to enact this legislation," said Hershey, first witness called in house military committee hearings on a bill to set up four categories for induction and to put the drafting of men on a statewide, instead of a local board, basis.

"In its present form, it would render administration of selective service very difficult," Hershey testified, adding that while some changes might be made "the change in my selection," he feels the legislation still would be undesirable.

More than a million single men of draft age—enough to fill more than a fourth of the requirements of the armed services for the rest of the year if they are physically fit—are now deferred on occupational grounds.

Selective service estimates, it was learned today, show some 1,000,000 men in the 18-37 age bracket hold some deferments, divided as follows: 570,000 in class 2-A, which covers those in necessary civilian jobs essential to support of the war effort; 370,000 in class 2-B, covering those holding essential jobs in industries directly related to the war effort; 100,000 in class 2-C, necessary men in agricultural pursuits.

Many of these men will and in the fighting forces as their deferments—which local boards must review within six months after granting them—are eliminated as other men or women replace them in their positions.

A resolution sponsored by Representative Kilday, Texas Democrat, who said it was inspired by a congressional determination to "preserve the family unit as long as possible," set up this order for induction:

Group 1, men without dependents; group 2, unmarried men with secondary dependents, such as mothers, fathers, sisters or brothers; group 3, married men without children; group 4, married men with children.

## FDR Speaks Friday Night

Washington, Feb. 11—(AP)—The White House announced today that President Roosevelt would make a 20-minute radio speech beginning at 9:30 p. m. EDT tomorrow night in which he will discuss many subjects concerned with the foreign and home fronts.

The Chief Executive also will speak on Washington's Birthday, February 22, addressing the George Washington dinner under the auspices of the Democratic national committee. The hour of this address was not announced.

The Lincoln Day speech tomorrow night will be broadcast on all radio networks.

## Cotton Prices Turn Higher

New York, Feb. 11—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 5 cents a bale higher to 15 cents a bale higher.

Non values were 15-25 cents a bale higher, March 1947, May 1947, and July 1947.

	Previous Day's Close	Today's Range
March	19.74	19.72-19.75
May	19.43	19.41-19.49
July	19.27	19.22-19.27
October	19.20	19.19-19.22
December	19.10	19.10-19.12
January	19.10	19.10-19.12

## Stock Buying Is Selective

New York, Feb. 11—(AP)—Buyers turned a bit more selective in today's stock market. Bonds were mixed.

Stocks posted peak marks for 1942-43 or longer included General Motors, DuPont, and Texas Co. Resistance was displayed by Chrysler, Montgomery Ward and New York Central.

## WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Cold wave tonight, with freezing to east and hard freeze in interior; showers and much colder this afternoon in east portion.

## Legislative Committee Named To Study A. & N. C. Finances

Raleigh, Feb. 11—(AP)—Governor Brantley recommended to the legislature today that it appoint a special committee "to give prompt consideration to the financial problems confronting the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad," now in default.

Named on the legislative committee were Representatives Wallace of Lenoir, Sellers of Alamance, Gass of Forsyth, Taylor of Wayne and Stoney of Burke, and Senators Eagles of Wilson, Pittman of Greens, and Smith of Surry.

At the same time, the governor said federal funds would be available for certain construction and maintenance of the road.

"The federal government," he said, "is directly and vitally interested in the successful operation of this railroad, and particularly that part from New Bern to Morehead City, by reason of the location of the United States Marine base at

## Arnold Named For Judgeship

Washington, Feb. 11—(AP)—Thurman W. Arnold, assistant attorney general in charge of judicial proceedings, was nominated by President Roosevelt today to be an associate justice of the United States court of appeals for the District of Columbia.

Arnold, on continuation by the Senate, would take the place vacated by Wiley B. Rutledge, who has just been approved by the Senate for membership on the Supreme Court.

## Cold Wave Tonight

Atlanta, Feb. 11—(AP)—A cold wave, with heavy to killing frost extending as far south as the north-west Florida coast, was forecast today by the weather bureau.

In a warning to farmers in the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida, the weather bureau said increasing cold may be expected late today and tonight.

North Carolina and South Carolina are expected to encounter freezing temperatures to the coast, with a hard freeze in the interior.

## French Get U.S. Equipment

Alfred Headquarters in North Africa, Feb. 11—(AP)—Some French troops have been withdrawn from action on the Tunisian front for re-equipment and training with American arms, it was officially announced today.

United States forces have been taking over large sections of the French lines in central and southern Tunisia while the British first army also extended its positions in order to relieve the tired and poorly armed French.

## AXIS TROOP SHIPS SUNK BY BOMBERS

Alfred Headquarters in North Africa, Feb. 11—(AP)—Two small troop ships taking axis forces from Sicily to Tunisia have been sunk by allied forces, a headquarters communique said today. American bombers found the ships at sea, the communique said.