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U. S. Now Has Tools And the Plants To Achieve Victory

New Construction Sweeping Cutback in Ordered by WPB Which May Reach \$4 Billions

Washington, May 12—(AP)—Because the nation now has the plants and tools needed to build production to beat the Axis, the War Production Board today ordered a sweeping cutback in new war plant construction and machine tool output.

An estimated \$4,000,000,000 worth of approved government-financed plant projects and machine tool contracts will be reviewed by the WPB, and in every case where existing plants or machines can do the job, the contracts are to be cancelled and plant construction stopped.

Feed Outlook Is Alarming

Raleigh, May 12—(AP)—The North Carolina feed conservation and production committee pointed out today in an alarming feed situation and recommended that poultry processors curtail their laying flocks at once to minimize unprofitable poultry.

Rails Lead In Stocks

New York, May 12—(AP)—Quiet strength of leading rails stood out today in an otherwise ragged stock market. Ahead of much of the time were New York Central, Southern Railway, Chrysler, United Aircraft and Texas Company.

Dozen More Dutch Patriots Executed

London, May 12—(AP)—Amstetta, Netherlands news agency, said today German authorities had put to death twelve more Dutch patriots, bringing to 38 the total number of executions in the first two days of martial law imposed by the occupation authorities.

State 1942 Death Rate At New Low

Only 8.1 Per Thousand, Reynolds Tells Health Board and Medical Society

Raleigh, May 12—(AP)—The war and an "increasing birth rate" have placed a heavier load on the division of vital statistics, Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, State health officer, told a joint session of the State Board of Health and the North Carolina Medical Society today in his annual report.

The death rate from all causes in 1942 was the lowest on record, he said, "there having been only 8.1 deaths per 1,000 population."

AFRICAN DIVISION REACHES NEAR EAST

Cairo, Egypt, May 12—(AP)—It was officially announced today that the sixth South African armored division had arrived in the Middle East.

Axis Feigns Calm Over New Perils

Impending "Battle for Germany" Finds Berlin Professing Complacency and Quiet

London, May 12—(AP)—The impending "battle for Germany," sharply focused by Prime Minister Churchill's conference in Washington with President Roosevelt, found Axis propaganda agencies attempting to present an outward front of calm today.

Earlier the German people were told that Adolf Hitler, whose headquarters had long been described as on the eastern front, now is at an unspecified point in the west; that Professor Albert Speer, Nazi minister of munitions, reported to Hitler yesterday on the construction of the "Atlantic wall" and that "victory without compromise" would remain the goal for which Germany and her partners are striving.

The Axis fleet termed the next phase in the global war "the battle for Germany."

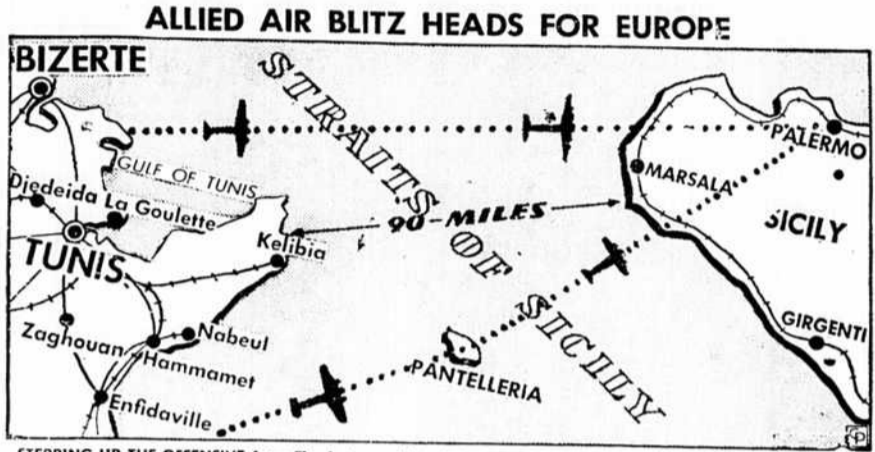
LEWIS' STATEMENT HAS BEEN DELAYED

New York, May 12—(AP)—The office of John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, said today that he was "out of town for the day," and that issuance of a statement by him on the coal wage dispute, promised for 4 p. m., had been postponed.

Cotton Off 25c A Bale

New York, May 12—(AP)—Cotton futures opened five cents a bale higher to ten cents lower. Most values were 25 to 30 cents a bale lower. May 20, 1943, 19.94; October 22, 20.22; July 1943, 19.94; October 19, 19.76; December 19.65, 19.65; March 19.62, 19.60.

New Offensive on Japanese Believed One Main Purpose Of FDR-Churchill Plannings



STEPPING UP THE OFFENSIVE from Tunis toward the fortress of Europe, Allied bombers set their courses for Messina, Sicily, after having bombed the industrial area and port installations of Palermo. A few hours earlier, Allied planes blasted Pantelleria, one of the island approaches to Sicily. (International)

Last Axis Troops Giving Up In Cap Bon Area of Tunisia

Americans Reported In Greek Island of Cyprus

Stockholm, May 12—(AP)—The Stockholm newspaper Dagens Nyheter said today in a Cofia dispatch that an American army division commander and staff had arrived recently in Cyprus, an island in the eastern Mediterranean, and that United States troops were reported among Al-

lied units allegedly massing there. (There was no Allied confirmation of these reports.) It said Cyprus might be the jumping off point for a Balkan invasion.

Cold Killed Or Delayed State Crops

Raleigh, May 12—(AP)—The State Department of Agriculture reported today that the freezes that swept over North Carolina late in April killed or delayed all truck crops, reduced peach prospects to one-third of last year's production, and delayed general plot preparation and cultivation by at least two weeks.

Despite late frosts, however, indications for most small grains point to a yield larger than average. The wheat crop is expected to be 14 per cent less than last year.

Production of commercial strawberries is less than the forecast for March in duration. Commercial potatoes were not so good, and yield prospects were not so bright.

Two At Smithfield Are Accused With Highway Robberies

Smithfield, May 12—(AP)—Two men booked as James McLamb, 25, of Ewren, and David Stephenson, 25, of Dunn, were placed in the Johnston county jail here last night on charges of highway robbery and automobile theft.

State Highway Corporal Parks Alexander, of Goldsboro, and Padman Earl W. Whitaker, of Mount Olive, apprehended the men near Ewren. They were charged specifically with holding up L. G. Dickerson at a drive-in station near Selma, and with stealing the automobile in Raleigh.

Alexander said Dickerson was robbed of \$250 but that \$153.86 had been recovered.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Slightly cooler in east and central portions; little change in temperature in extreme west portion tonight.

Section Encircled by British; U. S. Prisoners Now 38,000; Italian Holds Out

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, May 12—(AP)—British armor has made a complete circular of Camp Bon, has needed inward to round up the isolated enemy forces who are surrendering freely, and is fiercely hammering from all sides at the last remaining pocket of Tunisian resistance southwest of the peninsula. General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters announced today. So thoroughly had the patrols of Lieutenant General K. A. N. Anderson infiltrated into Cap Bon peninsula that Allied air bombing of the bomb-riddled area was called off late yesterday because of the dangers of hitting friendly troops.

The Germans and Italians southwest of the peninsula were hemmed in a circular area only about fifteen miles across, and this was being given severe punishment by the air forces as well as by the troops, but the communique said: "The lack of suitable targets indicated the approaching end of the battle over Tunisia."

Heavily in against the Gulf of Hammamet by the British above and below them, the encircled Axis army faced a third spearhead aimed by the French 16th Corps which dashed toward the coast after crushing a German army into complete and unqualified surrender on the slopes east of Zaghuan yesterday.

The communique said that the prisoners taken by the second U. S. Army Corps and their French allies in northern Tunisia now total 37,298.

An Italian communique broadcast by the Rome radio said that General Giovanni Messe, commander of the first Italian army, had rejected a proposal for the Axis troops' surrender in Cap Bon peninsula, and that fierce fighting continued in that area.

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Experts On India With Churchill

White House Silent, but Sea, Land and Air Offensive Is Speculated at Capital

Moscow, May 12—(AP)—Russians interviewed after the announcement of British Prime Minister Churchill's visit to Washington said today they interpreted it in only one way—as presaging a second front.

Washington, May 12—(AP)—A White House disclosure today that Prime Minister Churchill had brought with him three Indian experts indicated the prime minister and President Roosevelt might place much emphasis in their conference on strategy against Japan.

In the Churchill party were: Field Marshal Sir A. P. Wavell, commander-in-chief of British military forces in India; Admiral Sir James Somerville, commander-in-chief of the eastern fleet based at Ceylon; and Air Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, air officer commanding in chief in India.

Their presence here for important war talks lent weight to the possibility that Britain and the United States might be charting new moves to assist China, perhaps by attempting to pry open the Burma road again for a vital supply artery.

President Roosevelt has promised that China will be used as a base for attacks on Japan itself.

White House officials said that no American officers from the Indian area, so far as they know, have been brought to Washington for the parley.

However, Lieutenant General Joseph W. Stilwell, commanding American forces in India, came to the capital some time ago for conferences, as did Major General Claire Chennault, commanding American air forces in China.

German Resistance Has Now Vanished In Cape Bon Area

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, May 12—(AP)—German resistance has melted away on Cap Bon and British armor, after making a complete circuit of the peninsula to its tip, is stabbing inland and rounding up tens of thousands of freely surrendering enemy troops, front line dispatches said today.

Only one center of Axis fighting spirit existed in all north Africa today, and that was a 15-mile-wide circular area southwest of the peninsula, where Allied armor, troops and planes were attacking from all sides.

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Thousand German Troops Killed Near Leningrad

Moscow, May 12—(AP)—More than 1,000 German troops have been killed on the Leningrad front in the last 24 hours, Russian dispatches said today. As the entire battle line surged with new activity from that northern sector to the continuing struggle around Novorossisk, on the Black Sea.

The action before Leningrad, whose 315-day siege was broken at mid-January, appeared to be only a scouting operation force, intended to establish a new German sector line and not the beginning of an out-and-out offensive. The German attempts failed after two attacks, Russian guns opened up after the assault and have pounded and damaged the German positions since, it was said.

The Red Army generally held the initiative everywhere along the line.

and the government newspaper Izvestia said editorially "the war with Hitlerite Germany has entered its decisive stage."

The battle for Novorossisk apparently had resolved itself into a Russian attempt to pulverize the German positions with air attacks, sustained artillery fire and infantry sorties. A midnight communique said 36 enemy planes were destroyed in the area yesterday against a loss of eleven Soviet planes.

In the lower Kuban valley, apparently northwest of Novorossisk, an important German fortified position was reported captured and a company of German troops killed in yesterday's fighting. Red artillery kept up its fighting during the night, the noon communique said.

Resumption of German attacks on the Russian Donets river positions near Lisichansk, gate to Voroshilovgrad, was reported.



AS MR. AND MRS. DIONNE, and four other sisters, look on, Yvonne Dionne swings a bottle of fresh water across the prow of the last of five Liberty ships launched at the Walter Butler Shipyards, in Superior, Wis. Making their first trip to the United States, the Quints, now nine years old, arrived at the yards by special train to sponsor the launchings. (International)

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