



AMERICANS HURL BACK TWO NAZI ATTACKS BELOW ROME

Germans Shell Beach-head Positions With Long Range Artillery While Regrouping Forces For Fresh Assaults; Snowfall Hinders Action On The Casino Front

Allied Headquarters, Naples, Feb. 23. — American troops threw back two localized German attacks west of Cisterna yesterday, Allied headquarters announced today, as Field Marshal Albert Kesselring brought his long-range artillery into play and apparently regrouped his forces for another attempt at driving the Allies off the Anzio beachhead.

(The German-controlled Rome radio said today that "the German high command has deemed it advisable to halt operations south of Rome for the time being," the listening post of Reuters news agency in London reported.)

Nazi artillery lobbed shells at the nerve center of Anzio and other beachhead objectives, and 130 German planes hit at ground troops, but the Allies countered with 1,600 aerial sorties, and gunfire against enemy troops and vehicle movements.

A lull continued in the fighting on the Casino sector to the east. The Germans tried to infiltrate around Fifth army outposts on two peaks northwest of the town, but withdrew under cover of a smoke screen when Allied artillery opened fire.

Otherwise headquarters reported only normal patrolling from both fronts, with more snowfalls hampering movements in the mountains.

British guns shelled enemy troops and vehicles near the Nazis' main concentration point of Carroceto. Allied group troops could see the Germans busily moving their forces in rear areas, indicating Kesselring was preparing for a renewed assault after repulse of his second major offensive last week-end.

The enemy also maintained steady pressure around the perimeter of the beachhead.

The Germans sorely needed a breathing spell, for they suffered the heaviest casualties of any comparable period of the Italian campaign during their four-day assault from last Wednesday through Saturday.

One American battalion alone counted 500 German dead in front of its position southeast of Carroceto, where some of the bitterest fighting took place.

One division was reported to have scattered in panic when Allied guns opened up with heavy fire.

Before it was brought from the Adriatic front in Italy to support the German beachhead offensive, this division had done only occupational duties in Yugoslavia. It had fought mainly skirmishes with partisans of Marshal Josip Broz (Tito), without undergoing shelling. The Yugoslav guerrillas have little or no artillery.

Allied heavy bombers smashed at Regensburg in Germany in an assault coordinated with a blow from Britain, and also hammered the enemy airfield at Zagreb and harbors at Zara and Sibenik. Medium bombers pounded railway communications at three points. Fifty German planes were downed, while the Allies lost 15.

On the eighth army front, Canadians on the coast bent off an attack by 30 Germans late Sunday, and Allied artillery on a sector held by Indian forces destroyed houses near Arielli which the Germans were using as machine-gun and artillery observation posts. A German raid on Eighth army lines northwest of Casoli was broken up.

WAR IN BRIEF

American carrier-borne planes slash at heart of Japan's Mariana Islands, within 1,200 miles of Tokyo, while other bombers pound at important bases in the Carolines. Occupation of New York completed with 5,000 troops virtually unopposed.

High-flying German raid London for fourth straight night. Liberators cross Alps from Italy to reach vital Nazi targets at Steyr, Austria. Russians deny dropping bombs on Bucharest.

British drive into Taro, rail junction west of Pavia, Germany advanced to northern Italy. Heavy fighting in progress near Geneva.

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WPB Chief Says We Must Produce More War Tools in 1944



The tools our fighting men used to smash the enemy into surrender must flow from 1944 assembly lines at an even faster pace than before, Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, told radio listeners during a recent guest appearance on "Washington Reports on Rationing," public service radio program presented by the Council on Canteen as Food in the War Effort, an organization sponsored by the National Confectioners' Association. The WPB chief said industry will not get the green light to resume large-scale manufacture of consumer goods "until the war is much more nearly won than it is today," but that tests are being made in certain areas to see whether small manufacturing concerns without war contracts should be encouraged to use idle materials in producing simple household items that are in heavy demand.

GENERAL METTS MAKES PROTEST FARMER DRAFT

Gen. J. Van B. Motte, State Director of Selective Service, said Wednesday he would officially protest in Washington any drafting of farm workers who may not be able to qualify for deferment under a 16-unit requirement recently inaugurated by National Selective Service Headquarters.

At the same time Motte said he had ordered North Carolina draft boards to delay the drafting of farmers under the new regulations until he can make his official protest.

Metts said that when the new requirements were announced by General Lewis B. Hersey, Selective Service Director, the State Department of Agriculture "began sampling North Carolina farms in an effort to determine how many would meet Selective Service qualifications for farmer deferment."

Of 229 farms checked in Western North Carolina, only 10 farmers could qualify with 16 units of production, he said. In the Piedmont section, 518 would qualify. A total of 227 farms of 820 sampled in the coastal area would qualify, while but 71 of the 133 checked in the Tidewater area would have enough units.

Metts said that North Carolina's current plan for drafting farmers had been approved by National Headquarters. The plan sets forth the requirements for deferment eligibility.

Eighty to ten units in the western area bounded by a line from Surry to Rutherford County; 10 to 12 units in the Piedmont area bounded by a line from Granville to Scotland; and 12-14 units in the Eastern area.

HITLER ENRAGED

Stockholm, Feb. 23.—Adolf Hitler, in a visit to the north Russian front, ordered a number of high officers shot in his rage at his reverses and Gen. Lindmann, commanding German troops in the Leningrad area, has committed suicide, as the result, usually reliable sources said tonight.

Reports which leaked out of Estonia said that Hitler visited the front late in January, meeting out violent punishment.

From Narva, on the Estonian side of the frontier, Hitler went to Pskov, now closely threatened by the Red Army, and then returned to his headquarters at Demingburg, East Prussia, it was said.

Lindmann killed himself, sources claimed, at an indistinguishable Golden Lake Hotel in Tallinn, Estonia's favorite gathering place for Soviet officers.

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Red Cross Asks \$200,000,000 To Cover Wartime Needs

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Confronted with responsibilities of unprecedented proportions, as the war enters its most crucial stage and with a staggering task ahead in the postwar period, the American Red Cross opens the 1944 War Fund appeal March 1, confident that the American people will respond to the call of their ability.

President Roosevelt, president of the American Red Cross, Norman L. Davis, chairman and active head of the post-war organization, and Leon Fraser, national War Fund chairman, join in urging the people of this country to help Red Cross reach its national objective of \$200,000,000 because of the vital part it must play within the next twelve months.

Chairman Davis, in opening the campaign, will stress the fact that with the decisive stage of the war at hand, the Red Cross must assume a greater burden than ever before, and at the same time must provide aid to servicemen being returned in ever-increasing numbers.

Red Cross operations over the entire world during 1944 have dwarfed its activities during the first two years of war.

An even greater burden will be placed on Red Cross services in 1944. Thousands of American men and women are now in Red Cross service with U. S. troops at home bases and overseas. Field directors, hospital, club and recreation workers are with American armed forces in virtually every corner, Mr. Davis asserted.

Both in Europe and in the Far East, Red Cross workers have either gone with invasion forces into new combat areas, or have followed within a very limited time.

On the home front, the Red Cross has broadened its service tremendously. Field directors are working in every sizable military establishment and camp throughout the country, and recreation and social service workers are located in Army and Naval Hospitals.

One of the most important and necessary wartime Red Cross functions has been the collection of human blood for plasma. Thirteen blood donor stations are now operating.

The dramatic story of the Red Cross Blood Donor Service, through which thousands of soldiers and sailors have been saved from death, began in February, 1943, when the Surgeon General of the Army and Navy asked the Red Cross to procure 15,000 pints of blood. Last year more than 4,700,000 pints of blood were collected for the Army and Navy. This year the goal is more than 6,000,000 pints.

With major battles of the war yet to come, the Army has asked the Red Cross to supply many millions of surgical dressings. American men wounded in battle will depend solely on the vast Red Cross surgical dressing production program.

Numerous other Red Cross home operations, such as Prisoners of War packing centers, where more than a million parcels for war prisoners are prepared each month for shipment overseas, are supported by citizen participation in the Red Cross War Fund.

So extensive is Red Cross service during this war that every American citizen can contribute something to at least one of its functions. To continue this gigantic work, all Americans must assume their share of the responsibility of carrying on this far-reaching service.

The \$200,000,000 quota will enable Red Cross to alleviate suffering and pain at home and abroad, and to carry on its vast military welfare service.

TAX BILL VETO BRINGS STRONG REPERCUSSIONS

later amount is what they figure the vetoed bill would produce. Mr. Roosevelt contended it would yield less than a billion dollars.)

8. The President's advocacy of a drastic general increase in individual income taxes on those of small and moderate incomes is based upon the wholly false assumption that all have benefited from the war boom and are in an equally favorable position to pay still higher income taxes.

4. The President's proposals "would threaten the solvency of all business and undermine its ability to provide jobs when the war ends. Unless this bill becomes law, the way will be paved for many large corporations to make excess profits out of the war."

5. That there "are many good features of the bill which will be lost if it should fail to become law."

The statement said more than \$87,000,000 from excise taxes had been lost by refusal of the President to sign the bill before Feb. 19.

If Congress had followed treasury recommendations, it charged "we would have had confusion worse confounded."

"Now that he (Mr. Roosevelt) is informed," the statement concluded, "we trust he will direct the treasury to adopt a more cooperative attitude, and cease trying to obstruct when it can not dictate."

Knutson saying "We've never had in all the history of the republic a situation so dangerous to the representative form of government. For Congress to surrender its constitutional prerogative to levy taxes will mean the end of free government in the United States."

Barkley Resigns As Senate Leader

Says Veto Message "Deliberate and Calculating Assault Upon Honesty and Integrity of Congressmen"

Washington, Feb. 23.—Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky offered his resignation today as Democratic leader of the Senate in a vehement protest against President Roosevelt's tax veto which he denounced as a "deliberate and calculating assault upon the honesty and integrity" of congressmen.

Barkley threw down the leadership after a bitter and sarcastic attack on the President—titular head of Barkley's own party.

He shouted his anger at the President's veto message and at the same time termed Mr. Roosevelt's own tax goals as "fantastic."

"Other members may do as they please," Barkley shouted, "I do not propose to take this unjustifiable assault lying down."

As the Kentuckian gave up the leadership he has held since 1937 in the closest harmony with the President, he turned to his colleagues and shouted:

"If the Congress of the United States has any self respect left it will override this veto and enact this tax bill into law."

Heavy applause roared out thru the historic old chamber as Barkley concluded his speech. Scores of House members standing along the rear wall joined in.

Senator McKellar (D-Tenn.) grasped Barkley's hand. Other members, including Republicans, rushed over to shake hands, too.

Barkley said Mr. Roosevelt deliberately sought to belittle Congress through the tax bill.

"I am one of those who pleaded with the President not to veto this bill," he declared. "I not only advised him not to veto it, I implored him."

"I did not then believe, nor do I now believe that the veto he has sent to Congress is justified."

"I make no apology for that."

Barkley announced to the Senate that he had called a conference of the Democratic majority for 10:30 a. m., tomorrow to select a successor and that his resignation would take effect at that time.

In denouncing the President's tax veto message, Barkley shouted that it was "the first time during my long service, which I had thought was honorable, that I have been accused of voting for a bill that would extend relief to the greedy and impoverish the needy."

Barkley's peroration was delivered in a solemn hush.

"For 12 years," he shouted, "I have carried to the best of my ability the flag of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. For the past seven years I have carried the flag of the administration as majority leader of this Senate."

"During those years I have borne the flag with pride because I had thought that President Roosevelt in himself constituted a dynamic leader in the historic conflict of this country and the world."

"I venture to say I have carried the flag over rougher territory than ever traversed by any majority leader. Sometimes I have carried it with little help here on the Senate floor and more often with less help from the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue," referring to the White House.

After Barkley finished nearly every Democrat and Republican in the Senate filed by his desk at the front of the chamber to shake his hand.

Vice President Wallace, who presided during Barkley's remarks, slipped out of the chamber. Senator Murdock (R-Utah) who took over the chair, had great difficulty restoring order.

Barkley said he considered "my conscience and my self-respect" to be "more precious to me than any honor that could be conferred on me by the Senate, the people of Kentucky, or by the President" and added:

"In confirmation of that statement, I have called a conference of the Democratic majority for 10:30 a. m. tomorrow, at which time my resignation as majority leader will be tendered."

ville, H. B. Copeland or Charles is a member of the State Executive Committee.

DIET
Resum of a more intelligent attitude to foods, Americans have seen on a better diet during the war than any time in their history, says nutrition experts with the U. S. Government.

An age of faith with church and members of faith—no more.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY STRIKES NEARER TO TOKYO

Honor Disabled Heroes

CINCINNATI, OHIO.—The Disabled American Veterans, incorporated by an act of Congress as the official voice of men disabled in defense of the nation, is making plans for the formal opening of its new national headquarters (pictured above) here. A highlight of the formal opening on March 25-26 will be the dedication of a "Hall of Disabled Heroes." More than 800 D.A.V. chapters throughout the nation are submitting nominations for disabled heroes to represent their respective states and state departments will make final selections. Photographs of the disabled heroes named by each state will be placed on the walls of the "Hall of Disabled Heroes." The Disabled American Veterans is at present helping work out problems involving protective measures for men in the service as well as those now being released because of disability.

Strong American Force Founds Mandated Islands 1,300 Miles South Of Tokyo, 700 Miles Closer To Jap Capital Than Truk; Conquest Of Eniwetok Costs Japs 3,000 Men

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Feb. 23.—Japan's Mariana Islands, 1,300 miles south of Tokyo, were raided yesterday by hundreds of planes of a strong Pacific fleet task force, presumably the same American force that made the first attack of the war on Truk last week. The same admiral was in command of both.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced the action today, the first American attack on the mandated Marianas, and disclosed that Rear Adm. Marc A. Mitscher, commanded the carrier forces. It was Mitscher who led a daring United States force in its two-day assault on Truk, Japan's naval bastion, in which 19 Japanese ships, and probably seven more, were sunk.

Eniwetok Conquered.
Nimitz also announced the conquest of Eniwetok atoll, in the western Marshall Islands, was completed Tuesday with the capture of Parry Island.

Other mid-Pacific actions Nimitz made public were coordinated land-based attacks on Ponape and Kusaie air bases in the Carolines, a Navy plane attack on Neuru Island and continued Army and Navy plane assaults on unidentified Marshall atolls still held by the enemy.

The daring foray into the Marianas took American warships about 700 miles closer to Tokyo than they were in their lunge at Truk. The attack centered on Saipan and Tinian Islands, at the southern end of the group of some 15 volcanic islands.

Saipan, most important enemy base in the Marianas, is 120 miles north of Guam, American island captured by the Japanese in December, 1941. As in the strike at Truk, detailed information was lacking, due to the necessity of imposing radio silence for protection of the vessels in the strike force.

The communiqué said the task force "struck Saipan and Tinian" islands, indicating the attack lasted but one day, or a portion of it. In announcing the strike at Truk, Nimitz said it had "commenced," giving the distinct impression that it was still in progress at the time of the announcement. Subsequent information made it clear that Truk was attacked for two days, Feb. 16 and 17.

There was nothing to indicate whether the carrier-based force had caught enemy warships in Tanig harbor, on the western (or China) side of Saipan. It seemed probable, however, that some units of the Japanese fleet may have been there, as Saipan is an important link in the chain of enemy naval bases and is not far from Tokyo.

Japs Break Pact.
When Japan took over the Marianas Islands under a League of Nations mandate, following World War One, it was stipulated that she was not to fortify them. However, some few travelers who visited Saipan before the outbreak of the present war reported feverish activity on the island. There were indications that a submarine base had been built, although Japan denied this.

Tinian is a naval air base and with Saipan, was believed to have good airfields. Both bases probably were used as staging fields for warplanes to be sent to island outposts in the Carolines and Marshalls and into the south and southwest Pacific.

A fleet of 200 planes, said 25 or more Nipponese were taken prisoner on Eniwetok and English Islands, on Eniwetok atoll. It was estimated that there were 3,000 Japanese on Eniwetok atoll when it was invaded last Thursday, about equally divided on the three principal islands Eniwetok, English and Parry.

With capture of Parry yesterday evening, the conquest of Eniwetok atoll was completed in six days.

Eniwetok, furthest western atoll in the Marshalls, is 380 miles west of Kwajalein atoll, the first to be invaded and captured in the Marshalls.

Kwajalein was invaded Jan. 30 and Nimitz announced Feb. 4 that occupation of the atoll was almost complete.

Casualties were reported light in the capture of Eniwetok and Eniwetok.

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