

Germans Unable To Stop Reds U.S. Army Makes Further Gains In Drive On Rome

GIANT LANDING CRAFT BECOMES A SHIP OF MERCY



LANDING CRAFT are proving to be almost as versatile as the jeep. Here the spacious interior of a tank-carrying craft is utilized to evacuate a group of wounded and sick Marines and other servicemen from a South Pacific isle to a base hospital. U. S. Marine Corps photo. (International Soundphoto)

Attacks By Enemy Are Hurlled Back

Commanding Heights In Central Sector Are Being Exploited

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Oct. 23—(AP)—American artillery—the "Queen of the Battle"—from Africa through Sicily—crushed a Nazi counter-attack at Alise on the Fifth Army's right wing in Italy yesterday, "knocking out a number of tanks," and in the central sector Fifth Army troops have seized commanding heights. It was announced today.

This was the first appearance of German tanks in any number in some time, but Field Marshal Kesselring's counter-attacks failed as did a similar effort on the Eighth Army front.

The Germans, now firmly entrenched in their new mountain positions, launched a series of counter blows designed to throw the Fifth Army and the Eighth Army off balance. Allied troops not only beat off every attack, but Eighth Army forces advanced two miles to take Lupara, which controls high ground in central Italy.

In sea actions, small units of the American and British navies, including United States torpedo boats, sank, captured or damaged five Nazi-controlled vessels. The torpedo boats darted far up the northwest coast of Italy near Leghorn from new bases in the Mediterranean to make their raid.

In the air, Allied bomber fleets continued their Balkan campaign, bombing the Nazi airbase at Elexis near Athens.

The Allied communique said Fifth Army troops had captured commanding heights on the central sector of their front and "were exploiting this gain" but did not identify the area.

The heaviest fighting yesterday occurred near Alise, captured earlier in the drive up the head of the Volturno river.

Kesselring brought up some of his seldom-seen tanks, backed up by infantry and artillery, and lashed out in what Fifth Army headquarters described as a "very active manner." But the American big guns, which caused such great havoc in German ranks, particularly in the latter phase of the Tunisian fight, brought the Nazi thrust to a standstill with heavy losses.

RED TRAP CLOSING ON NAZI ARMY



SOVIET TROOPS are pushing a deep wedge into the German lines south of Kremenchug (1) in an attempt to encircle a Nazi army. They are within 31 miles of Krivoi Rog, iron center. At Melitopol (2), the other end of the pincers, it is reported that Hitler has ordered a last man defense to protect the evacuation of soldiers from the Crimea. The Reds continue to advance at Kiev (3). (International)

Reinforced Nazi Lines Crumbling

Stalin Has Enemy Groggy All Along The Eastern Front

Moscow, Oct. 23—(AP)—The Red army, speeding up its mardian offensive and attacking violently in many sectors, was throwing the Germans back scores of miles today in the face of heavy counterattacks.

There were signs from several areas—particularly south-east of Kremenchug in the Dnieper elbow, both north and south of Melitopol, where the Russians are fashioning the southern arm of a clamp, and south-east of Kiev—that the German command was unable to halt break-through.

Moscow is expected to be able to hold a Saturday night celebration of another Russian victory—the fall of Melitopol, savaged by many days of no respite street fighting as has occurred anywhere.

London dispatches said possibly 150,000 Germans were threatened with encirclement in the Dnieper bend, in the Crimea and around Kiev and Goniol.

Heretofore by the use of fresh troops, masses of artillery and heavy units of tanks and bombers the Germans generally have succeeded in slowing down the Soviets after a major breakthrough, but today the German line, although similarly reinforced, appeared to be crumbling.

This is the first time that the Germans have had a real war of attrition practiced on them over a long front, and Marshal Josef Stalin as the master Russian strategist appeared to have them groggy.

At present the Red army is striking first in this sector and then in another, disrupting the already thin line of German communications, to send men and material to meet the sudden attacks.

Early in the week the Germans' main line seemed to be to halt at Kiev, but the Red army's major breakthrough to the Dnieper, although through to the Dnieper, ally.

As it appeared to the Germans that the big objective was in the Dnieper bend, the Russians suddenly struck out with fresh violence north and south of Melitopol to the south.

When the Germans shifted troops from the Crimea to meet this threat, the Russians next attacked south Dnepropetrovsk, where it looks as if they have scored another important breakthrough.

The Russians are driving hard in the direction of the important iron ore city of Krivoi Rog and are within 15 miles of that objective inside the Dnieper elbow. Other Soviet units, marching out to the northwest have reached to within 10 miles of vital rail lines connecting Kiev with the Crimea and the Black Sea port of Nikolaev.

Tobacco Men Urge Governor To Decree Selling Holiday

No Second Front Promise For Russians At Moscow

Washington, Oct. 23—Russia appears doomed to disappointment if she seeks definite commitments from the United States and Great Britain regarding a second front in France at the meeting in Moscow, now under way, between Secretary of State Cordell Hull, British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden and Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov.

Soviet newspapers have already emphasized that one of the primary topics the Russians wish to discuss is the long-sought second front across the English channel.

Informed sources in Washington point out that this is probably one thing that Hull and Eden will be unable to discuss beyond generalities and theories.

Hull, Eden and their staff—with a few possible exceptions—will be in the position to make definite military commitments to the Soviets.

The position of the United States and Great Britain, in fact, is certain to remain the same as it has been for the past year—that a second front is desirable in western France as soon as it will have a reasonable chance of success.

But the stand of the Anglo-American allies remains unshakable in that any such operation is directly in the hands of the general staff and no second front will be opened up in western France for political purposes.

This position has been set forth by Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt.

Hull and Eden are expected to point out to the Russians that the offensive in Italy is draining some divisions from the German reserves in East Prussia and Poland.

They further are certain to stress the strategic advantages of the Mediterranean campaign that knocked Italy out of the war and eventually brought the Badoglio government into the conflict as a United Nations co-belligent.

The reason being anything but favorable to cross-channel operations, there seems little possibility of the Russian-sought French front before spring.

Also, America and Britain point out to the Russians the devastating effect of the great air attacks on Hitler's "roofless" Fortress of Europe.

The seat that might have been occupied by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek or his foreign minister and brother-in-law, T. V. Soong, at the momentous Moscow tripartite conference.

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Suspensions May Begin at Middle Of Coming Week

Radio listeners this afternoon related an announcement at 2:30 o'clock stating that Governor Broughton will speak over Station WPTF, Raleigh, at 6:30 o'clock this evening on the tobacco situation, and will probably at that time make a definite statement as to the recommended sales holiday.

Raleigh, Oct. 23—(AP)—Tobaccoists representing the fine cured belt recommended today that the governors of North Carolina and Virginia call a marketing holiday and that Representative Harold Cooley confer with other North Carolina Congressmen and the Commodity Credit Corporation in an effort to halt further price declines.

The resolutions suggested that the holiday, to continue at least two days, begins either Wednesday or Thursday and continue as long as Governor Broughton and Governor Colgate Darden deemed necessary. It was believed necessary, however, that the suspension would not be ordered if Federal authorities take immediate steps to study the market.

The Congressmen were asked to request the Commodity Credit Corporation to make loans, buy or allotments and to return tobacco prices to their former levels.

The action was taken after suggestions were made that the "government let us alone" and that holidays be called to determine whether there has been any "manipulation" going on.

Governors Broughton and Cooley said they would conform with the resolutions.

Farmers who cooperated with

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Two Injured When Southern Railway Engine Explodes

Toccoa, Ga., Oct. 23—(AP)—The engineer and fireman of a Southern Railway freight train were injured early today when the locomotive exploded between Mt. Airy and Ayersville, Ga., about ten miles out of Toccoa.

Service on the line, leading to Atlanta, was restored several hours later.

Rail Brotherhoods Order Strike Vote

(By The Associated Press)

Executives of the five railroad operating unions, meeting in Chicago, today authorized a strike vote among their 350,000 members because of dissatisfaction over a proposed wage hike of four cents an hour.

The action was voted at a joint meeting of the general chairmen of the five brotherhoods which have been lobbying out for an increase of 30 percent.

Meanwhile, a showdown neared in the long-standing controversy in the soft coal industry. Chairman William H. Davis of the War Labor Board told officials of the United Mine Workers they would have to get idle miners back to work or probably have the case go to the White House, presumably meaning government operation of the mines again.

UMW leaders agreed to make an

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44 Heavy Bombers Lost By British In Raid Over Germany

Toll Heaviest Since Last Raid on Berlin When 47 Were Lost

London, Oct. 23—(AP)—A great force of RAF heavy bombers fought their way through many Nazi fighters last night to deliver a concentrated attack on the German war and industrial center of Kassel in the mid- and west—major British raid of the month.

Forty-four heavy bombers failed to return from the mission, but the four-engined planes fought hard, stubbornly, sending several fighters hurtling from the dark skies.

A small force of heavy planes struck at the same time at Frankfurt, making it the second raid in 10 days on that industrial center, and Miss Gwynne rounded out the night's bombing attacks with an assault on the Cologne area.

As the heavy bombers again added their terrific punches at German industry to the day and night attacks that American and RAF fighter planes have been conducting against Nazi communications and fighter fields.

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Lloyd George, At 80, Is Married To His Own Secretary

London, Oct. 23—(AP)—David Lloyd George, the white-haired gentleman farmer who was Britain's prime minister in the last world war, was quietly married at the age of 80 today to Miss Frances Stevenson, his secretary since 1913.

Hitler Fails To Slow Up Slav Attack

London, Oct. 23—(AP)—Yugoslav paratroopers based at German front-line strong points in southwest Slovenia today, as Adolf Hitler sought some means of liquidating increasing unrest throughout the Balkans.

Hitler's concern over the Balkan situation was indicated when he summoned the regional Balkan military officers last Monday. The Berlin radio announced the meeting last night.

Berlin said that Prince Cyril, younger brother of the late King Boris and Bogdan Philov, Cyril's pro-Nazi regent, attended the session.

Capture of three strategic Slovenian centers was reported by a communique of the Yugoslav liberation army broadcast by the free Yugoslav radio and recorded by the Associated Press. While little more than villages, these positions were regarded as important because they command lines of communications in a difficult mountainous area.

Germans Down Swedish Plane With 13 Dead

Stockholm, Sweden, Oct. 23—(AP)—A Swedish airliner flying from London to Stockholm was shot down in flames late last night on Sweden's rocky west coast, presumably by a German fighter plane, killing 13 persons, one a California clergyman.

The plane crashed near Haabo.

The American, California, Home of Claremont, California.

The craft's radio operator had time only to send a brief, dramatic message saying "We have been shot down" before the plane was smashed to bits on the rocks.

Besides the American, the plane's passengers included one Englishman, two Swedes, and two women members of the Russian legation in Stockholm with four of their baggage.

Newsprint Cut To Be 10 Percent

Washington, Oct. 23—(AP)—Adopting recommendations of the Newspaper Advisory Committee, the printing and publishing division of the War Production Board announced today it had prepared an amendment which will reduce publishers' newsprint inventories about ten percent in November.

Still subject to final approval by War Production Board officials, the amendment would draw about 20,000 tons of newsprint out of newspapers' reserves and diminish news purchase orders to that extent. This will cover about half the estimated 40,000 ton newsprint deficiency for the month. The remaining 20,000 tons, it is hoped, will be gained through voluntary additional reductions in purchases by the larger purchasers only.

The action is expected to eliminate the need for proposed new cuts in the rate of consumption, a proposal which met opposition from the Newspaper Industry Advisory Committee at its meeting here earlier this week.

De Marigny Case Testimony Hurtful To the Defendant

Nassau, Oct. 23—(AP)—The police lieutenant who guarded Alford De Marigny during the investigation of the slaying of Sir Harry Oakes, quoted the accused man today as commenting that his wealthy father-in-law "should have been killed" anyhow.

John Campbell Douglas, assistant superintendent of police, told the Bahamas Supreme Court jury of a conversation with De Marigny the day after Sir Harry's bludgeoned and burned body was discovered in a bedroom of his country estate, Westbourne.

Speaking with a decided Scotish accent, Douglas said De Marigny described the strained relations with his father-in-law and blamed the situation on his divorced wife, Ruth.

"Ruth caused the relations by telling tales," quoted the man who escorts the defendant on his trip to and from his prison cell while the trial is in progress.

WEATHER
FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Continued moderately cool this afternoon, tonight and Sunday. (Forecast)