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Fighting Rages Over Tunisia

Allies Sustain Greatest Air Offensive

'Very Heavy' Attack Made On Cologne

Upwards of 200 RAF Planes Raid City; U. S. and British Maintain Assaults

(By The Associated Press) Allied airmen... Upwards of 200 RAF planes...

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Carrying on one of the greatest sustained aerial offensives of the war, RAF bombers struck at the German war foundries city of Cologne in a "very heavy attack" last night, a British communiqué announced today.

A Berlin broadcast said the RAF dropped high explosives and incendiaries, and put in its familiar propaganda claim of damage to "several hospitals" as well as acknowledging casualties to the civilian population.

Novelist Is Acquitted

Miami, Fla., Feb. 27.—(AP)—A federal court jury today acquitted novelist Ursula Parrott of charges of impairing the loyalty and discipline of the armed forces and aiding and abetting a deserter by driving a good looking private out of an Army stockade concealed in the rear of her automobile.

Broughton In Washington

Washington, Feb. 27.—(AP)—Governor Broughton of North Carolina came to Washington today to lay North Carolina's agricultural problem before manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt.

ONE DOWN—ALL TO GO



COUNT GALEAZZO CIANO was removed from his post as Italian Foreign Minister by his father-in-law, Mussolini, shortly after this meeting with Adolf Hitler and Hermann Goering (right) at Hitler's headquarters, presumably in Berlin. Standing in the background between Ciano and Hitler is Nazi Foreign Minister Count von Ribbentrop. Goering still seems to be putting up quite a lot of front. (International)

Rationing Registration Goes Off Well

Washington, Feb. 27.—(AP)—Registration for consumer ration cards ended in nearly all parts of the country today, and housewives started "skull practice" for the task beginning Monday of buying food by both coupons and cash.

Rail Line Would Quit

Washington, Feb. 27.—(AP)—The Wilmington, Brunswick and Southern Railway Co. asked the Interstate Commerce Commission today for authority to abandon its entire line, which consists of about 23 miles of track in Brunswick county, N. C.

Frank Sims Is Smartest

Frank Sims, a right wing politician in the 1942 General Assembly, was elected on a "wet" platform in a "dry" county, a right wing politician in the 1942 General Assembly.

Legislature Ends Its Busiest Week

President Much Better

Washington, Feb. 27.—(AP)—President Roosevelt, who has been suffering from an intestinal disorder since Wednesday, was out of the White House today to be sitting along very satisfactorily. He had no temperature this morning.

Local Bills Only Considered Today; Adjournment Next Week Is Probable

Raleigh, Feb. 27.—(AP)—Concluding the busiest week of the session, the General Assembly met today for consideration of local bills only and looked ahead to probable adjournment late next week.

Cotton Closes 20-55 Higher

New York, Feb. 27.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 20-55 cents a bale higher. Futures closed 20 to 55 cents a bale higher.

GANDHI'S CONDITION IS LITTLE CHANGED

Bombay, Feb. 27.—(AP)—A government communiqué said today there was very little change in the condition of Mahandas K. Gandhi, now in the 18th day of a 21-day fast undertaken in an effort to obtain his unconditional release from internment.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Slowly rising temperature in interior tonight but continued freezing or lower to the coast.

Three Major Questions Are Probed

Military Manpower, Shipments to Spain And WLB Troubles Under Investigation

Washington, Feb. 27.—(AP)—Three major questions had probes and protests cooking in the capital today. They were: How much can the nation's military manpower sights be safely shortened? Just what U. S. shipments have been sent to Spain and why? And, what will be the climax of the mounting troubles of the war labor board?

Also on the fire was a show-down move on a measure to defer farm workers, with some attention centered on rationing registration reports and the start of cash-and-coupon food buying.

The Barcelona statement yesterday of U. S. Ambassador Carlton J. H. Hayes that America has been shipping considerable oil, cotton, food, industrial chemicals and other products to Spain brought varying reactions.

Many Fires At Munda

Dive Bombers Raid Jap Solomons Base, In Attack Believed Unusually Successful

Washington, Feb. 27.—(AP)—American dive bombers started "many fires" in a heavy raid on the Japanese air base at Munda in the central Solomons, the Navy announced today.

Market Ends Lively Month

New York, Feb. 27.—(AP)—The stock market today stepped out of one of the liveliest weeks and months for more than a year with its feet in fairly solid ground despite further conversion of paper profits into cash.

WAR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AWARDED

Washington, Feb. 27.—(AP)—The War department announced award of contract under \$500,000 to W. L. Jewell of Sanford, N. C., for construction of temporary frame buildings in Wayne county.

Stopped Rommel



MILITARY STRATEGY had stopped Rommel when his tanks, trying to take Tunis, were met and blocked against an American wall of a mine, was broken out by Gen. Carl L. Evers, who directed the capture of Oudna. This photo on the left shows a general who was taken when he was decorated for his part in the initial North African invasion. (International)

North Front Active After Stalemate

Allies Beat Off Nazi Attacks; Rommel's Forces Reported Burning Stores

(By The Associated Press) New fighting raged on the long-stalemate front in northern Tunisia today as allied troops beat off unrelenting attacks in four sectors of the Tunis-Gabès zone, while on the central front the Germans were reported burning stores and blowing up airports in their retreat.

"The fighting continues," said a bulletin from General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters, referring to the new eruption in the north.

In the Mareth sector, forward elements of the British eighth army established positions immediately south of the Mareth line without serious opposition, the communiqué said.

From Tunis reports said the allies were continuing to advance the front line, southeast of Field Marshal Kesselring in the area north of Kasserine and were striking out on a 20-mile arc.

The lull in the northern sector was broken yesterday by a series of enemy attacks in two areas south of Medjez el Bab, all of which were successfully repulsed by allied fighters, a communiqué said.

More than 100 axis prisoners were captured in driving back the reported enemy attacks in the Mateur valley, it was announced.

Several newly Italian landmine reports today showed activity near northern Tunisia in the Tunis-El Kasserine sector where Lieutenant General Anderson's British first army has been bogged down by mud for many weeks.

Heavy air attacks frequently signalled the opening of a new land offensive.

In Ezzat, Soviet dispatches reported the Red armies as driving ahead on a 700-mile front from Tbilisi to the Black sea today, but German resistance was mounting and a critical battle raged in the Donets basin as the next command threw masses of tanks into a series of counter attacks 150 miles north of Moscow.

Dispatches to Red Star and the German L'Express said German forces were being driven back with some losses.

Another contract under \$500,000 went to William Marshall Construction Co., Durham, N. C., for construction of driveways in Durham county. Both projects will be supervised by the Wilmington engineers office.

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