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74 AXIS PLANES SHOT DOWN OFF TUNISIA

PATTON FOLLOWS THE FIGHTING



STUDYING THE DISPOSITION OF HIS FORCES and the progress his armored units made in the fighting in Tunisia is Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. (starred helmet). An aide holds the map against a tank as the general looks it over. Signal Corps photo. (International)

Tobacco Men Discuss Labor Needs

North Carolina Group Meets in Raleigh; No Definite Action Taken At This Time

Raleigh, April 18.—(AP)—Presidents of tobacco belt associations in North Carolina discussed with Governor Broughton today possible solutions of the manpower shortage situation during the tobacco warehouse season, and agreed to withhold a definite program pending a series of meetings, the next to be held Wednesday in Danville, Va.

The principal task, the tobaccoists agreed, was to effect an adjustment during the warehouse season, to relieve farmers of the selling rush just when the harvest season was upon them. No definite proposal was made to change the auction dates.

Attending the meeting were L. L. Cravenly of Rocky Mount, vice president of the Tobacco Association of the United States; H. A. Easley, of Wilson, president of the Eastern Tobacco Belt Association; John S. Watkins of Oxford, president of the Middle Belt; E. D. Matthews of Winston-Salem, president of the Old Belt Association; Harry B. Caldwell, director of the state farm manpower commission; Dr. Clarence Poe, chairman of the executive committee; Dr. J. S. Dorton, federal manpower commissioner for North Carolina; Dean L. O. Schaub of the N. C. State College Extension Division; Agriculture Commissioner W. Kerr Scott; Senator J. Con Lanier and James S. Flekin; both of Greenville; W. P. Hedrick, tobacco specialist of the State Agriculture department and others.

The Danville meeting will be at (Continued on Page Two)

HOW TOKYO LOOKED TO OUR AMERICAN BOMBERS



Through the bomb sights of their B-25 raiders, American bombardiers of Major General James H. Doolittle's squadron saw a sight equivalent to this aerial view of a test alert in Tokyo. The "Shangri-La" which the American planes took off apparently was revealed as an aircraft carrier, by a dispatch from North Africa which gave the first official confirmation to believe that the raiders had been carrier-based.

Allies Score War's Great Air Victory

58 Transports Laden With Axis Troops, 16 Fighters Downed; Nine U. S. Planes Lost

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, April 19.—(AP)—Allied aerial squadrons, hammering lethally at the axis from Enfidaville to Palermo in support of General Sir Harold Alexander's first army group, scored the greatest single air victory of the war in this sector yesterday by destroying 74 enemy aircraft—58 Junkers transports and 16 fighters—off the Tunisian coast.

A dispatch from Cairo said the transports were laden with enemy personnel and heading northeastward toward Sicily when the trap was sprung. The dispatches did not bring out whether the passengers were axis troops, which axis broadcasts have said will stay and fight it out or noncombatant and technical forces such as might be expected to be recovered before the allied nose fighters further.

Warhawk and Spitfire fighters engaged 100 enemy transport aircraft and their escort and, in addition to the 74 destroyed, 30 other planes were reported damaged.

The Cairo communique said nine American planes were lost, but one of the pilots was known to be safe.

This was but one of a series of exploits in which allied airmen and ground gunners shot down 45 axis planes during the day and night.

Sardinian, Sicilian and Tunisian targets were heavily attacked.

Flying Fortresses left long fires burning in the freight yards and on an airfield at the Sicilian port of Palermo and a communique said that "bombs were seen to burst among enemy fighters that had just landed from an attack on the preceding formation of Fortresses."

United States and South African pilots of the western desert air force hunted across the Sicilian straits until late yesterday afternoon to score the spectacular blow against Marshal Erwin Rommel's aerial shipping facilities.

The huge formation of Junkers, with strong fighter protection, was sighted flying toward Sicily at almost sea level.

Warhawk squadrons dived as a single unit at the lumbering transports while the Spitfires engaged the covering axis fighters.

Many Junkers fell into the sea, wreathed in flames, others deliberately crash landed.

On the land front, Eighth forces captured an important mountain position 40 miles due west of Enfidaville in a local operation which was the only offensive thrust announced today.

But the allies and the axis were concentrating on preparations for the big and perhaps decisive battle yet to come.

(By The Associated Press)

A Japanese government spokesman was quoted by the Eio in radio today as saying military quarters "knew well where the American aircraft which bombed Tokyo a year ago came from."

The broadcast, recorded by the Associated Press, added: "Announcements made by the United States in this matter therefore could not come as a surprise to the Japanese."

The War department has refused to announce the case which President Roosevelt called Shangri-La, a fictitious Himalaya mountain fastness. Nor has the War department commented on any published reports purporting to identify the base.

The Japanese asserted on January 13 that the aircraft carrier *Honet* was the "Shangri-La" base used by Major General James H. Doolittle and his 79 fliers who attacked Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe and Nagoya on April 18, 1942.

Germans Reinforce Troops in Caucasus

Large Aerial Forces Back Ground Forces Resisting Russians in Kuban Region

Moscow, April 19.—(AP)—The Germans are stiffening their ground forces in the Kuban region of the Caucasus with large air units in an effort to hold their positions against a Red army drive to push them back into the Black sea, a dispatch from the front said today after the Russians had thrown back repeated German counter attacks.

Twenty-five enemy planes were shot down and eight more crippled yesterday alone in air battles in this sector as Soviet pilots thwarted enemy attempts to raid the Red army positions. Pravda, the government newspaper, said.

Enemy ground troops, concentrating their forces, launched a combined attack with fire from Soviet heavy tanks and air units, hammered without success at Soviet front lines, it was reported. Pravda said the Germans often advanced walking upright with fire from Soviet heavy tanks pouring in from Soviet heavy guns.

The mid-day communique said the Germans launched fresh forces in an attack last night and succeeded in breaking into the Soviet trenches, but were repulsed after a fierce engagement in which they suffered heavy losses.

Rumanian troops also were employed in the Kuban fighting and numerous hand to hand fights developed, but they ended invariably in favor of the Red Army. On several sectors, it was said, the Russians followed up frustrated German counter attacks and succeeded in gaining improved positions.

Cotton Prices Turn Lower

New York, April 19.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened unchanged to 5 cents a bale lower.

Noon prices were 20 to 25 cents a bale lower. May 20.06, July 19.92, and October 19.82.

	Previous	Today's	Close	Open
May	20.10	20.10		
July	19.98	19.98		
October	19.87	19.87		
December	19.87	19.87		
March	19.84	19.84		

Mrs. Jones Sponsors Ship

Charleston, S. C., April 19.—(AP)—The ocean going tug *Abuck* will be launched Thursday at the Charleston Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. yards, the sixth naval district public relations officer announced today.

General Charles P. Sommerall, president of The Citadel, will be principal sponsor. Mrs. James Mayon Jones, Henderson, N. C., is the sponsor.

The tug, according to custom, is named for an Indian tribe.

More Mines Expected

Naval Authorities Believe U-Boats Will Lay Fields Off East Coast

Washington, April 19.—(AP)—Naval experts said today that German submarines might resort to extensive use of mines in American coastal waters this spring or summer as part of their offensive against United Nations shipping.

This would mean, for the present war, a new development of U-boat tactics on the site of the Atlantic. The minesweepers employed mines ever here last summer, but only to a very limited extent.

What makes their use much more likely this year, authorities said, is the increased effectiveness of United States oil tankers and small boats in numbers many times those available a year ago, most patrolled the coastal sea lanes and give hourly-hour protection to convoys.

By the end of last summer the patrol U-boats had forced the U-boats to quit American waters, but Navy men have warned that they probably will be back.

What may have been the opening shot in the new campaign was reported by the Navy April 10 in a news release disclosing the torpedoing of a merchant ship off the east coast. It was the first such sinking announced since last August.

Ship Welder Sentenced

Ohio Youth Convicted Of Doing Defective Work; Nine Others Await Hearings

Baltimore, April 19.—(AP)—A 20-year-old shipyard welder, one of ten arrested on charges of sabotaging ships by doing defective work, was sentenced to one and a half years imprisonment today by a judge who declared war workers "must be made to realize the importance of their work."

Federal prosecutors said they believed it was the first such conviction and sentence in the nation.

George Arnold Steele, formerly of Franklin Furnace, Ohio, was convicted last week of improperly welding a total of 660 inches of ship steel while employed at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard, Inc.

The other nine men, all arrested within two days last week, have been held under \$5,000 bail each for further hearing April 22.

Federal Judge William C. Coker, specifying that Steele must serve his sentence in a reformatory to be designated by the U. S. attorney general, declared: "What you have done is serious—very serious. Persons in war work must be made to realize the importance of their work. If they cannot realize it, they should not be there."

Some Stocks Show Gains

New York, April 19.—(AP)—The stock market kept its feet on the ground today. Bonds and commodities were narrow.

Among stocks, advancing tendencies were shown by Southern Railway, U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, Western Union, Chrysler, General Motors, Goodyear, Sears Roebuck, Standard Oil (N. J.), Texas Co. and DuPont.

U. S. Airmen Pound Kiska

Ten Raids on Base Highlight War News From Pacific; Other Planes Are Active

Washington, April 19.—(AP)—American raiders have hit Kiska, the Japanese forward base in the Aleutians, nine more times, destroying a building and knocking out gun positions in the camp and hangar area, and have damaged two more cargo ships, probably sinking one, in another bombing at Kahlil and Munda in the Solomons, the Navy announced today.

Five hits were scored on a ship about 10,000 tons at Kahlil in the Shortland island area Saturday night, the communique said, and five shells of 30 miles started in a second attack.

The nine attacks on Kiska on Saturday, supplemented by another "low altitude" attack on Kiska, followed ten raids on Friday at Kiska.

It was reported on the Kiska runway and camp, the Navy said in its report, while six Japanese planes were destroyed and twenty enemy surface ships were damaged in the Solomons.

In turn, the Japanese struck lightly at Guadalcanal, causing some casualties and minor damage.

An attack by a large formation of Mitchell bombers, flown by Dutch pilots, on airdromes in Dutch Timor, was the major action reported from General Douglas.

(Continued on Page Two)

Cherry Runs For Governor

Gastonia, April 19.—(AP)—R. Greig Cherry, lawyer and veteran State legislator, will run for governor in the forthcoming Democratic primary.

He emphatically announced his candidacy for the governorship here today, saying: "I had planned not to make a definite statement at this time regarding my candidacy because I felt the attention of the people should not be diverted from the war effort. However, since two other candidates have announced, I feel it is proper for me to state that I definitely will be in the race."

Judge Wilson Warlick, Newton, and Dr. Ralph McDonald, Associate director of the University of North Carolina extension department, who resigned from that position effective June 1, already have announced they will enter the gubernatorial race.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Rain and showers this afternoon, considerably colder tonight and early Tuesday.

Congress to Get Preview of Parley

State Department Aide to Outline Plans in Effort To Quiet Criticism

Washington, April 19.—(AP)—Four congressional committees will get a private preview today and tomorrow of President Roosevelt's plans for post-war reconstruction of world agriculture as they are expected to be presented before the forthcoming United Nations food conference.

Assistant Secretary of State Dean Acheson is scheduled to appear today before a closed joint meeting of the Senate foreign relations and agriculture committees and tomorrow before the corresponding House group to explain the purpose and scope of the conference, which will meet at Hot Springs, Va., May 18.

Chairman Fulbright, South Carolina Democrat, of the agriculture committee, said the State Department had requested an opportunity to discuss the food parley to which 43 nations have been invited to send delegates.

"There has been a lot of criticism in Congress of the administration's way of handling the conference," Fulbright said. "Many members object to the exclusion of the press from sessions of the conference."

Fulbright said the State department's request for the Tuesday meeting with the House committee was "most designed apparently to quiet this criticism."

Congressional farm leaders, expressed interest in reports that the United States would propose an international AAA with power and authority to promote production of a minimum of food for all peoples.

Many times in recent years Mr. Roosevelt, Vice President Wallace and Secretary of Agriculture Wickard have expressed the view that some form of international cooperation should be established to guide and control agricultural problems in the interest of producers as well as consumers.

CCC Cotton May Be Sold

Washington, April 19.—(AP)—Government authorities are considering a proposal that price ceilings on cotton be withheld and that the Agriculture department's Community Credit Corporation be given an opportunity to stabilize prices through sales of its cotton stocks.

Deferred legislation to cotton ceilings has been expressed by many elements of the industry, and it is known that Food Administrator Chester C. Davis is reluctant to approve them for a number of reasons.

Agriculture department cotton experts believe that the CCC could keep cotton prices from advancing to excessive levels by offering the trade supplies from government-owned stocks. The CCC has authority to sell up to 200,000 bales of cotton per month, but not more than 1,500,000 bales in any calendar year at not less than parity prices.

The government owns large stocks of cotton, but much of it is of low quality. Administrator Davis is fearful, aides say, that ceilings might tend to discourage farmers from converting to the production of cotton of longer staple length—types needed in much greater quantities for war needs.

RAF Raids Italian City

London, April 19.—(AP)—British bomber forces made the long trip across the Alps again last night to visit the Italian navy base at Stabia for the second time in six nights, it was announced today.

The attack was described as heavy and concentrated and while it was in progress aircraft of the fighter command struck at enemy destroyers at Lamezia, the German naval and submarine base on the French coast.

One bomber failed to return from the attack in Sicily. The Italian port was hit after the beginning of the longest long sustained aerial campaign against continental targets last Tuesday night.

French trains and locomotives in southern France were also attacked during the night and one fighter plane was reported missing.

Four Persons Die Violently

Charlotte, April 19.—(AP)—At least four persons died by violence in North Carolina during the week end.

Gaylord Andrews, 26, of Banner Elk, Miss. Pansy Fulton, 13, of Kings Mountain and M. J. Mildred Dayberry, 16, of Shelby were killed in collision of their automobile and a train at a grade crossing in Kings Mountain.

A twelve-year-old girl, identified as Alice Gregg of near Lenoir, was found yesterday inside the front door of a Morganton hospital with a bullet wound in the head. She died about six hours later. Sheriff R. C. Chapman said the shoot, which he said could have been accidental, occurred at the home of John T. Crump in Caldwell county.

Japs Claim Knowledge Of Raid Base

(By The Associated Press)

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