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Allies Sweep Up Sicilian Coast

Jap Cruiser, Three Destroyers Sunk In Kula Gulf

Jap Losses In Battle May Mount

Guns of U. S. Navy Score Again; Jungle Fighters Tighten Clamp on Munda

Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, July 13—(AP)—A Japanese cruiser and three destroyers were sent to the bottom of the Kula Gulf—graveyard of at least nine other enemy warships—by guns of the United States Navy in a battle which began last night.

Two other enemy destroyers probably were sunk and enemy losses may be even greater when all reports are in. The battle still was in progress, it was indicated, at the time preliminary reports were received today by General Douglas MacArthur from Admiral William F. Halsey.

But already Japan has expended between 13 and 17 cruisers and destroyers in two battles in the central Solomons while trying to hold apart the jaws of a mantrap which American jungle fighters are clamping on the enemy air base of Munda, on New Georgia island.

Both battles in the Kula Gulf, which is 15 miles long and eight miles across at its widest part, occurred as units of the Japanese navy, moving down from the northern Solomons, encountered United States war vessels blockading New Georgia's coastline along the gulf.

Today's action-packed account from General MacArthur showed Japan everywhere losing the fight for Munda—on New Georgia, in the air above it and in the seas offshore.

Ten miles northeast of it, a Japanese ground force of considerable strength was trapped at Enogai Inlet and wiped out. Munda has been cut off from its supply port on the Kula Gulf by a barbed-wire bristling with guns, thrown across the connecting jungle track. East of it, American jungle fighters are less than two miles away.

American warplanes pounded anew yesterday at Munda, at the source of air support in the northern Solomons, Kahili airfield, and at the nearest air base with several fields, Rabaul on New Britain Island.

**Knox Predicts
New Outbreak
Of Sub War**

Washington, July 13.—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Knox said today that while "we have materially reduced our losses by sinkings in the north Atlantic," German U-boat warfare undoubtedly will break out forcefully somewhere else.

Knox told his press conference:

"To kid ourselves that this thing [submarine warfare] is won would be a mistake. We're fighting a resolute foe. To assume that they'll be held in the first round would be the worst kind of folly."

"I haven't any doubt that submarine fighting will break out somewhere else."

RAIDS ON Kiska

Washington, July 13.—(AP)—The Navy announced today that Army bombers had carried out three attacks on Japanese installations on Kiska Island in the Aleutians. Monday, but poor weather prevented observation of results.

**New Service Legislation
To Face Congress In Fall**

Washington, July 13.—(AP)—New draft legislation, including a proposal to require all adult men and women to register for service in the war effort, will be subject to extensive hearings by the House military committee when the congressional recess ends in September.

By that time, Chairman May, Kentucky Democrat, said today, the committee hopes to have available more data bearing on the prospect of inducing fathers.

"Whether we shall expedite legislation already passed by the Senate to boost the government payments

to dependents of drafted men will depend on a final decision on the outlook two months from now," May said.

However, he added, should the outlook in September indicate the early induction of fathers, additional financial provisions for them would have to be made speedily.

Also on the committee's docket for early consideration is the Austin-Wadsworth national service bill under which all men and women would be required to register for assignment to services where there was a need for them in the armed forces industry or elsewhere.

U. S. PARATROOPERS FIRST TO LAND ON SICILY



American paratroopers, wearing full packs and armed to the teeth, sit in varied positions drift within the plane carrying them to Sicily. They landed a short time before Allied armies invaded the strategic island in force. (Left) The green ribbon signal to jump has flashed, and a paratrooper grasps the side of the plane door before dropping down on the Italian Island. Behind him stand other men ready to follow as soon as he is clear. These paratroopers, just received from north Africa, were taken by the U. S. Signal Corps. (International Scamphotos)

Steel Mills To Get Coal

Ickes Diverts Coal to Keep Industries Producing Vital War Materials

Washington, July 13.—(AP)—Secretary Ickes, acting to "relieve the growing paralysis of the steel industry due to coal mine strikes in western Pennsylvania," has ordered 135,000 tons of coal diverted to steel plants.

As solid fuel administrators, Ickes directed diversion of special purpose, metallurgical coal—Asbestos to steel manufacturers—by means of a strike of 22,000 miners each day this week.

He explained today that the action, taken on the eve of a special grand jury investigation at Pittsburgh to decide with the strike which last week kept some 14,000 miners whose output goes to steel furnaces, was necessary to "keep vital war plants in operation."

**ST. PAULS OFFICER
GETS FLYING CROSS**

Allied Headquarters in Australia, July 13.—(AP)—The conduct of men, each of whom had down more than 500 pounds of explosives against the Japanese and their allies and enlisted men who have 200 or more hours have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by Lieutenant General George C. Kenney, commander of allied air forces in the southwest Pacific.

Those awarded the DFC included First Lieutenant Robert H. Barnes, St. Pauls, N. C., August 16, 1942, to March 9, 1943.

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Nazis Throw Entire Weight Into Wedge Near Belgorod

Indictments In Bank Case

Thick Red Defenses Hold Against Attack in Heaviest Fighting of Summer Offensive

Moscow, July 13.—(AP)—Field Marshal von Kluge threw the entire weight of his armored columns into a furious attack today against the southern end of the 20-mile Orel-Kursk-Belgorod front in an action designed to enlarge the Belgorod wedge and blast a major breach in the Russian lines.

Despite all efforts to break the assault in the southern end of the salient, Von Kluge fell back on the old Nazi tactic, retreat, but the Russian resistance remained intact, though fighting became so violent that even tank crews of opposing forces broke into hand-to-hand combat on one occasion.

On both sides communications became bad, the Associated Press claimed, but the Nazi armored forces with the support of German air force maintained their ground in the sector east of Belgorod and had control of the enemy counter attacks of all sectors of the front, the British suffered "heavy losses," the German communiqué said, amounting to a total of 400 tanks and 123 aircraft.

The tanks also suffered a heavy loss of the Red armies, indicated by an American general that the German forces deserted of breaking through the Orel-Kursk sector after inflicting 100,000 losses in one of the most determined attacks they have launched since the midday offensive of last Friday. Today, the Russian tank and panzer forces on the eastern front were considerably reduced at high level.

The planes were dispersed on account of flight because of the bad weather. The first communiqué set the losses very "modest" at 100 aircraft in operation.

Eastern and middle-fronts are about away and other fronts in Russia, in France, Italy and Belorussia, the Third Army was about at the long range operation.

**Food Administrator
Calls on Farmers
for Mobilization
of All Resources**

Washington, July 13.—(AP)—Calling on farmers to "mobilize every acre and farm building" for record harvest next year, Marvin Jones, head of the war food administration, announced today the government in 1943 wants 389,000,000 acres of crops planted and meat, dairy and egg production maintained at high levels.

The plan is to average a 10 per cent increase in 1943 over 1942, and to plant no less than 1942 harvest and to exceed the record 1942 acreage by 10 per cent.

Reporting that the 1942 harvesting record was exceeded by 10 per cent, Mr. Jones said that the program followed to insure highest possible yields over a period of years.

Included in the program, he said, are measures to assist farmers in carrying out conservation practice and in maintaining maximum productivity of their land.

He promised that considerably more machinery and fertilizer would be available for the 1943 crop.

Jones said there was need for more dairies and more virgin pastures and meadows.

The total acreage of land to be probably will run 50 per cent above the average for the last 10 years.

The administrator also announced that cotton marketing quota will not be in effect for the 1944 crop because this year's indicated acreage of 21,995,000 is about 100,000 more than the 1943 acreage.

PRICE RATE UP

London, July 13.—(AP)—More fares will be charged in England and Wales during the next three months than in any other quarter of the past 17 years according to initial return fare publications.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Central warm tonight; scattered showers.

RAF Bombs Blast Turin

Long Range Attack on Italian City Is Coordinated With Invasion

London, July 13.—(AP)—Heavy bombers of the RAF struck a heavy blow at Turin in northern Italy last night in operation coordinated with the allied invasion of Sicily, British authorities said today.

Eight of the six long range bombers approved yesterday by Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, flying from Sicily, bombed Turin in a coordinated attack.

The raiders concentrated on the city's rail and telephone systems, hitting the large station in the city. A third of the city's telephone lines were cut.

British authorities said the

attack was aimed at the communications system of the surrounding area.

The chief of staff was present

and the chief of staff

and the chief of staff