



# Henderson Daily Dispatch



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## AMERICANS DRIVE TOWARD TUNISIAN COAST

### Forde Predicts Jap Attack On Australia

#### Nipponese Concentrate Above Island

Allied Victories Intensify Japanese Determination, Says Australian Minister

(By The Associated Press) — Australian Army Minister Francis Forde declared today that Japan was more determined to attack Australia than ever before as the range of General Douglas MacArthur's bombing attacks emphasized the growing concentration of enemy power in the islands on the fringe of the continent.

"The allied victories in the Solomons, New Guinea and Bismarck sea merely intensified Japan's determination to invade Australia," Forde said.

"It can only be assumed that when they are ready, the Japanese will launch an attack on Australia more ferocious than yet experienced in the Pacific."

MacArthur's bombing attacks, growing more numerous northward to Australia, centered on Cape Moresby, south of Dili, New Guinea where bombs were dropped around two cargo vessels and a destroyer in convoy.

In the area northwest of Australia a Japanese destroyer was sent limping as a result of two bomb hits from an attack in the Solomon sea. Another enemy ship was left in smoking condition at Bougainville.

In one of the heaviest raids between Moscow and Tokyo, the Soviet rear base, Przemysl, a city of 100,000, was hit by Japanese planes. It is believed that Japanese planes also hit a Soviet ship in the east China sea and been shot by an American anti-aircraft machine were hit.

#### Seven Persons Die Violently

Charlotte, March 22—(AP)—At least seven persons died by violence in North Carolina over the weekend.

James Arnie Rhodes, 27, a native of Duplin county, was shot in a ship yard on Newport News, Va., was killed instantly in an automobile accident near Kingston.

Clarence H. B. was fatally injured when his automobile struck a house three miles south of South Hill.

Elmer C. Angus was accidentally drowned in Cedar Creek, near Dairfield, while fishing.

Worth C. Allen, 29, died of injuries suffered as a result of his automobile and a truck near Moorehead City. He was en route to the Marine Base at Camp Lejeune.

Private First Class Samuel Elmer, Jr., member of a parachute unit, died of gunshot wounds, accidentally inflicted while off duty, near Fort Bragg public relations office announced.

Copeland Alex L. Pappas, Jr., 27, of Lakewood, W. Va., Marine division of New River, was struck by an automobile and fatally injured. A coroner's jury decided the accident was unavoidable.

Ralph Arney, 27, a Glen Allen furniture worker, was found dead beside a railroad track at Montreat and a coroner's jury said he had been killed by a train.

#### Far Reaching Changes Made In School Machinery Act

Daily Dispatch Bureau In The Star-Walter Hotel, BY LYNN NISBET

Raleigh, March 22—While the need for reaching change in the laws governing operation of the public school was, of course, extensive, the State-supported term to four months, the recent General Assembly amended the machinery set in several other particulars. The new term is somewhat a compromise for the governor is given authority to limit the term to eight and a half

ST NEW AMPHIBIAN JEEP



Amphibian jeeps, fully manned, speed along a highway.



AMPHIBIAN JEEPS, called by the army "the most flexible new machine of the war," are pictured during a service of tests near Detroit. They are needed the same on water as on land. Fully-manned, the new machines propel themselves (bottom) through a fast-flowing stream. They are now in use in war zones all over the globe. (International)

#### Government Is Expected To Enter Mine Dispute

#### State Income Taxes Soar

Raleigh, March 22—(AP)—The State Department today announced that it is expected to enter the coal miners' dispute.

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#### Federal Conciliation Is Called 'Logical Possibility' Now by Miners and Owners

New York, March 22—(AP)—Such a move for the southern coal operators and the United Mine Workers' have announced that they expect the settlement of the contract negotiations involving bituminous fields.

The operators and owners expect at this time a "logical possibility" by Edward H. Bland, president of the bituminous coal producers' association.

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#### Post-War Economy Under Study

George Heads Group On Problems; Taxes, Inflation and Draft Hold Capitol Stage

Washington, March 22—(AP)—As official Washington awaited Prime Minister Churchill's broadcast discussion of war and peace, a special group of ten senators was called together today to organize a study of this country's role in the post-war picture.

While income taxes, the struggle against inflation and draft legislation, highlighted the immediate home front problems, Chairman George, Democrat of Georgia, said his special Senate committee on post-war economy would explore a broad program linking together business, finance, labor and agriculture.

For expert advice in drafting recommendations to Congress, George said he expected to be authorized to name an unpaid advisory group of national leaders—men of the caliber of Bernard M. Baruch, "practical minded people," he said, "with some real experience."

Among the problems to be studied, housing, development of commercial aviation, world commerce as well as world relief and rehabilitation, re-conversion of war plants to peacetime operations, and the big question of how rapidly the armed forces should be demobilized.

But that is for the future. For the present, a House subcommittee was studying ways of getting more men into the army—particularly men now employed by the government and given occupational deferments for that reason.

With a view to recommending changes, the committee, headed by Representative Costello, Democrat, California, called on Selective Service Director Lewis E. Howley for an explanation of draft deferment practices. Records of all federal agency employees deferred because they work for the government are expected to be in the committee's hands soon.

The pay-as-you-go income tax had the waged worker as it headed toward a free-for-all debate on the House floor. Nine Republican members of the way and seven committee members who championed the Bond ship-a-year plan, but who were outvoted by the 15 Democratic and one other Republican members, denounced the bill produced by the committee majority as "stupid, misguided and un-

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#### Sabotage Hearing Postponed

Gastonia, March 22—(AP)—Preliminary hearing for Dillion Luther Hansel, former day superintendent of the Charlotte plant, on a charge of sabotage, was postponed here today until next Monday afternoon at the request of Assistant District Attorney W. M. Nicholson.

U. S. Congressman Hornum Capps will conduct the hearing.

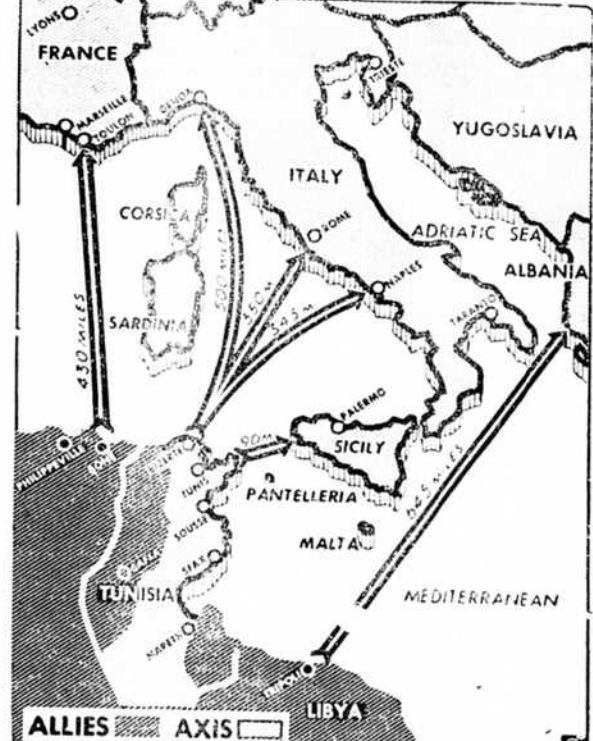
The Charlotte office of the federal bureau of investigation announced last Friday that Hansel had been arrested and released under \$2,000 bond.

A complaint signed by Assistant District Attorney Nicholson alleged that Hansel changed the gears of 38 sewing machines, lowering their production. Nicholson said evidence showed Hansel had made disparaging remarks against the government and the war effort.

#### POPE IS REPORTED ILL; NEWS DENIED

(By The Associated Press) — Pope Pius XII was reported today by the Berlin radio to be suffering from a severe cold and confined to bed with a high fever, but the British radio in a broadcast recorded by CBS quoted a Rome announcement that he was only slightly indisposed and that his doctors "say there is no cause for anxiety."

'SOFT UNDER-BELLY OF THE AXIS'



MILITARY LEADERS OF THE ALLIES and the AXIS are watching closely the fighting now going on in Tunisia. The outcome of the battles is of the utmost strategic importance, for the Allied Nations can launch an attack on Sicily, Sardinia, continental Italy and France—the "soft under-belly of the Axis," as it was described by Churchill—the moment Axis troops are cleared out of North Africa. Air-mile distances to some of the possible invasion points are shown by double-lined arrows pointing from North Africa to Europe. (International)

#### German Soldiers Fight In Paris Movie Theatre

#### Hood Kept As Bank Head

Baltimore, March 22—(AP)—George P. Hood, president of the State Bank Building, was reappointed today to his position as president of the bank after a 1942 trial.

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#### Butter, Fats Sales Halted

#### All Edible Fats Frozen for Week Before Rationing; Restaurants Exempt

Washington, March 22—(AP)—Retail sales of butter were halted by the government last midnight and will not be resumed until rationing starts next Monday.

Sales of margarine, lard and other edible fats and oils which will go under rationing along with meats and cheeses next week, also were frozen for the same period.

Restaurants and other places which are exempt from rationing along with meats and cheeses next week, also were frozen for the same period.

The office of price administration said its southern action was decided on because stocks on hand are not large enough "to support heavy public buying during the rationing period."

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#### Eighth Army Scores Gain In Offensive

#### U. S. Armored Forces Advance Within Sight Of Maknassy; Rommel May Be In Flight

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, March 22—(AP)—Military dispatches said today the British eighth army attacked the Mareth line on a six-mile front between the sea and the main road from Sousse to the village of Mareth and encountered strong opposition.

(By The Associated Press) — American armored forces were reported within sight of Maknassy, only 52 miles from the coast, and the British eighth army was officially declared to be making progress in penetration of the formidable Mareth line fortifications today in a rapidly unfolding offensive from south and west to smash Marshal Rommel and drive the axis from Tunisia.

Striking in unison under a widespread canopy of planes which blasted at forts, gun emplacements and airfields, the Americans and British were driving to destroy the head of the axis in southern Tunisia and possibly had forced Rommel to begin already the withdrawal of his German divisions.

With a swift attack which forced Italians to flee in such haste as to leave prepared mealbins and spaghetto behind, the Americans had paved the way for a quick thrust across the Tunisian bottleneck by seizing Sousse yesterday, while the long prepared offensive of General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery was being against the Mareth line in the south on Saturday.

In the north, however, the British first army was driven from the station at Neisa, 47 miles southwest of Bizerte and only two miles from the vital allied position at Djebel Abid, by the intensified operations of German General von Arnim.

The possibility that Rommel was withdrawing his German divisions was suggested by a German high command communiqué which said strong British and American forces had attacked "Italian positions" in south of central Tunisia. Heretofore Rommel has always left Italians as his rear guard when beginning a retreat.

Signaling the start of the long prepared offensive, Allied headquarters announced that General Montgomery's forces were making attacks to penetrate the Mareth defense of the Mareth line in the south and that American troops in the central Tunisia sector had scored several successes.

Dispatches from the front said American infantry, under an advancing curtain of artillery fire, had crossed some of the greatest natural military defenses in the world in a dawn-to-dusk thrust yesterday. This plunge through the hills placed forward elements less than 70 miles from the port of Gabes.

Confusing from 1,000 to 1,400 Italians, the American tank command of General George S. Patton, Jr., were reported driving on toward Gabes, where they would threaten Mareth. Rommel by blocking his supply line.

Other dispatches said the American command had captured a three-pronged drive from Gabes, with one of the other columns approaching Maknassy on the east north of Gabes.

The fighting American columns (Continued on Page Two)

#### 26th U. S. RAID MADE ON JAPS AT MUNDA

Washington, March 22—(AP)—A 26th Army raid on Munda, New Guinea island for the 26th Army, struck a Japanese supply area and enemy gun positions, the Army announced today in a communiqué which told of bombing raids on Vila and Rabaul. Results were not announced.

#### Devastating Floods Feared In Southeastern States

(By The Associated Press) — Flooded rivers shortly expect to bring dangerous crisis today in several southeastern states, forcing hundreds to evacuate their homes in low lying areas, and threatened heavy property damage.

The widespread flood threats in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi came as a downward reversal of expected crestward trends along the river front.

Hundreds of residents of lowland, north of Hattiesburg, Miss., were evacuated from their homes under Red Cross supervision last night as the Isonic river swept from its banks. Miss. Flood English, Red Cross official at Hattiesburg, said the organization was planning to evacuate many hundreds of evacuees in public buildings there.

Soldiers and Mississippi highway workers lost a sandbag fight to keep open the highway north of Hattiesburg to Meridian, Miss. Muddy waters swept away sandbags placed along highway edges through the Isonic and Leaf river lowlands. Extensive flood damage threat.

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#### WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Forecasted cold; heavy to killing frost tonight.