



## HEAVY FIGHTING IN TUNISIA AS ALLIED FORCES ADVANCE

### American Troops Are Driving Toward Gabes; French Pushing Into Sousse; Axis Shipping Sunk In Mediterranean; Effort Being Made To Keep Rommel From Joining Forces In Tunisia

London, Dec. 30.—United States troops were reported in a Reuters dispatch today to have advanced to within 40 miles of Gabes, strategic Tunisian port which lies approximately midway between Axis-held Tripoli and Tunisia.

The direction of the advance was not stated, but delayed field dispatches received last night disclosed that an American task force was operating on the southern Tunisian front and told of a recent raid on Maknassy, 55 miles northwest of Gabes and 40 miles from the coastal road and railway, in which 21 Italians were captured.

There was no further word concerning the situation northeast of Medjep-El-Bah, where footholds gained by the Allies upon a ridge six miles from the town in fighting Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were disclosed in an Allied communique yesterday to have been relinquished.

(The Associated Press erroneously identified the forces in this withdrawal as American. The Allied communique, issued first in Washington and then from Allied headquarters in North Africa, said they were "our units." Earlier dispatches concerning the attack and holding operations said they were executed by a famous British guard regiment.)

French troops in central Tunisia and American forces to the south were reported advancing slowly in a three-way drive upon the coastal road. Mud generally bogged the main Allied forces near Tunis.

The French forces supported by Allied tanks and planes, were reported to have cut an important road south of Pont-Du-Fahs, 30 miles south of Tunis, yesterday, and to have beaten off a violent German counterattack except in one sector where the Nazis were said to have advanced slightly at the cost of heavy losses.

French headquarters in North Africa said another force of their troops, further south between Pichon and Kairouan, had improved its position. This force is driving toward the coast at Axis-held Sousse.

British patrols operating against Marshal Rommel's troops west of Wadi Bel El Chebir, a Libyan gulch itself 180 miles east of Tripoli, destroyed some enemy vehicles yesterday, a Cairo communique said.

Naval torpedo aircraft were declared to have sunk a southbound Axis merchant vessel off Pantellaria island while bombers successfully attacked dock areas of Tunis and Bizerte the same night.

## Boys and Girls Learn Welding at NYA Free

Farmville and Pitt county boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 25 years who wish to have an important part in the nation's war effort as war workers are now offered an opportunity to secure such training without cost in the National Youth Administration's resident centers throughout North Carolina, according to an announcement by Thomas H. Broughton, NYA project manager.

Young men and women interested in enrolling in these courses of training are urged to make application at once to the Personnel Officer, N. Y., Greenville.

As a result of training received in defense shops of the NYA in North Carolina, more than 3,000 boys and girls have been placed in defense jobs in the Norfolk navy yard, North Carolina Shipbuilding Co., Glenn L. Martin, Consolidated Aircraft and many other firms holding war contracts.

While undergoing training, youths are paid \$10.80 per month plus board, lodging, work clothing and medical expenses. NYA projects are now in operation at Scotland Neck, Greenville, Kinston, Washington and other towns.

### MILK

Prices paid by dealers to producers of milk for fluid consumption will be at the highest level reported for any month during 21 years of record in December.

Shortage of farm migrant labor and the lack of transportation facilities for non-essentials have combined to reduce the supply of Christmas trees this year to a mere trickle.



DR. GEORGE W. TRUETT

## Will Inaugurate Third Annual Baptist Hour Series Radio Sermons

Dr. George W. Truett, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, and past president of the Southern Baptist Convention and of the Baptist World Alliance, will inaugurate the third annual Baptist Hour series of radio sermons at 7:30 CWT (8:30 LWT) Sunday morning, January 3, over Station WPTF. He will speak on "Christ's Answer to World Needs."

The Baptist Hour for 1943, according to S. F. Lowe, chairman of the Radio Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, will consist of thirteen sermons by outstanding Southern Baptist pastors and leaders. These will be delivered from January 3 through March 25 over an independent network of 85 stations in 16 southern states, on the general theme, "American Christians amid World Crisis." Station WPTF will carry the entire series.

The series has become a popular religious radio feature according to Dr. Lowe, who reports that the 1942 broadcasts from January through March elicited more than 50,000 letters.

In addition to Dr. Truett, January speakers include: January 10, Dr. R. C. Campbell, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Columbia, S. C.; January 17, Dr. L. D. Head, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; January 24, Dr. O. T. Binkley, Professor of Religion, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, N. C.; January 31, Dr. Francis P. Gaines, president of Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va.

The speakers for February will be: February 7, Dr. J. Clyde Turner, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greensboro, N. C.; February 14, Dr. Turner; February 21, Dr. Turner; February 28, Honorable Pat M. Neff, president of Southern Baptist Convention.

The speakers for March will be: March 7, Dr. R. G. Lee, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.; March 14, Dr. Lee; March 21, Dr. Lee; March 28, Dr. Ellis A. Fulmer, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

## Study Government Market Plan

## Form of Cooperative Would Eliminate Middlemen

Washington, Dec. 30.—Visualizing the establishment of a federally-financed marketing system through which consumers would pay less for their food and farmers would receive more, Chairman Fulmer (D-SC) of the House Agriculture Committee said today the committee would undertake a study of the proposal shortly after Congress convenes next week.

The investigation, Fulmer said, would be to determine how much of the nation's food bill goes to "middlemen" but out of it probably would come recommendations for overhauling the entire marketing set-up.

Horace H. Harr, secretary of the National League of Wholesale Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Distributors, denied that there was "any undue spread" between the price producers received and consumers paid for food.

This spread, Harr said, "is as astonishingly low, ranging from 2 to 3 per cent."

Harr declared that distribution of food was "a function that somebody has to carry on and the cost of service would still exist, regardless of who handled it."

"Whether the government or the thousands of individuals competing with each other could do it more economically is a matter of opinion," he commented.

Harr said studies made by the Federal Trade Commission "do not bear out the wide sweeping charges made by Mr. Fulmer."

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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A New Year always brings with it the promise of many hopes fulfilled, wishes granted, and all manner of good fortune. A New Year is beginning now and surely everyone joins The Enterprise in the hope that every aim of our National Defense will be realized, and that peace will be reborn.

## J. Tom Taylor Funeral Saturday

## Died at His Home Here Following Illness of Several Years

Funeral services for J. Tom Taylor, age 70 years, were conducted at 8:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, December 26, 1942, from the home at 207 East Home Avenue with the Reverend C. B. Mashburn officiating.

Mr. Taylor died Friday night after an illness of several years. He was a native of Greene County and had made his home in Farmville for the past 18 years, having been engaged in the livestock business until his health forced him to retire. Mr. Taylor was a member of the First Christian Church of Farmville, North Carolina.

Surviving are his wife, the former Bessie Lewis, of Wayne County, and two daughters, Miss Sue Taylor of the home, and Miss Alice Taylor, of New Bern, N. C.; one brother, D. W. Taylor, and several nephews and nieces.

Active pallbearers were as follows: Edward Speight, Edenton, N. C., Herbert Biggs, Goldsboro, N. C., D. G. Allen, Farmville, N. C., Alfred Smith, Grifton, N. C., George W. Windham, Farmville, N. C., and William E. Rasberry, Farmville, N. C.

Honorary pallbearers were as follows: George W. Davis, Cecil Lilly, R. T. Norville, J. I. Baker, M. M. Dail, T. W. Lang, E. C. Beaman, J. W. Holmes, W. A. McAdams, G. W. Windham, B. S. Smith, R. L. Smith, C. L. Ivey, A. F. Joyner, R. D. Rouse, F. A. Darden, A. J. Flanagan, J. W. Mays, J. O. Pollard, J. W. Burnett, J. E. Taylor, R. O. Lang, J. M. Stansell, J. W. Joyner, Dr. W. M. Willis, R. LeRoy Rollins, W. A. Martin, M. G. Thorne, G. M. Holden, R. A. Joyner, Walter Jones, E. C. Carr, Dr. R. T. Williams, C. F. Baucum, G. R. Smith, John B. Lewis, J. H. Moore, Ed Nash Warren, L. P. Thomas, W. C. Askew, Lloyd Smith, C. L. Barrett, Hugh Barrett, R. G. Barrett, W. A. Barrett, J. W. Bass, R. E. Beeler, A. W. Bobbitt, J. T. Thorne, T. E. Barrow, G. W. Burnett, J. C. Corbett, F. M. Davis, Jr., John D. Dixon, David Harris, J. G. Dupree, Jr., Leon Eason, Milton Eason, R. N. Freeman, J. C. Gibbs, L. W. Godwin, A. J. Greene, Frank Harper, J. H. Harris, E. C. Holmes, W. C. Holston, M. V. Horton, C. H. Joyner, R. H. Knoff, C. L. Beaman, Horace Lewis, Jack Lewis, R. T. Martin, T. R. Mizelle, A. C. Monk, J. Y. Monk, Jr., George Moore, B. E. Moore, R. E. Newton, R. A. Parker, J. H. Taylor, L. T. Pierce, J. B. Roberts, G. A. Rouse, F. G. Smith, Jack Smith, O. G. Spell, B. O. Taylor, L. E. Turnage, Z. M. Whitehurst, J. E. Wilkerson, J. T. Windham, G. Cayton, Bennie T. Wooten, W. C. Wooten, J. R. Gowan, Joe Moore, L. E. Lucas, J. A. Gregory, R. B. Fields, J. E. Pippin, William E. Guiley, and Paul L. Ferretti.

### MRS. MAMIE H. LOVIC

Mrs. Mamie H. Lovic, 61, wife of B. H. Lovic, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thad Lewis at Fountain late Saturday night.

Funeral services were held Monday at 3 p. m. from the home of her mother, Mrs. George W. Tilghman, at Kinston. The Rev. C. B. Mashburn, pastor of the Farmville Christian Church, officiated. Interment was in the Kinston cemetery.

Surviving are her husband, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Tilghman; six sisters, Mrs. Carrie Bowden of Newport News, Va., Mrs. Jack Turner of Kinston, Mrs. Henry Watson of Snow Hill, Mrs. Erick Newman of Dover, Mrs. Jim Arshon of Hampton, Va., Miss Minnie Tilghman of Kinston; one brother, Alvin Tilghman of Dover; one daughter, Mrs. Thad Lewis of Fountain; and one son, A. E. Haddock of Portsmouth, Va.

Harr said studies made by the Federal Trade Commission "do not bear out the wide sweeping charges made by Mr. Fulmer."

## THE HOME FRONT

(For Release Dec. 24.)

As the war progresses, the Allies no longer are caught napping at any point, however obscure it may appear in the grand strategy of the United Nations. It is surprising that American light tanks are reported in action on the jungle-enclosed strip of New Guinea Beach, how much extraordinary must have been the means of getting them there.

On the economic front our government must be equally far-seeing. More than 50 million pounds of seed, for example, have been destined for planting on foreign soil, under Lend-Lease arrangements. Some of these seeds are supplied to areas occupied by our troops, who will raise fresh vegetables when they aren't fighting. Grass seeds are sent to new air fields for surfacing barren strips. But the bulk of the seeds go for foods to feed the peoples of Allied lands in desperate need of them and to replant farmlands lately freed from Axis control. And seeds take up less shipping space than produce in any other form.

Civilians Will Not Benefit.

Although American farms must raise a great deal more crops of many kinds in 1943, civilians must not expect to benefit by the increase. Our armed forces will need much more of all that is raised, and so will our Allies, England, Russia, and the French in North Africa. For not only is food, as it supports fighting men, a direct instrument of warfare, it is an essential bulwark of civilian populations in war time. The hatred felt by the people of occupied Europe for their Nazi oppressors is fed by the pangs of hunger, their hopes of liberation and of ultimately getting food from us strengthen their resistance and definitely aid the Allied cause.

The plight of starving millions abroad and the fearful conditions under which many of our soldiers are fighting in jungle and desert should awaken in all of us at home the willingness to take cheerfully the slight discomforts and minor hardships which necessarily go with a war of this kind, especially the inconveniences connected with rationing and other restrictions of scarce goods.

The combined savings of millions of Americans, in motoring and heating, particularly among those living along the Atlantic Seaboard, helped our army land in North Africa and attack the Axis, but the total quantity of these products needed for a continuing campaign is enormous, and will require the service of a fleet of tankers. For this reason, the Army has sent an urgent plea to civilians to save gasoline and fuel oil in every way possible. At the same time, the Petroleum Administrator has warned that several areas in the East have only enough motor gas for essential needs—supplies in storage have been drained by non-essential driving beyond previous estimates.

### Efforts Made To Conserve Oil

Although fuel oil rations have been increased 10 per cent in 18 Middle Western States, every effort is being made to conserve oil stocks throughout the entire area of 30 rationed States. In order to encourage conservation from fuel oil to coal, new coal stoves have been made available to those who will use the heaters to replace fuel oil equipment, who need to heat an unheated space for essential working or living whose present coal-burning equipment is not usable, or who are eligible for additional fuel oil and will use a coal heater instead.

Because of increased military needs for the "red meats," there'll be further reductions in civilian quotas of beef, pork, lamb, mutton and veal. But these reduced allowances will be partly made up through the release for civilian use of millions of pounds of cured and fresh beef, dried beef, beef sausage material, and various domestic cuts not suitable for military use.

Farm Labor Presents Big Problem. The supply of farm labor will be (Continued on page four)

## Jap Ships Sunk Off Solomons

## Two Vessels Sunk When U. S. Airmen Bomb Cargo Fleet

Washington, Dec. 30.—American aircraft, operating from Henderson field on Guadalcanal, in the Solomons, strafed and bombed a fleet of enemy cargo ships off the island and sank two enemy vessels the Navy Department reported today.

Simultaneously, the Navy, in its communique, reported that army and marine troops had killed more than 150 Japanese with a loss of only four men killed and one wounded.

The attack on the cargo vessels occurred at Wickham anchorage on the southeast coast of Vangunu island in the new Georgia group of the Solomons, approximately 120 miles northwest of Henderson airfield.

The communique reported also that fighting marines in an exchange of artillery and mortar fire, destroyed an enemy mortar and a machine gun position.

The text of the communique No. 283.

"South Pacific: (All dates are east longitude).  
"1 on December 27th:  
"(A) Army and marine corps troops on Guadalcanal killed 114 Japanese in patrol skirmishes with the enemy. U. S. casualties during these encounters were two killed.

"(B) U. S. Marines, in an exchange of artillery and mortar fire, destroyed an enemy mortar, a machine gun position and killed between 30 and 40 Japanese. The Marines later ambushed and killed 11 more of the enemy. Marine casualties were two killed and one wounded.

"2. On December 29, U. S. planes made two attacks on enemy cargo vessels in Wickham anchorage on the southeast coast of Vangunu island in the new Georgia group on the Solomons. Bombing and strafing resulted in the sinking of two of the enemy vessels.

The fleet of Japanese cargo vessels at Wickham anchorage apparently was attempting to bring in supplies to the harassed Jap forces in the Solomons.

The report of the attack came a day after Commander Dwight H. Dexter, 41 year old Coast Guard Officer, just back from the Solomons, told a press conference that the Japanese forces there were weakening.

"Judging from my experience there," he said, "I believe the Japs now have all they can do to combat starvation and disease, much less worry about the little bit of hell the Marines are giving them, too."

## A Call For Red Cross

In our Nation's present program for our Nation's War Time goal, THE RED CROSS OF AMERICA plays a most important role.

So I wish to send a message. As we end this RED CROSS year, To those who have rendered service, All through the County here.

That kind of service everyone Has a right to view with pride. Where sacrifices have been made, To maintain our Chapter's stride.

A great deal has been accomplished, But work has just begun; So we might as well be content, To work 'till work is done.

Now, to those who are less serious, And have found no time to give Assistance where it is needed, That others might better live.

I beg you to arrange your time, Throughout the coming year, That you also may give yourself, A RED CROSS VOLUNTEER.

J. Nat Harrison, Chairman, Pitt County Chapter American Red Cross.

If there appears a shadow a light caused it. Look for the light.

## FALL OF KEY RAIL CENTER SEALS DOOM NAZI FORCES TRAPPED NEAR STALINGRAD

## Allied Gains In New Guinea

## Allied Planes Continue To Blast Jap Positions In Burma

Washington, Dec. 30.—Hard-fighting American troops in New Guinea were officially credited today with the capture of the "bloody triangle," a series of 13 fortified bunkers bitterly defended by the Japanese, while other Allied forces slowly closed a trap around the enemy's narrow beach corridor at Buna.

Front-line dispatches said the Americans drove out the Japanese piecemeal and then inflicted heavy casualties in beating off an enemy counterattack.

The fierceness of the Japanese defense was illustrated when American soldiers mopping up one sector found a single Japanese operating eight machine-guns by means of strings and wires rigged in a series.

"Mopping up of captured positions is in progress," Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced. "Our troops expanded their initial wedge still farther to the west."

Other Far Pacific developments: Burma—RAF Blenheim bombers escorted by fighters blazed anew at the Japanese airdrome at Monywa, on the Chindwin river in northwest Burma, and pounded the enemy air base at Toungoo in central Burma.

British fighter planes also carried out offensive patrols in the Mayu river district, along the Bay of Bengal, where Gen. Sir Archibald F. Wavell's British troops from India have been driving along the coast toward the big Japanese base at Akyab.

No further word was forthcoming on the progress of the British overland thrust, which yesterday was reported to have reached Rathedaung, 25 miles from Akyab.

### McKEEL-CRAFT

At five o'clock P. M. December 26, Miss Virginia McKeel, daughter of Mrs. Trephena McKeel of Walstonburg, N. C., and Mr. Sam R. Craft of Farmville, were married by Rev. C. B. Mashburn at the parsonage. Mrs. Craft was educated at Walsenburg high school and Aaltistic Christian College. Mr. Craft holds a responsible position with Corbett's Garage here.

### EGGS

A Government program to insure a market for farmers in 12 Southern states who have expended egg production to meet wartime requirements will again be available in 1943.

## Break Nears With Finland

## Information Offices In United States and Finland Closed

Washington, Dec. 30.—Finland today complied with a State Department order closing the Finnish information offices in this country, and the American legation in Helsinki ceased its efforts to distribute information in Finland.

State Department officials declined to speculate on the possibility of a break in relations between the two countries. The American minister to Finland, Arthur Schoenfeldt, already has been recalled to Washington "for consultation."

At the State Department, it was explained that the order on the information office arose out of restrictions placed by the Finnish government on the distribution of Office of War Information material in Finland. When the Helsinki government declined to lift these restrictions the State Department ordered the Finnish information center in New York to cease its publicity activities and issued similar instructions to the American legation in Helsinki.

More than a year ago, before the United States entered the war, after Germany's invasion of Soviet Russia with the Finns as allies, Secretary of State Hull warned the Helsinki government that if Finland desired to retain American friendship, she must cease her military operations against Russia.

Chances men pick nature's locks, And he secrets and call it science.

## Russian Offensive Rolls On Following Capture of Kotelnikovski; Red Armies Nearing Milirovo With Rostov As Ultimate Goal; German Losses Described As Heavy

Moscow, Dec. 30.—Russia's steamroller offensive lunged on across the middle Don steppe today and battered at the gates of another big populated place—perhaps Millerovo or Kamensk—after seizing the key German-held rail citadel of Kotelnikovski, 90 miles southwest of Stalingrad.

Already hemmed in on three sides, with Soviet troops only two miles away at the nearest point, Millerovo lies 120 miles north of Rostov, Kamensk is 40 miles south of Millerovo.

London military quarters said the fall of Kotelnikovski, the first big prize of the Russian winter offensive, virtually sealed the doom of 22 German divisions now trapped before Stalingrad.

"The capture is a most significant success which even the Germans will not be able to hide," these quarters said.

"It means the extermination of Col. Gen. Hermann von Hoth's sixth army, because the only chance the Germans had to get relief was along this railway (the Stalingrad-Krasnodar railway) on which Kotelnikovski is situated."

German field headquarters, ignoring the fall of Kotelnikovski, reported tensely that the Russians had suffered heavy casualties—but gave no figures—in continuing attacks on the Stalingrad and Don river fronts.

With Kotelnikovski in Russian hands and Millerovo engulfed, the next major Soviet objective was apparently Rostov. Its capture would cut off the land escape route of perhaps 1,000,000 German troops in southern Russia.

Other Soviet columns striking due west were reported less than 100 miles from the great Ukraine steel city of Kharkov.

Captured after bloody street fighting in which 6,260 Axis troops were killed and 2,770 captured in 24 hours, Kotelnikovski had served as a main base of supplies for the German siege armies before Stalingrad.

The plight of these Nazi forces, originally estimated at more than 300 troops, was emphasized by a Soviet communique reporting that 32 transport planes were destroyed on December 28 in the Stalingrad area as the Germans desperately attempted to supply and reinforce their beleaguered units by air.

Along with the surprisingly swift fall of Kotelnikovski, Red army headquarters declared that frantic efforts to stem the Russian tide on the middle Don topped by throwing in masses of reserves had been frustrated.

Red army headquarters announced still further successes in the Stalingrad vicinity, where Russian shock troops sweeping out of their foxholes and ruined buildings in the northside factory district were reported to have captured 83 German blockhouses and dugouts and killed 200 Nazis.

"Northwest of Stalingrad, our troops captured a height of great tactical importance and wiped out about 400 Hitlerites," the Russian command said.

### INTERESTING NEWS SHEET

Mrs. J. W. Hardy last week received a most interesting "Whoops" news sheet from her son, Mack Hardy, now located somewhere in Africa. Mack said he had always wanted to spend one year without any cold winter, and that wish had finally come around. He says he's "sweating it out" without even wearing a shirt.

He says the boys are getting plenty of good food, and that he is getting along fine. In his letter, he wished all his friends have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### TUSHONKA

The Food Distribution Administration has just bought three million pounds of cysvina tushonka, a highly spiced pork product, for Russian soldiers.

### MEAT

Prospects are that the proportion of federally inspected meat will rise well above 75 percent as compared with approximately 65 percent as a part of the war program.

Why argue with yourself, you know you can't be convinced.