MAKE EVERY PAY DAY WAR BOND DAY
STOP SPENDING—SAVE DOLLARS

The Farmville Enterprise

OVER THE TOP FOR VICTORY WITH UNITED STATES WAR BONDS-STAMPS

VOLUME THIRTY-THREE | FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1943 | NUMBER FIFTY

Farmville Citizens Go Over The Top For Red Cross War Fund Campaign

Complete Reports Give Final Total of $3,195 Donated Here

It is with a great deal of pride that we announce the result of the Red Cross War Fund Campaign, conducted in Farmville and the surrounding community during the past three weeks. The quota assigned was $1,350.00. The amount contributed was $3,195.00. The campaign was planned upon military lines, with Major-General Geo. W. Davis, Colonel Jno. W. Holmes, seven Captains and thirty-seven Lieutenants, as announced in the March 19th Enterprise.

The Executive Board of the Farmville Branch of the Pitt County Chapter, wishes to thank every person who, in any way, assisted with the campaign. Especial attention should be called to the effort made by the Paramount Theatre Management and the news articles published by The Enterprise.

Farmville citizens will be happy to learn that the 1943 contributions to the War Fund topped the 1942 gift by $1,485.00.

Should the name of someone have been omitted from the following list of donors, this error should immediately be called to our attention so that a correction may be made. The list of contributors is as follows:

Red Cross Contributors and Amounts

A. C. Monk,) A. C. Monk, Jr.) Robert Monk,)	$350.00
W. A. Allen	35.00
Mrs. W. A. Allen	50.00
F. M. Davis, Sr.	50.00
Mrs. F. M. Davis, Sr.	50.00
Miss Elizabeth Davis	50.00
Geo. W. Davis	50.00
Jno. W. Holmes	100.00
R. L Rollins	15.00
Belk-Tyler	25.00
W. A. Pollard & Sons	75.00
Jno. T. Thorne	100.00
Bank of Farmville	25.00
J. H. Harris	60.00
Turnage Company	75.00
T C. Turnage	25.00
J. B. Lewis	35.00
F. M. Davis, Jr.	50.00
Dr. R. T. Williams	25.00
T. E. Joyner	35.00
Dr. P. E Jones	25.00
R. C. Lang	25.00
W. J. Rasberry	25.00
T. M. Dail	25.00
Dr. J. M. Mewborn	15.00
Ben Lang	35.00
B. S. Smith	20.00
J. I. Morgan & Son	100.00
Monk's Warehouse	25.00
J. W. Bass	40.00
H. N. Howard	35.00
E. H. Knott	25.00
Rose's Store	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Holmes	15.00
Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Rouse	15.00
R. S. Scott	15.00
J. Y. Monk, Jr.	15.00
Mark Dixon	20.00
Dr. and Mrs. T. S. Williams	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Lewis	20.00

Those giving $10.00:

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Joyner, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Joyner, Mr. and Mrs. James Lang, Mrs. J. W. Parker, F. A. Williams, F. G. Dupree, J. G. Owens, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Dildy, Mrs. Nannie Y. and Miss Nancy Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Rouse, Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Fwell, Commercial Insurance Co., Mrs. A. C. Monk, Jr., Mrs. J. H. Hobgood, Fred C. Moore.

Those giving $7.50:

Mr and Mrs. L. E. Walston, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jones.

Those giving $5.00:

Mr. and Mrs. Wavo Holston, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Mizelle, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Burke, Miss Tabitha Devisconti, Mr. and Mrs. N. Cannon, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Melton, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Joyner, Mrs. S. T. Lewis and Mrs. Smith, W. Glenwood Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Noah Allen, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Lloyd, W. C. Tucker, J. G. Hobgood, J. B. Joyner, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Moore, Dr. C. E. Fitzgerald, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Moye, Harvey Winstead, Billy Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Friedman, J. B. Briley, M. L. Eason, G. A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Royster, Miss Russell Ward, Rev. and Mrs. M. Y. Self, Jake Joyner, O. G. Spell, L. T. Pierce, B. & W. Chevrolet Co., J. W. Hardy, Luther Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Turnage, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Duke, Mrs. J. A. Mewborn, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Godwin, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Smith, Mrs. Ruth K. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Lang, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Hotchkiss, Smith-Douglass Fertilizer Co., Mrs. Cherry Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. McAdams, Rev. C. E. Moore, R. W. Pickens, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Willis, J. H. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lipman, Mrs. Bettie Belcher, Mrs. A. C. Monk, Sr., Miss Edna Hardison, Mrs. P. E. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Raney

(Continued on Back Page, Two)

IN UNIFORM

Commissioned

Lieut. Aaron H. Cobb has successfully completed the course of instruction for Officer Candidate at the Eastern Signal Corps School, Fort Mammouth, N. J., and received his commission as Second Lieutenant on April 7, 1943. He is now assigned for duty with the Signal Corps. Lt. Cobb is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cobb, Farmville, R-1.

Marvin Glenwood Hinson of Farmville, R-1, has been commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army of the United States at the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and is now assigned to duty there.

Complete Basic Training

Auxiliary Ella Middleton has finished her basic training at Dayton Beach, Fla., and is now stationed at Norfolk, Va., with the Antiaircraft Artillery Cammand for six weeks training. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Hobgood of this City.

Promoted

David P. Bundy has recently been promoted to Corporal at Camp Haan, California.

New Address.

Cpl. Joseph D. Joyner's new address is U. S. M. C., Company E. 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif.

Cpl. Joyner has been on Foreign duty since August, 1942.

New Address.

Cpl. Willis E. Hardy's new address is 34319905, Barracks, 2, Group 4 A., Camp Corsair, c/o Consolidated Vultee Aircraf Corp., San Diego, Calif.

Promoted

Mack Hardy who is in Foreign service has recently been promoted to Sergeant.

Paratroopers are not supposed to wear zoot suits.

U. S. Bombs Japs At Kiska, Munda

Japs Stage Heavy Raid At Milne Bay

Washington, April 14.—Six more bombiing raids on Jap-held Kiska in the Aleutians and two more on Munda in the central Solomons were reported by the Navy today as General Douglas MacArthur and Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox engaged in a long-distance dispute over the amount of air power needed in the Southwest Pacific.

It appeared that President Roosevelt may have to decide how many planes should be dispatched to that front where the Japs admittedly have built up their air strength.

The dispute between MacArthur, Supreme Allied commander in the Southwest Pacific, and Knox and other Washington officials, first came to light three weeks ago when MacArthur's two top aides arrived here to appeal for more planes.

Australia Urges Help.

This week Australian foreign Minister Dr. Herbert Evatt added his voice to their pleas. He said after a White House conference that Australia needs more help quickly; that it would be suicidal to permit the Japs to consolidate and exploit their conquests.

Knox, at a press conference Tuesday, acknowledged there is increased Jap air activity along the wide arc north of Australia, but questioned suggestions from Australia that this might presage an enemy invasion attempt. He said such an attempt would require a big fleet concentration and that thus far there were no indications the Japanese have massed an armada.

From his Australian headquarters, MacArthur countered that "as a matter of fact Japanese naval forces in great strength . . . are within striking distance of Australia." He said the enemy controls the western Pacific sea lane and warned that the Allies must maintain control of the air, that planes, not naval forces, were Australia's first line of defense.

"If we lose this air, naval forces cannot save us," he said adding that if the Japs seize control of the air their naval units can at once bring forward convoys of ground forces "to conquer and hold."

As for the actual battle news, the Navy reported that U. S. Army medium bombers, supported by Army and Navy fighters, carried out the six raids against Kiska Monday. They scored hits on the runway, gun emplacements and the main camp area. Kiska now has been raided 20 times this month; 63 times since March 1.

In the Solomons, Army heavy bombers and Navy torpedo bombers twice blasted the Jap air base at Munda, hammering the runway and hitting an ammunition dump and the camp area.

WAAC AUXILIARY HERE

Auxiliary Claire C. Johane, a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps was in Farmville, Tuesday, April 13th, interviewing applicants for the Corps. To be eligible a woman must be 21 to 44 inclusive, in excellent physical condition and have no dependents under the age of 14 unless a court order, turning over the custody of the child to someone else, is presented.

Any young woman interested in the Corps may secure additional information and application blanks by writing the WAAC Enrollment Station, Fort Bragg, N. C.

Budget Slashed For Agriculture

Committee Abolishes FSA and Crop Insurance In Wielding Economy Axe

Washington, April, 13.—The House appropriations committee today approved a $707,040,844 Agriculture Department appropriation after swinging the economy axe to trim $240,098,647 from budget requests, abolish the Farm Security Administration and the federal crop insurance program, and refuse authorization for full parity prices in 1943 and 1944.

The approved bill also prohibits government loans to farmers where credit is available from private lending agencies.

Biggest slice from the department's budget was $200,000,000 for "conservation and use of agricultural land resources." The request was for $500,000,000, including $100,000,000 in supplementary estimates for incentive payments to farmers for production of certain war crops.

The committee not only disapproved the $100,000,000 for incentive payments, but lopped off another $100,000,000 from the regular $400,000,000 AAA program.

Its approved total of $707,040,844 compared with budget estimates of $947,134,491, but was $20,989,259 higher than the $686,101,585 appropriated for fiscal 1943.

Parity Payments.

The department had sought authority to make full parity payments for the crop years 1943 and 1944. In rejecting this request, the committee said it believed "observance of the existing price control legislation . . . will afford producers, either from loans or from the market, the full parity price."

As justification for abolition of the Farm Security Administration, the committee charged that the agency had lent excessive amounts to individual borrowers, retained careless and inefficient employes and experimented in "collective farming, which seemed to resemble the collectivist practices followed in Russia."

It proposed to transfer FSA's remaining major functions to the Farm Credit Administration "in the interest of better credit integration, economy and efficiency."

The committee by inference accused FSA of failing to carry out the intent of Congress in liquidating its resettlement projects. It appropriated $421,089 to FCA to finish the FSA job, saying "It is presumed the intent of Congress respecting the liquidation of these projects will be more effectively and more expeditiously carried out" by FCA.

In wiping out the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, the committee said its study showed that losses in the wheat and cotton programs aggregate more than $52,000,000. It added that it is "convinced that further operations will eventuate even greater losses . . ."

The prohibition against federal loans stipulates that they will be barred unless funds have been sought from and refused by private lending agencies in the region involved. The committee said revival of the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation by the FCA had "provoked widespread protest on the part of private lending agencies," and that it believed no justification existed for such revival.

Testimony on the bill, made public today, disclosed that Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard attributes the farm labor shortage largely to the alleged complacency of Army officials. He testified that he repeatedly had warned them that draft policies followed up until March, 1943, were having serious effect on the labor situation.

"A lot of people were critical of that statement at the time," he said. "They since have learned that I was right."

Services for Mrs. Moye Held From Christian Church

Beloved Young Woman Passes Suddenly Tuesday

Final rites for Mrs. Louise Moye, 45, wife of Joel W. Moye, were conducted Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock from the Farmville Christian Church by the pastor, Rev. C. B. Mashburn. The Church was filled to overflowing with friends, who were saddened by the unexpected death of Mrs. Moye, which occurred early Tuesday morning as the result of a heart attack. She was recovering from a recent attack of phlebitis. Interment was made in Forest Hill cemetery beneath a lovely floral tribute.

Mrs. Moye, a descendant of prominent pioneer families of the community, was the daughter of Mrs. Estelle Hardy Moye and the late Moses L. Moye. She had been an active and loyal member of the Farmville Christian Church since early girlhood, joining at the tender age of 12 years. She served as president of the Woman's Council for many years and in various other capacities in the Church and Sunday School during her life, which was spent in this community.

She was chairman of National Defense in the Major Benjamin May Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was secretary-treasurer of the Tyson-May Reunion, and a former officer in the Merry Matrons. Tribute was expressed also by her pastor in the final rites as a devoted daughter, wife and mother.

Mrs. Moye is survived by her husband and three sons, Abram J., of the United States Coast Guard, William H., and Joel W. Moye, Jr., both of in the service of the U. S. Army; her mother and six brothers, L. A., of Maury; Milton J., of Tarboro; George C., of Forest Hills, N. Y.; Clarence H., of the U. S. Army; Howard D., and W. Jesse Moye, of Farmville.

Active pall bearers were: L. A. Moye, H. D. Moye, Geo. C. Moye, Cliff P. Moye, W. Jesse Moye, J. C. Manning.

Honorary pall bearers were: J. O. Pollard, W. C. Tucker, J. B. Joyner, L. E. Turnage, B. S. Smith, D. L. Turnage, M. G. Thorne, Arch Flanagan, J. H. Paylor, Dr. C. S. Eagles, T. W. Lang, J. I. Jones, J. W. Ellis, C. A. Tyson, L. T. Lucas, J. Y. Monk, Jr., James Lang, Dr. P. E. Jones, Dr. J. M. Mewborn, J. H. Moore, A. B. Moore, J. R. Gowin, L. R. Jones, Cliff L. Jones, Hardy Albritton, Jesse T. Hardy, C. L. Hardy, L. L. Hardy, Dr. W. M. Willis, J. T. Thorne, T. C. Turnage, Jake Joyner, L. D. Murphy, B. O. Turnage, L. L. Murphy, Sam Flanagan, E. C. Beaman, L. P. Thomas, J. M. Wheless, Hal Winders, L. E. Walson, F. M. Davis, Jr., J. I. Morgan, Sr., Geo. W. Davis, R. D. Rouse, W. A. McAdams, T. H. Nichols, J. G. Hobgood, Lenwood Hobgood.

Greenville Host To Firemen Meet

New Fire Drill Tower Dedicated at Greenville at Eastern Carolina Session

Greenville, April 16.—Mayor Bruce Sugg, Sherwood Brockwell of Raleigh, State Fire Marshal, Charles Berkety of Salisbury, president of the North Carolina Firemen's Association, John G. Clark of Greenville, district State highway commissioner Geo. W. Gardner, chief of the Greenville fire department, and R. A. Joyner of Farmville, participated in the exercises dedicating the new Minges Fire Drill Tower here this afternoon during the convention of the Eastern Carolina Firemen's Association.

The tower was named in honor of M. O. Minges, prominent local business man, who donated $5,000 for building it. The city owned the lot. The WPA provided some of the labor and material.

The city was host to the firemen at a barbecue supper preceding the dedication. Mayor Sugg welcomed the visitors.

President George W. Gardner of Greenville presided at the business session of the firemen's association at the city hall. Mayor Jerome Flora of Elizabeth City, President Beckett, Secretary Jim L. Willis and Treasurer Ed Johnson of the State association; Frank W. Bennett, Chief of the Durham Fire departments, and the Rev. George W. Perry of Greenville had parts on the program.

Democratic government isn't expensive. It's the upkeep of the politicians.

Final Rites Held For Mrs. Wm. C. Askew

Highly Esteemed Farmville Woman Succumbs After Illness of Several Months

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Mrs. Bettie Belcher Askew, 66, a prominent and highly esteemed Farmville woman, and wife of William C. Askew, from the home of a daughter, Mrs. J. W. Joyner, by Rev. J. R. Rountree, rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

A mixed quartet, composed of Miss Nellie Butler, Mrs. A. W. Bobbitt, Charles F. Baucom and Elbert C. Holmes, sang at the home, "My Faith Looks Up To Thee" and "O Lamb of God Still Keep Me," and the graveside service was concluded with the reading of "Crossing The Bar" by the rector.

Interment was made in Hollywood cemetery beneath a large and handsome floral tribute.

Mrs. Askew, who was descended from prominent and pioneer families of Eastern Carolina, was the daughter of the late William and Martha Joyner Belcher and the last member of her immediate family.

She was a loyal and active churchwoman, having served as president of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Episcopal Church and as United Thank Offering Custodian of that organization for many years.

A woman of strong faith, firm convictions and fine intellect, Mrs. Askew was a prominent leader in the social life of Farmville and a pioneer clubwoman of this section. She was a charter member of the Farmville Literary Club, the Rebecca Winbourne Chapter, U. D. C., and a member of the Col. Alexander McAllister Chapter, D. A. R. She was also a devoted daughter, wife and mother.

In ill health for the past two years, her Christian fortitude and cheerful outlook were an inspiration to her family and friends. Her death occurred early Friday morning in a Wilson hospital as the result of coronary thrombosis.

Surviving are her husband; two daughters, Mrs. J. W. Joyner of Farmville; Mrs. Bert McCullum of Eminence, Ky.; three sons, William Horne of the United States Army, Cyril B. of Farmville, and Harold Sugg Askew, of Wilson.

Active pall bearers were: Garland Holden, Lath Morriss, Edison Moore, John King, Jack Horton, John D. Dixon, Hubert Joyner, M. V. Horton.

Honorary pall bearers were: E. C. Beaman, Dr. D. S. Morrill, R. T. Martin, Tommie Ryon, C. S. Hotchkiss, J. C. Gibbs, R. S. Scott, W. S. Royster, Dr. R. T. Williams, M. E. Dixon, G. A. Rouse, John Bynum, Joe Rasberry, R. E. Belcher, James Monk, James Lang, Alex Allen, F. M. Davis, Sr., F. M. Davis, Jr., A. C. Monk, Sr., B. O. Turnage, T. C. Turnage, E. H. Knott, R. A. Parker, Herman Rouse, T. T. Moore, A. C. Monk, Jr., George Monk, C. E. Modlin, G. S. Williams, George Beckman, John Tyson, Fred Moore, Lynn Eason, George Moore, W. A. McAdams, El Ramey, J. I. Baker, Robert Rouse, John Stansill, Carl Tyson, Ed Nash Warren, J. M. Wheless, Zeb Whitehurst, D. R. Morgan, W. R. Willis, Dr. W. M. Willis, Charles Harper, Ed Harper, Frank Harper, Josiah Exum, Haywood Dail, Knott Proctor, J. H. Paylor, W. C. Murray, S. M. Pollard, Dr. Bell, Elbert Holmes, Dr. J. M. Mewborn, Dr. P. E. Jones, Ted Albritton, J. W. Bass, J. H. Harris, R. O. Lang, B. S. Smith, E. C. Carr, T. E. Joyner, R. A. Parker, J. B. Joyner, F. A. Williams, W. E. Joyner, Mack Carraway, T. M. Dail, Milton Eason, Gordan Fields, L. W. Godwin, J. W. Holmes, W. C. Holston, M. V. Jones, Arthur Joyner, Ben Lang, John B. Lewis, S. T. Lewis, Jr., W. A. Pollard, J. O. Pollard, L. T. Pierce, A. Q. Roebuck, F. W. Satterthwaite, B. S. Sheppard, Haywood Smith, Robt. Lee Smith, Jim Edwards, Leroy Parker, A. B. Moore, Red Newton, Lewis Cresch, Thomas Harvey, John Harvey.

SEEKS ADDRESSES OF OVERSEAS SERVICE MEN

The American Legion desires to obtain the names and addresses of all the boys from this community now serving overseas in the Navy, Army, Marines or Coast Guard.

We plan to send each of these boys a cartoon of cigarettes at certain intervals, so if you know of a boy now serving overseas in any of these services please drop by the office of C. A. Tyson at your earliest convenience and give in this information.

C. A. Tyson,
W. M. Willis,
J. H. Bynum,
Committee.

CANNING

The outlook is for a record-smashing home canning season. Three billion new metal type tops for containers are being made, and it is estimated that two billion old tops need only new jar rings.

ALLIED BOMBERS ISOLATING ENEMY ARMIES IN TUNISIA

IN RUSSIA

London, April 15.—German troops drove forward over the bodies of their dead in another attempt to crack Russian positions near the Donets River below Kharkov yesterday, but were driven back by a Red Army bayonet charge, Moscow announced early today.

A new German attack on the Volkhov front southeast of Leningrad also was repulsed, said the midnight communique recorded by the Soviet monitor, and Soviet forces made a small advance in the western Caucasus above Novorossisk.

Altogether a total of approximately 1,000 Germans were killed during the day, the midnight bulletin and yesterday's noon communique disclosed. But there were no essential changes in the long front, it was said.

Moscow dispatches said it was believed that Soviet fliers were now employing an increasing number of American-built planes.

The latest German effort to breach the Donets line was made south of Izyum, 70 miles southeast of Kharkov.

"The Red Army men," said the communique, "let the enemy approach within a close distance and then opened fire. The Hitlerites continued to drive forward over the bodies of their men. The Red Army men mowed the Germans with hand grenades, and in a bayonet charge hurled them back to their initial position."

JOINT SUPPER MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 11

Plans are being made for the joint meeting of the Farmville Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association with the Rotary Club which will be held May 11th. At this time officers and board of directors for the Chamber of Commerce will be elected.

A good politician is one who can waste the taxpayers money and make them like it.

Hungarians Balk At Axis Request For More Troops

Refuse To Help Defend Southern Balkins; Hitler And Antonescu Confer

Stockholm, April 14. — Hungary has refused Axis requests for troops to help defend the Balkans and at the same time is withdrawing soldiers from Russia, usually reliable sources said today.

According to these quarters, Mussolini asked Premier Nicholas Kallay of Hungary for troops during the latter's recent Rome visit, but Kallay was reported to have clung to the official line announced weeks ago that no Hungarian forces would be sent across the southern borders.

These same sources said Hungary's Second Army is being withdrawn from Russia as well as the remnants of the First Army, an estimated 40,000 men.

First Army Shattered

The First Army, stationed on the Russian front line, was reported shattered during the Soviet winter offensive. The Second Army was held in reserve and served as occupation troops. The two armies are estimated to total 200,000 men.

The Hungarians have been obdurate in their recent dealings with the Germans, the sources said.

They first refused to send additional troops to the eastern front. Then they refused to send additional workmen to Germany. Instead, a withdrawal from the eastern front began, 30,000 laborers were recalled from Germany, and German pressure on Hungary to introduce total mobilization was countered with a declaration the step would be taken only when it is in the interest of Hungary itself.

It was at this stage that Mussolini invited Kallay to Rome, it was said, obviously at the request of Adolf Hitler, who possibly thought the Italian dictator could get farther with the Hungarians because of friendly relations in the past.

In view of her refusal to send troops into the Balkans, these sources said, Hungary's position in the event of an Allied invasion of southeastern Europe remains muddled and difficult.

HITLER WORKING HASTILY TO CLOSE BALKAN DOOR

Lodon, April 14.—Adolf Hitler has held a two-day conference with Marshal Ion Antonescu of Rumania, it was disclosed tonight, as the last step in hasty Axis diplomatic efforts of the last two weeks to keep the Balkan backdoor to Europe locked against the mounting measures of an Allied offensive.

The official Nazi version of the meeting Monday and Tuesday, as broadcast by the German radio, was of another tri-partite lovefeast combined with a pep talk against Bolshevism. But this was regarded by observers here as obviously falsehood of another tri-partite lovefeast combined with a pep talk against Bolshevism. But this was regarded by observers here as obviously falsehood of the recent call-up of Balkan chieftains to Berlin.

Raiders Led by Flying Fortesses Knock Out 84 Axis Transport Planes on Airfields In Sicily, While Losing Only 3; British First And Eighth Armies Probing Outer Defenses of Tunis

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, April 14.—The Allied high command announced today a stunning 84-to-3 aerial victory which shredded Marshal Rommel's sky cover and further menaced his thin supply line on the eve of the climatic fight for survival by his cornered Tunisian troops.

American Flying Fortresses led a tremendous assault on Rommel's rear bases in Sicily, destroying 77 planes. Seven more were shot down in other operations during yesterday.

Axis Supply Endangered.

Heavy German reliance on aerial transports idicated the gravity of Rommel's supply problem as Allied ground troops closed on the enemy's last mountain bastions.

The British Eighth Army already was probing the Enfidaville defenses 50 miles south of Tunis, the British First Army was moving in from the west much nearer than that to the Tunisian capital, and French and American troops were deploying in the southwest for coordinated blows that are expested to push the forces of Rommel and Col.-Gen. Jurgen Von Arnim into the Mediterranean.

A French communique said the mountains west and northwest of Kairouan had been cleared out with 1,100 prisoners taken, 500 Axis dead counted, and 18 cannon captured. A junction also was reported made with the Eighth Army north of Kairouan.

Lieut.-Gen. K. A. N. Anderson's First Army made further advances in its effort to clean out the mountains between Medjez-El-Bab and Mateur preliminary to a direct strike toward Tunis, which is only 35 air line miles from Medjez-El-Bab.

(Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, Berlin radio commentator, in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press said General Anderson was employing Highlanders and Canadians "in fierce fighting for the mountains north of the Oued Zarga-Medjez-El-Bab road. Strong French forces were moving up in the Bou Arada sector below Medjez-El-Bab, he said, and "the bulk" of the British Eighth Army tanks and motorized formations have moved up to the Axis-held mountain rim west of Enfidaville.)

"Air operations," said the Allied communique laconically, "were directed largely against enemy airfields"—and it was left to a spokesman to tell the story of the greatest series of blows yet delivered from the sky in the North African theater.

Transports Blasted.

Flying Fortresses led a tremendous assault yesterday. Thundering over the Castelverano and Milo airfields in Sicily they caught 112 big enemy air transports on the ground at the first and 106 Axis planes grounded at the second. In sharp actions, 51 enemy transports were destroyed at Castelvetrano and many others badly damaged; at Milo at least 22 enemy planes were smashed and fires from a blazing gasoline dump were set leaping among others.

The day was rounded off by the destruction of 11 more Axis planes for certain, four of them going down in flames under the gunfire of the Fortresses coming back from Sicily.

These attacks (which in all likelihood accounted for a total considerably greater than the minimum and conservative figure of 84 enemy planes) were synchronized with assaults upon the surviving Axis airdromes in Tunisia itself—Megrine at Fochville on the outskirts of Tunis and Oudna, south of Tunis.

(The British air force based on Malta also was in the thick of what appeared to be an unprecedented effort to bomb the Axis clear out of the Mediterranean Sea, a communique announcing successful fighter-bomber attacks on enemy airdromes on Pantelleria Island between Sicily and Tunisia and sweeps over Sicily itself.

(One of three Axis naval vessels attacked in these Malta-based sweeps was destroyed.)