



# Henderson Daily Dispatch



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## U.S. Tanks Hurl Germans Back

### SEAMAN HERO GETS MARINE MEDAL



THE MERCHANT MARINE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL is presented to Corp. Massimo Murphy, former merchant seaman, by Capt. Edward Maraulay, deputy administrator of the War Shipping Administration. The ceremony took place in New York. Murphy won the award for heroism when his ship was torpedoed in the Caribbean. He helped to launch life rafts, took command of survivors and landed his party of twenty-one on an island near Haiti. He then left the party and crossed the island through dense jungle to get help. (International)

## 15 Jap Ships Sunk Or Damaged

### U. S. Loses 2 Warships In Solomons

Chicago, U. S. Heavy Cruiser, Sunk; Score In Air Is 60 Jap Planes to 22

Washington, Feb. 16—(AP)—Fifteen Japanese ships including 12 destroyers were sunk or damaged, and two American warships, including the heavy cruiser Chicago, were lost in a week of furious sea-air fighting in the Solomon Islands area beginning January 29, the Navy announced today.

The Japanese also lost a total of 40 or 51 planes destroyed to 22 American planes lost in the fighting, which resulted from enemy attempts to remove some of their forces from Guadalcanal island before American troops could conquer it completely and from American movements to reinforce the island.

The 9,500-ton Chicago was lost as a result of two air attacks, the first of which was delivered by the enemy on the evening of January 29. At that time the Chicago, operating as part of a force of cruisers and destroyers, covering American transport movements, was severely damaged by aerial torpedoes. The next day, while in tow to a base, the Chicago was attacked by 13 enemy torpedo planes which succeeded in sinking her. Twelve of the 13 planes were shot down by United States aircraft.

The other American ship lost was a destroyer but next of kin have not all been notified and the Navy withheld identification of the vessel for that reason.

American losses also included three motor torpedo boats. Personnel casualties on the Chicago were described in a Navy communique as "not large" and the next of kin have all been notified.

Those who were saved from the stricken ship included Captain Ralph Otis Davis, 52, of Baltimore.

The fighting covering the seven-day period was all of air attacks on surface vessels and there were no reported incidents of warship slugging it out against warships.

A summary of losses showed the results of the seven days of battle: American losses—One cruiser and one destroyer sunk; three motor torpedo boats lost; six fighter planes, four torpedo planes, two bombers, ten miscellaneous types, a total of 12 planes.

Japanese—Two destroyers sunk; 23 or 29 Zero planes destroyed; twelve torpedo planes destroyed; 20 miscellaneous planes destroyed; a total of 60 or 61; four destroyers and seven Zero fighters probably destroyed; six destroyers, two cargo ships and one miscellaneous vessel damaged.

The series of actions developed fully on the evening of January 29 with a torpedo plane attack on the American cruiser-destroyer force protecting the convoy at Guadalcanal. After the Chicago was damaged, she was taken in tow by another cruiser but was later turned over to a tug for towing.

On the afternoon of January 30 while the tug was proceeding toward a safe port with the Chicago, the crippled cruiser was again attacked, this time by the 13 enemy torpedo planes.

The Navy said that United States aircraft destroyed twelve of the 13 planes, "but not in time to ward off the attack on the Chicago."

In the 1,000-mile stretch of open water between the Truk Islands and the Solomon Islands, while simultaneously large groups of enemy destroyers were thrusting into the Sol-

(Continued on Page two)

### U. S. ARMY NURSES RELAX ON FIJI ISLAND



U. S. ARMY NURSES relax on duty outside the native hut, or burri, that is their home on a sunny island of the Fiji group in the South Pacific. The American military hospital is not far from where the nurses are enjoying the pleasant climate and slices of pineapple, the Fiji natives' favorite fruit. (International)

## In Faid Area Recovered

Heavy Fighting Rages West of Faid; British Eighth Army Captures Ben Gardane

(By The Associated Press)  
American tanks, blazing into action under an umbrella of U. S. fighter planes, were reported today to have hurled the Germans back six miles in the Faid region of central Tunisia in the first big armored battle of north Africa.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters said small enemy forces rolled into Gafsa yesterday evening—thereby threatening to cut the 300-mile long allied front near the middle—and said heavy fighting between armored forces raged in the area west of Faid.

At the same time, General Sir B. L. Montgomery's British eighth army was officially reported to have captured Ben Gardane, 20 miles inside Tunisia, and sped on in pursuit of Marshal Erwin Rommel's legions.

A British war bulletin said eighth army vanguards were racing on beyond Ben Gardane and attacking Rommel's forces west of the town.

Dispatches indicated that the British were driving rapidly toward the Mareth line, 65 miles west of the Tunisia-Tripolitania frontier, where Rommel is expected to attempt to cut a delaying stand.

Military analysts said the German assault was designed to relieve allied pressure on the axis coastal corridor between Sfax and Gafsa, and also to upset any plans for a drive by American forces toward a junction with the British eighth army.

On the Soviet front, the entry of Red army shock troops into the outer suburbs of Kharkov indicated that the whole axis defense system in southern Russia was buckling.

In the Russian campaign, dispatches said the Red army had cranked up its southern battle front along a 400-mile line and plunged on behind newly captured Kharkov. In support of the Germans fleeing toward the Sea of Azov coast, 40 miles from Rostov.

## STATE HOG MARKETS BELOW OTHER TOPS

Raleigh, Feb. 16—(AP)—A. B. Beck, Jr., State Agriculture department's market news chief, reported that although live hog values rose to the highest level since 1919, on some large terminal markets, North Carolina markets did not follow the trend.

Prices for good and choice offerings ranged \$16.10 in Baltimore and \$15.45 in Chicago.

Top prices paid in North Carolina were \$14.50 at Rocky Mount, \$14.65 in Whiteville, \$14.75 in Fayetteville and \$14.85 in Clinton and Lumberton.

## Spending Bill Under Study

Raleigh, Feb. 16—(AP)—The joint appropriations committee today resumed its study of the spending bill, while the General Assembly considered two measures designed to give relief to farmers using tractors, trucks and trailers.

Re-referred to the finance committee was a house bill reducing the minimum fee for farm truck license from \$10 to \$7.50. The motor vehicle department asked a hearing on the measure, which was introduced by Representative Black of Anson.

The house received a committee substitute bill exempting farm tractors, trailers and semi-trailers from registration and licensing under the motor vehicle act provided the equipment is used on the owner's property and does not travel over five miles in being moved from farm to farm.

## Allied Shipping Losses Small In African Theatre

Cunningham Reveals Two Per Cent Loss Since November 8; Eisenhower Praised

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, Feb. 16—(AP)—Admiral Sir Andrew B. Cunningham, new commander in chief of the allied Mediterranean naval forces, announced today that American and British shipping losses had been less than 2 per cent in bringing 780 ships totaling 6,500,000 tons to north Africa since November 8.

Asked at his press conference if the axis could mobilize enough ships to get Marshall Rommel's forces out of north Africa, Admiral Cunningham replied:

"Yes, but I wouldn't like to say what would happen to them."

Cunningham said that his greatest fear was that the Germans would try to Dunkerque and bring out the Italian fleet. So far as he knew, he said, heavy units of the Italian fleet were still hiding in harbors although they destroyed were used to convey ships from Sicily.

The admiral told correspondents that the Germans and Italians in January lost nearly one-third of their ships in trying to supply their forces in Tunisia but, he added, "they are still setting too much in."

Axis forces in the Mediterranean have been very short of ships until they seized the French, he said. "We are getting considerable assistance in the war against the axis shipping from the American Army air force which has taken to the seas very well," the admiral added.

Speaking of being under General Eisenhower's command, Cunningham said:

"I know General Eisenhower has a very fine reputation and I am happy to serve under him. But I want to say something else: he has decided together some of the most diverse ideas in the world in one very happy family. It doesn't matter in this headquarters whether a man is British or American. I know of very few men who could have done that and it holds promise for the future. I am indeed proud to be under him."

## Furloughs To Be Asked For Harvesting

Washington, Feb. 16—(AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Wickard told senators investigating war food production today he would ask the Army to furlough troops to help with this year's crop harvest "if the necessity arises."

Replying to a question by Senator Bushfield, South Dakota Republican, Wickard testified he had requested Army help last year to harvest wheat in the Dakotas but "they did not see fit to grant the request."

"However," he added, "we plan to take up the request again. Farmers must be given assurance before they begin planting that there will be sufficient manpower available to gather in their crops."

## 26 Deaths Attributed To Cold Wave

(By The Associated Press)  
At least 26 persons were dead today as the east endured the second day of the winter's coldest wave that has sent the mercury down as far as 50 below.

In New England a toll of eleven dead was reported with war work delayed, transportation slowed and many schools closed.

Eight persons were dead in New York state. There were five deaths in Pennsylvania and two in New Jersey.

Early today Boston and numerous other New England cities and towns posted the 24-hour mark of sub-zero temperatures.

A fuel oil shortage and biting wind added to this discomfort.

Waterbury, N. Y., had a record low temperature for the east of 50 degrees below.

## Hospital Bill Passes

Measure Provides For Unified Board Of Control For State Mental Hospitals

Raleigh, Feb. 16—(AP)—The house passed and ordered enacted into law today a measure creating a unified board of control for the State's mental hospitals at Morganton, Goldsboro and Raleigh, and the Caswell Training School at Kinston.

The bill, by Senators Clark of Edgecombe, McKee of Jackson and Johnson of Duplin, was intended to eradicate conditions that became publicly known through a series of newspaper articles and subsequent investigation by a gubernatorial committee of the Morganton unit.

Membership on the board of directors would be equally divided among the eastern, central and western portions of the state and the board would meet annually at each institution. There would be a general superintendent of mental hygiene and a general business manager to supervise the hospitals and they in turn would be instructed to make periodic reports on conditions at each institution.

A similar board of control for training and industrial schools would be set up under a bill introduced in the senate today.

A resolution asking the office of price administration to adjust fairly current prices for milk was passed by the house under suspension of rules and sent to the senate.

The resolution introduced by Representative Moore of Wilson, and others, said the 36 dairy herds already had been sold because of milk prices, which were frozen last month and that other owners were contemplating similar action.

## Profit Cashing Hurts Stocks

New York, Feb. 16—(AP)—Profit cashing on the rise to best levels in more than two years clipped fractions to a point or so off many stock market leaders today.

Volume was well under Monday's turnover of nearly 2,000,000 shares. Commodities were brisk. Bonds were mixed.

## Navy Presses Sub Campaign

### Eberstadt Is Ousted

Nelson Appoints Charles E. Wilson In Charge of All WPB Programs

Washington, Feb. 16—(AP)—WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson today asked Ferdinand E. Eberstadt, program vice chairman of the war production board, for his resignation, and named Charles E. Wilson as executive vice chairman in charge of all WPB programs.

Nelson said he made the change to "end the friction and confusion which, if persisted to, would only hamper the war effort."

It was reported that Eberstadt, friends of Eberstadt representing the armed services and going to the White House, said that Nelson himself he could not be replaced by Bernard Baruch, a solution which the first War Relocation Authority figure.

Nelson has not taken an answer to President Roosevelt, but reliable officials who could not be quoted by name said he had determined that Eberstadt's resignation was in harmony with the administration's policy of ending the dominance of civilian control over munitions production.

The Navy said that United States aircraft destroyed twelve of the 13 planes, "but not in time to ward off the attack on the Chicago."

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(Continued on Page two)

## Guests Escape Hotel Fire

Boston, Feb. 16—(AP)—About 150 guests of the Hotel Hotel, many of them theatrical people and show workers, were seen to flee the street in their night clothing early today by fire.

Firemen said they were satisfied that nobody was trapped in the five-story, brick structure located a few hundred yards from the Government Grove night club, in which 429 persons met death during a fire last November 28. The cause and the origin of the fire were not determined immediately.

(Continued on Page two)

### DOCTORS EXAMINE GANDHI AS FAST ENTERS 7TH DAY

Poona, India, Feb. 16—(AP)—Five doctors examined Mohandas K. Gandhi as he entered the seventh day of his fast today, then conferred at the palace of the maharaja where Gandhi is being detained, but they offered no immediate information on his condition.

A government communique issued at New Delhi stated, however, that Gandhi's condition has further deteriorated during the past 24 hours.

## Farm Goals Threatened

Fight Over Policies Deadlocked as Time Nears for Planting; Prices Uncertain

Washington, Feb. 16—(AP)—A sharp difference of opinion between the administration and Congress over farm price policies—differences that may not be settled for many weeks—stood out today as a threat to this year's food production program.

Planting time in many sections of the country is only a few weeks away. Yet opinion is in a conservative area of what kind of prices they can expect.

The administration, on the other hand, is pushing for a policy of present prices, supplemented with special payments to encourage increased production of food, oil, and other war necessities.

The farm state lawmakers are standing firm. There is little likelihood that they will get together before crops are planted.

Vitality affected by this unresolvable fight, the Agriculture department's program calling for sharp increases in soybeans and peanuts for vegetable oils, dry beans and peas, potatoes, sweet potatoes and vegetables. These commodities will lose the backbone of the market next fall and winter. To encourage farmers to

(Continued on Page two)

## Jap Vessels Are Hunted

Knox Reports 'Very Energetically' Pressing Attacks In Southwest Pacific

Washington, Feb. 16—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Knox said today the Navy is pressing its "very energetic" attacks against Japanese shipping in the southwest Pacific area.

The last Navy report on American submarine sinkings of Japanese ships of all types came out about two weeks ago and showed that up to that time 124 enemy ships were sunk, 22 probably sunk and 32 damaged—a total of 157—by submarines.

The secretary said there was in the Southwest Pacific a "very energetic" attack against Japanese shipping, and that the Navy had decided to "very energetically" press its attacks.

He said that in the last several months the Navy had been coming out in the Southwest Pacific about a month of action earlier than this month, and that the Navy had decided to "very energetically" press its attacks.

"I think we will have a considerable number of successes," he said.

(Continued on Page two)

## Cotton Prices Much Higher

NEW YORK, Feb. 16—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 3 to 20 cents a bale higher. March 1935, May 1935 and July 1935.

	Close	Open
March 1935	19.59	19.52
May 1935	19.53	19.46
July 1935	19.37	19.31
October 1935	19.13	19.21
December 1935	19.16	19.21
January 1936	19.14	19.17