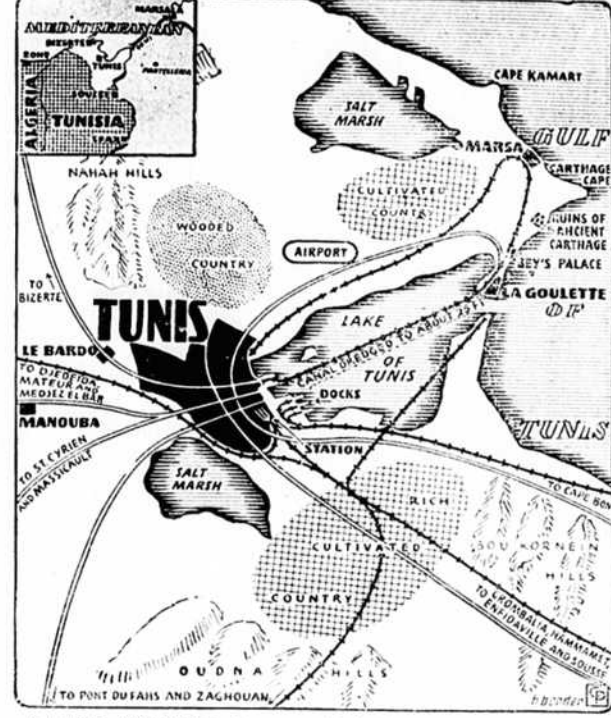


Buy War Loan Bonds And Help Win The Victory Over The Axis

Henderson Daily Dispatch

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TUNIS: POSSIBLE AXIS DUNKIRK



WITH THE UNLEASHING of a powerful British assault on the rapidly advancing Axis bridgehead in Africa, attention is concentrated on the risks of Bizerte and Tunis (above), from which the Nazis may attempt evacuation when their position becomes untenable. (International)

Advancing In Fierce Fighting In Tunisia, Allies Near Tebourba

Nine-Ship Jap Convoy Is Attacked

Three Cargo Ships Sunk Or Damaged

MacArthur's Airmen Continue Assaults On Convoy; Others Blast Jap Air Bases



ALLIED AIR OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN INSPECT A German Heinkel H-3 bomber which was abandoned by a Japanese Navy force at an airport in Tunisia. To their surprise, the giant plane was found undamaged, and it was damaged or destroyed just before leaving. Apparently the crew of the bomber had been captured by the Nazis flat-footed. This is an official Signal Corps photo. (International)

Air Assault On Rommel Continues

Allied Mountain Line Now 25 to 30 Miles From Tunis; German Resistance is Strong

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, April 16—(AP)—Two British destroyers sank two Italian destroyers off Sicily last night, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Andrew B. Cunningham announced tonight.

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, April 16—(AP)—First army infantrymen drove to within 15 miles of the key road junction of Tebourba yesterday in some of the fiercest fighting of the Tunisian campaign, it was announced today.

In a series of local attacks east of Medjez-el-Bab, the allied mountain line advanced to points between 25 and 30 miles from Tunis.

Allied bombers and fighters continued their assaults upon axis airfields in Tunisia, although the weather was bad. It was announced that RAF bombers struck effectively Wednesday night at enemy airfields in southern Sardinia.

Only patrol activity was reported on the Enfidaville line front, where General Montgomery's eighth army is massing strength for a climactic push to the north.

The first army, led by Lieutenant General Anderson, by a series of infantry attacks in the mountains, gained the highest ground in northern Tunisia, overlooking the plain of Tunis.

The Germans, in two savage counter attacks yesterday, temporarily regained a hill eight miles northwest of Medjez-el-Bab, but British infantry launched a counter assault of their own and not only retook the peak but ground beyond it as well.

French forces who started moving Wednesday to capture another hill seven miles above the village of Karaboun on the southwestern rim of the axis line before Tunis and Bizerte, also were held back by the Germans, but held their ground and captured more prisoners, it was announced.

The post commander told of the exploits of a band of Russian lads who bombed and strafed the German airfield, setting fires to buildings in the area as well.

Stories of the raid were given wide display in the Soviet press, along with accounts of the allied bombings from the west.

In land fighting, Soviet troops struggled ahead in the Kuban area of the Caucasus, capturing another German stronghold and dominating the position in the face of fierce counter attacks by large numbers of German reserves.

The raid on the medicine near Leningrad came on the heels of a Russian long-range attack on Komsomberg, the third bombing of that East Prussian city, a 4-on assault on Danzig, the first one of the year.

Seven Welders Arrested On Charges Of Sabotage

FBI Director Hoover Says Defendants Admit Faulty Work To Increase Earnings

Washington, April 16.—(AP)—J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, announced today the arrest of seven men, formerly employed as welders, on charges of sabotaging thirty ships being built at the Bethlehem-Fairfield (Md.) shipyards.

Hoover said that the men "have admitted performing faulty welding in order to finish their work in a hurry and earn more money." He added that there was no evidence of any axis direction or sympathies on the part of the welders.

He listed these defendants to be arraigned today:

Herward Scherer, 26, a native of New York; Raymond Ashby Barkley, 23, a native of Buchanan, Va.; Hiram Thomas, 24, 22, born at Base City, Va.; Farrell Henson, 29, born at Catawba, N. C.; Leonard Lucas, 23, of Lancaster, S. C., who will be arraigned at Baltimore; Harry Brantley Miller, 22, arrested at Lexington, N. C., and William James Gossman, 24, arrested in Ohio.

"Many of the improper welds were in vital parts of the ships," the head of the federal bureau of investigation said, "and were only discernible through the use of X-rays. The full extent of the damage is not yet known; however, many structurally weak ships would have gone to sea if the defective welding had not been discovered."

Hoover said that the workers were charged with using what is known as "bridge welding" and "slugging." He said that in the former method the workman welds only the outside edges between steel plates, leaving an space in the center, so that instead of completely fused plates there is only a veneer, with the result that the weld will break under certain strains.

Bristol, Va., April 16.—(AP)—Katie Wagner, who escaped from the Buchanan, Miss., state prison while serving a life sentence for murder, was captured in Scott county today by a posse composed of federal bureau of investigation agents and state police.

Wagner surrendered without resistance when trapped about 3 a. m. in a shack where officers believe he had been living for several weeks. In the shack, not far from his birthplace, were four shotguns, about 100 shells and three pistols.

He has been at large since October 27, 1940, when he escaped from the Mississippi prison. He has also been convicted of killing a Kingsport, Tenn., policeman and was under sentence of death in Tennessee when he got away there in a big jail break.

'The Safest Investment'

Cleveland, Ohio, April 16.—(AP)—A former Great Lakes cabin boy who rose to financial prominence today described his purchases of \$22,000,000 in war bonds as "the safest investment in the world."

Sixty, 36, gray and extremely spotted by the war, Harry W. Heston, 40, a quiet, middle-aged man, Monday described his purchases of \$22,000,000 in war bonds as "the safest investment in the world."

He said that he had purchased \$11,000,000 in war bonds, and he had purchased \$11,000,000 in war bonds.

22 Convicts Flee Georgia State Prison

Reidsville, Ga., April 16.—(AP)—Led by two notorious Georgia escape artists, 22 prisoners described by the warden as "the worst we've got" escaped from Talladega state prison early today after overpowering three armed guards.

Warden H. R. Duvall said three of the prisoners jumped on Guards R. G. Morrison, W. E. Overstreet and N. M. Spivey, held them in a cell for the prison keys and unlocked the prison gate.

After taking the guard's keys they dismantled the prison telephone switchboard and pulled a switch which pumped the prison into darkness.

"They stole two prison trucks and a car belonging to Moten on and fled. The alarm was given a short time later, the warden said, when one of the prisoners, whom the warden believed may have been forced to leave the prison, left the group and surrendered to officers at Reidsville.

Richmond, Va., April 16.—(AP)—Governor Darden will open a valve releasing the first petroleum to reach Richmond by way of the newly completed 130-mile pipeline from Greensboro, N. C., at formal dedication ceremonies on April 23, the Plantation Pipeline Co. announced today.

Allied Headquarters in Australia, April 16.—(AP)—With a pledge of greater aerial reinforcements, General Douglas MacArthur's warplanes pressed home the attack on a nine-ship Japanese convoy off northern New Guinea today, after crippling three vessels in the opening assault and pounding other enemy targets across a wide expanse of the 2,500-mile South seas battle arc.

Spotted at dusk yesterday off the base at Wewak, the enemy convoy consisted of six merchant vessels, a light cruiser and two other warships.

In swift waves, U. S. Flying Fortresses pounced on the enemy with these results: an 8,000-ton cargo ship left sinking, another 8,000-toner floating listlessly, and a 3,000-toner beached.

"We are continuing the attack," allied headquarters said. Allied fliers reached out across the seas to blast three major Japanese air bases—at Rabaul and Gasmata, New Britain, and Lae, New Guinea—and raided enemy-occupied Tarakan in the Arco Islands, and bombed coastal shipping all along Japanese-occupied Timor Island.

Meanwhile, allied headquarters disclosed that Japanese casualties in the New Guinea campaign up to April 1 totaled 33,000, mostly killed against 10,531 allied casualties. American casualties were listed as 2,175 killed or missing in action and 2,143 wounded.

McMullan Gives Rulings

Raleigh, April 16.—(AP)—Attorney General Harry McMullan ruled today in a digest of opinions that "no limitation is placed upon county ABC boards in the expenditure of the 10 per cent of total profits required to be spent for law enforcement except one or more officers responsible to the board shall be appointed for law enforcement work."

"If an ABC board determines that it will aid law enforcement in the county and that it is desirable, part of the 10 per cent set aside for law enforcement may be used to install police radios in the cars of the sheriff and his deputies."

Other opinions: A board of county commissioners has authority to grant a leave of absence to one of its members. A juvenile court has jurisdiction over a person under 18 years of age accused of bastardy. The juvenile court would have authority to require a boy under 14 years of age who is found to be the father of an illegitimate child and to have wilfully failed and refused to support it, to make payments for the support of the child.

There is no general law which authorizes municipalities in this state to hold referenda on the question of outlawing the sale of beer and wine. Where a person is convicted of violation.

(Continued on Page Seven)

ELEVEN ARMY FLIERS KILLED IN ACCIDENT

Fort Myers, Fla., April 16.—(AP)—Eleven Army fliers were killed late yesterday when a twin-engine advanced training plane crashed at Buckingham Field near here, public relations officers announced today.

The plane was returning to the field after a routing gunnery mission over the range.

Soviets Increase Air Raids

Ickes Asks Price Boost

35 Cents a Barrel Increase in Crude Prices Recommended; OPA Delays Action

Washington, April 16.—(AP)—Petroleum Administrator Ickes has recommended a general crude oil price increase averaging 35 cents a barrel, he told the House small business committee today.

The recommendation was sent to the Federal Reserve administration April 7, but Senator Ely, director of OPA's oil price division, declined to act after his recent visit to Price Administrator Prentiss Brown that he thought it was "a pretty bad time" for such an increase.

Brown appeared before the committee, but did not testify on the recommendation. He did, however, tell the committee it was the "obligation of this agency to increase the price of crude oil if such action was necessary for successful prosecution of the war."

Disclosure of Ickes' recommendation, long sought by petroleum producers who have contended a price increase is necessary if oil exploration and production are to continue, came in a combative fashion.

Ickes, on facing the stand, said it was up to OPA to disclose the nature of a bill he wrote on the oil price situation.

HALF-DOZEN E-BOATS DAMAGED IN CHANNEL

London, April 16.—(AP)—British night fighters and naval aircraft in a half-dozen enemy E-boats in a channel clash off the east coast of England early yesterday, the admiralty announced today.

The large force of motor torpedo boats was spotted by aircraft and engaged by the destroyer Westminister and the ship Wildgoose. The Westminister set two E-boats afire and one blew up. It set four other E-boats on fire.

U. S. Planes Bomb Japs

Washington, April 16.—(AP)—American bombers battering Japanese positions in the central Solomon Islands Thursday destroyed a building believed to be an enemy communications station, and sank an 800-ton vessel, the Navy announced today.

In the north Pacific, meanwhile, heavy rains on Kiska Island continued. A communication said that the enemy base there was attacked eight times Wednesday and hits were scored in the camp area, damaging an airplane runway and preventing land to protect aircraft on the ground.

Camden Negro Is Executed

Raleigh, April 16.—(AP)—Protecting his innocence until the last, John Henry Lee, 29-year-old Camden county Negro, was put to death today in Central prison gas chamber.

He was pronounced dead late and carried to the gas chamber strapped to the chair at 10:30 a. m.

Lee, who was charged with killing a young mother in that county last September 26, Peoples Commissioner H. H. Hays said the Negro entered the gas chamber home shortly after he had walked to a defense in Norfolk, Va., closed, assaulted and raped her.

The young Negro, 16, Prison Chief J. L. Lee said, this morning that he was innocent and that he would not talk to the gas chamber. Watts and Lee told him that he was "there" he would have to be taken to the gas chamber. However, Warden Ralph McLean said that the Negro walked to his death without even having to be supported.

FISHERMEN MAY GET TWO DAYS' ANGLING

Raleigh, April 16.—(AP)—Inland fishing may be permitted throughout the state on Easter Sunday for all kinds of angling was approved by a poll of the board of conservation and development, James said, however, that bag and license regulations would be enforced.

Nazi Drome Is Attacked

Moscow, April 16.—(AP)—The Red army is throwing a mounting force into the bombing of German military objectives and cities, the latest feat of Russian fliers being announced as a raid on a German airbase on the Leningrad front where 12 German planes were destroyed on the ground.

The post commander told of the exploits of a band of Russian lads who bombed and strafed the German airfield, setting fires to buildings in the area as well.

Stories of the raid were given wide display in the Soviet press, along with accounts of the allied bombings from the west.

In land fighting, Soviet troops struggled ahead in the Kuban area of the Caucasus, capturing another German stronghold and dominating the position in the face of fierce counter attacks by large numbers of German reserves.

The raid on the medicine near Leningrad came on the heels of a Russian long-range attack on Komsomberg, the third bombing of that East Prussian city, a 4-on assault on Danzig, the first one of the year.

The Danzig raid was made on the post's warehouses, shipbuilding yards, chemical plants and machine tool factories as well as other industrial objectives, it was announced.

LAVAL OKAYS PLAN FOR NAZIS TO WORK FRENCH PRISONERS

Madrid, April 16.—(AP)—Reports from France said today that Chief of Government Laval had approved a German plan to use all French prisoners of war immediately for work in Nazi war industries.

The agreement cancels previous German promises to send war prisoners back to France in return for French workers drafted for the reich at varying ratios of one-three and one-fourth, it was said. These industries said Laval was expected to make a formal announcement within a few days.

Senate Group Would Attend Food Parley

Washington, April 16.—(AP)—Congress moved today to send its own observers to the international food conference scheduled to begin at Hot Springs, Va., May 18 with a demand from the Senate agriculture committee that some of its members be permitted to attend.

Senator Aiken, Vermont Republican, said the committee unanimously had approved a motion including Chairman Smith, South Carolina Democrat, to confer with State department officials and attempt to arrange for the members to attend all sessions.

Aiken told reporters it was the consensus of the committee it ought to have first hand information on the discussions, since it seems likely that newspaper reporters are going to be barred from all except the perfunctory opening and closing sessions and denied contact with delegates.

While some members were reported urging that the Senate foreign relations committee take similar action, Chairman Connally, Texas Democrat, said that as far as he was concerned he was not interested in sending observers. If committee members went, he indicated, it would be only in response to an official invitation.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Warmer tonight and early Saturday.