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Miners And Operators Confer

Heaviest Raid Is Made On Italian Islands

Total Of 39 Axis Planes Shot Down

Flying Fortresses Blast Sicilian and Sardinian Targets in Daylight Attack

Afrik Headquarters in North Africa, June 19—(AP)—The greatest attacking force of American planes so far assembled has been sent against Sicily and Sardinia, targets yesterday and shot down 39 enemy planes in combat.

American Flying Fortresses, roaring out in strength from their north African bases, attacked the eastern Sicilian city of Messina in one of a series of assaults yesterday on axis bases protecting Italy, headquarters said today.

The daylight attack against Messina followed up a Thursday night raid by 100 bombers on the southeastern coast of Sicily by RAF headquarters in the Middle East, announced in a Cairo communiqué.

Other targets of the northwest American air force were Milazzo in Sicily, Olbia and Golfo Aranci in Sardinia and communications in southern Sicily.

The war bulletin said others with the heavy force of Flying Fortresses on the Messina raid observed many hits on the ferry terminal leading to the Italian mainland only a few miles away, on the power station and on railway yards.

For nearly two weeks, the war bulletin said, the new forces spread out action throughout Sicily and Sardinia on the lower tip of Southern Italy.

The headquarters bulletin said all aircraft failed to return yesterday's operations, but noted that 39 enemy fighters were shot down in combat.

Army Cancels Hotel Leases

Washington, June 19—(AP)—The War department announced today that leases on 266 hotels now used by the technical training command of the Army and Navy will be canceled effective in the middle of July.

It was explained that the suspension of the program for temporary buildings and other surplus property was made possible by the movement of many air units overseas, which vacated quarters in which technical training units now are housed.

The department said that the suspension of 264 of the 434 hotels now used by the air forces will decrease the Army's annual rental bill by \$46,000.

The general program of cancellation, the department said, will not affect hotels which have been converted to military hospitals.

The department announced that "at an early date" headquarters of the technical training command now located at Southern Pines, N. C., will be moved to one of the regular airports stations.

KING GEORGE INSPECTS U. S. TROOPS IN AFRICA



PAST RANKS OF AMERICAN INFANTRYMEN King George of Great Britain (right) walks with Gen. Mark Clark, commander of the U. S. Fifth Army, on the monarch's recent visit to North Africa. While in Africa, King George presented to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower the emblems of General Eisenhower's new honor as Knight Commander, Order of the Bath. Signal Corps photo. (International Radiophoto)

Wavell Gets Duesseldorf In India Post Ruins' After Raid

Field Marshal Named Viceroy and General Governor; Auchinleck Is Military Chief

London, June 19—(AP)—Great Britain today appointed Field Marshal Sir Archibald Pownall as viceroy of India and announced the forthcoming appointment of a new east Asia commander to direct the dual campaign against Japan.

The London press reported that the War Office had decided not to use field marshal to take the post because it would be considered too much like a military title to compare favorably with the appointment of a civilian.

Official London quarters said they had no confirmation of the presence of Italian peace emissaries in Algiers.

As viceroy and now the general in chief of India Sir Archibald will succeed Gen. Wavell, a rank he also held as Minister of Defense in 1942.

The appointment is to be effective July 1.

To take Wavell's place as commanding chief in India the British government appointed General Sir Claude Auchinleck, who was relieved as British commander-in-chief in the Middle East in 1942.

Field Marshal Wavell will remain in India until the end of his term as viceroy, which is in October. General Auchinleck's term of office will begin July 1, 1944, before he is due to leave India.

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WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Little change in temperature
this afternoon and tonight.

Italian Peace Move Reported

London, June 19—(AP)—A British diplomat from Algiers and rumors were current in the French African capital this morning that Italian peace emissaries in Algiers had accepted the dual campaign against Japan.

It was impossible to confirm the rumors, Prime Minister and Marshal Pietro Badoglio's former chief of the general staff of the Italian army, was seen to be en route to Algiers.

Official London quarters said they had no confirmation of the presence of Italian peace emissaries in Algiers.

This is the most shattering blow to the German war potential which so far has been struck in the battle of the Ruhr," the report said.

It was also reported that the Italian peace emissaries in Algiers had accepted the dual campaign against Japan.

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