

# BIZERTE-TUNIS AREA UNDER HEAVY ATTACK

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## Roseburg News-Review

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### Defense Said Commanded By Rommel

**Allied Land, Plane Units Join in Onset; British Planes Bomb Stuttgart**

LONDON, Nov. 23—(AP)—The British first army, with American and French support, was reported to have launched a big attack against the German-Italian positions in the defense perimeter of Bizerte and Tunis where Marshal Rommel, one-time German master of African-desert warfare, was said to be in command with perhaps a part of his African corps.

The radio in allied-held Morocco said prisoners already had been brought in as a result of the British attack, and Berlin broadcasts hinted that Rommel had transferred his headquarters and perhaps some of his Libyan forces to Tunisia.

Allied spokesmen were quoted as admitting that the Germans and Italians were well established with a strong air force at Bizerte and Tunis and it was apparent that the axis was going to make a fight to retain their dominance of the Sicilian straits.

While axis announcements indicated that Algiers and allied forces there were under frequent air attack, Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters and Cairo headquarters showed that the axis bases at Tripoli, Tunis and Bizerte were being heavily pounded by allied bombers attacking from both the east and west.

Rommel's "Genius" Lauded  
The German broadcast concerning Rommel came from the Zeen station near Berlin and was not repeated on most German stations.

Some informed quarters believed Rommel is responsible for the entire north African and possibly the whole Mediterranean area, however, and pointed out that he could be in command in Tunisia without actually being on the ground.

The Berlin radio, in a consoling tone, thus referred to Rommel: "With Tunisia, Rommel has exchanged a useless strip of desert for a battle zone akin to European conditions. Nothing proves more clearly Rommel's strategic genius than this move, carried out as soon as he realized the enemy's intentions."

"In this way the balance has shifted from east to west. Rommel's African corps now has taken up positions prepared beforehand."  
A communique from Cairo said his forces in Libya were pushed back further yesterday toward the Al Aghella bottleneck, the last good place for a stand short of Tripoli.

Stuttgart Blasted  
The German industrial and (Continued on page 6.)

### Boys Admit Car Theft, Burglary

Two Seattle boys, Eugene Schultz, 14, and Stanley Morgan, 11, who have admitted burglarizing the Community pharmacy at Seattle, Nov. 19, Sergeant Paul Morgan of the state police reported, were in custody here today. The two youngsters were arrested south of Roseburg Sunday, when a state policeman saw them making a poor effort at driving an automobile, which it was later learned had been stolen from Roseburg, Morgan said. The car was the property of Charles A. Caviness of Sitka.

The youths, their pockets loaded with quarters, dimes and nickels, admitted under questioning, Morgan said, that they had secured about \$70 in the robbery of the Seattle drug store, and had hitch-hiked to Roseburg, reaching here Saturday.

Seattle authorities have been notified of the arrests, Morgan stated.

### Grave Fuel Shortage Impending at Bend

BEND, Ore., Nov. 23—(AP)—Bend wood dealers reported today that a serious fuel shortage is in the offing.

They said only 100 cords of wood are available. An additional 440 cords cannot be sold because of OPA regulations. Two owners of this wood are awaiting sale authorization from the OPA. The third is prohibited from selling because of an OPA charge of price violation.

The city's lone coal dealer said his bins have been empty since Nov. 1.

# GERMANS IN ROUT FROM STALINGRAD

## Broken Divisions Flee Over Steppes After 3-Day Battle That Costs Them 28,000 Men

MOSCOW, Nov. 23.—(AP)—A mighty red army counter-offensive sprung from the northwest and south of Stalingrad has put thousands of Germans to rout, the Russians reported today, and the Nazi forces which have besieged the Volga city vainly for three bloody months were pictured as facing disastrous encirclement.

Broken German divisions were declared fleeing across the frosty steppes before the surge of Russian infantrymen, guns and tanks in the greatest Soviet offensive of the year, adding new casualties to the 28,000 Nazis reported killed and captured in the past few days.

Here is the story of the drive, as given in official Soviet announcements and in warfront dispatches:

Already some 15,000 Germans have been killed and more than 13,000 captured since the Russians sprang their drive. The German besiegers of Stalingrad have been placed in a perilous position, and the German forces in the Caucasus are being held to a standstill as the bitter Russian winter sets in.

The Stalingrad offensive stretched two arms around the Germans still holding positions in Stalingrad and placed the Russians astride two important railway lines used by the Germans to supply these forces.

The offensive began, dispatches said, with a one-hour artillery barrage so intense that when the firing ceased only isolated enemy guns replied. Red army infantry and tanks then piled through the German front line, driving the enemy from trenches into the open steppes.

The German front line was overwhelmed by the ferocity of the Russian offensive, dispatches said. Prisoners started to pour in and guns and mortars piled up as the red army carried the advance as far as 45 miles at some points.

Nazi Losses Enormous.  
Pravda gave this summary of the fight for the city: "Battles unparalleled in world history have been raging for almost three months in the Stalingrad area."

"The enemy hurled against Stalingrad dozens of his picked divisions, thousands of tanks and airplanes."  
"The Hitlerite bandits schemed to crush Stalingrad with tanks. However, in the course of two months of fighting, they lost 800 panzer machines at the city walls."  
"The Germans intended to (Continued on page 6.)"

## 2 Cooks Arrested In Poison Deaths At State Asylum

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 23—(AP)—Police held in custody today two cooks of the Oregon insane asylum, where 47 inmates died last week after a dinner of poisoned scrambled eggs.

District Attorney Hayden said A. B. McKillop, assistant cook, sent an inmate to the basement to get powdered milk in which to mix the eggs.

The inmate, George A. Nosen, 27, Medford, Ore., who entered the asylum voluntarily, dipped into the wrong storage can and brought back six pounds of roach powder, containing deadly sodium fluoride, the district attorney said.

The poison is similar in appearance to powdered milk and McKillop unsuspectingly mixed the roach powder with the eggs, Hayden said.

Hayden said he was preparing a charge of involuntary manslaughter against McKillop, and charge of obstructing public justice against Mrs. Mary O'Hare, chief cook.  
After more than 400 inmates became ill Wednesday, the cooks discovered Nosen's error, but withheld their knowledge until Saturday night, when they broke down under questioning, Hayden said.  
Dr. J. C. Evans, hospital superintendent, said McKillop violated institution rules in entrusting Nosen with keys to the basement storerooms.

## Increases in Rates of Cold Storage Allowed

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—(AP)—Increases in cold storage rates in Washington and Oregon were authorized today on a permanent basis by the office of price administration.

(OPA authorized an increase of three cents a box for apples and pears other than cannerly pears and \$1 a ton for cannerly pears, peaches, apricots, plums and prunes.)

The increases for apples and pears other than cannerly pears is the same as a temporary increase authorized in September. The temporary increase on cannerly pears was a \$1.50 a ton. Under today's order, storage plant operators must refund 50 cents a ton on charges made for cannerly pears if they have collected the full \$1.50 allowed by the temporary order.

## Dandelion Rubber Is Produced in Klamath

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Nov. 23—(AP)—The dandelion used by Russians in producing rubber can be grown successfully in the Klamath region, said Jean Gross, agriculture experiment station manager.

Seed brought from Russia last spring was planted in an experimental plot here. Gross said the harvest indicated a yield of 7129 pounds of roots—enough to produce 178 pounds of rubber per acre, compared to the 182-pound-per-acre average of the Russians.

## Allies Bag Jap Destroyer, 19 Planes As They Tighten Pincers on Buna Base

### First U. S. Casualties In North Africa 1,910

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—(AP)—The army announced today that American casualties during the initial landings in north Africa were estimated at 1,910 killed, wounded and missing.

A communique said Lieutenant General Eisenhower reported that he was not yet able to obtain a careful confirmation of the casualties, most of which occurred in the capture of Oran and Casablanca.

Very few men were lost in the operations around Algiers. Most of those reported missing, the army said, probably were drowned.

### Rulings on Parole Board Authority Are Issued

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 23—(AP)—The state parole board has no authority to parole any convict sentenced to life imprisonment under the habitual criminal law, Attorney General Van Winkle ruled today.

He ruled further that the board has power to parole a person sentenced to a county jail for six months or more by a municipal judge, regardless of whether the offense was violation of a city ordinance or a state law. The board, however, has no power to parole a person confined in a city jail.

### Non-Licensed Driver Draws Fine of \$30

Stanley Hasperok, 29, of Eugene, was in custody here today, in lieu of payment of a \$30 fine, imposed in justice court on his plea of guilty to a charge of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Justice of the Peace Ira B. Riddle reported.

Hasperok, Judge Riddle reported, was involved in an accident at Drain, Nov. 2, and had been ordered to appear in justice court. He failed to obey oral and written summons, the judge stated, and his arrest was ordered.

## Hitler Pours Gestapo Into Sagging Italy

Step Taken to Counter Anti-Fascist Move to Obtain Separate Peace

LONDON, Nov. 23—(AP)—A series of roundabout and unconfirmed reports from the continent and the near east said today that Adolf Hitler had sent 60,000 "tourists" and squads of Gestapo agents into Italy to prop up sagging fascist morale and to build hurriedly coastal fortifications against possible allied invasion.

Tass, the Russian news agency, and diplomatic sources in Ankara were the sources of these reports, while Reuters, British news agency, distributed another dispatch from the Turkish capital quoting recent arrivals from Italy as saying a movement for a separate peace had been started under leadership of Marshal Pietro Badoglio, Mussolini's "unofficial" opponent.

The tourists were alleged to have been filtering into Italy for the past three months, while Tass said the Gestapo men had been rushed in following allied successes in north Africa.

According to the Reuters account, an anti-fascist group headed by Badoglio, the conqueror of Ethiopia, approached the Vatican to mediate, with the full knowledge of King Vittorio Emanuele, Crown Prince Umberto and Count Galeazzo Ciano, Il Duce's son-in-law and foreign minister. The British news agency went on to say that Mussolini quarrelled violently with Ciano.

Dispatches from Bern, Switzerland, last April 28 said there had been Rome consultations by the king in which Mussolini and Ciano were left out. At that time it was said a government shake-up and a "change of policy" might be forthcoming. Badoglio's (Continued on page 6.)

## Anti-Poll Tax Bill Goes on Senate Shelf

Effort to Apply Cloture To Filibuster Fails to Get Two-Thirds Assent

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23—(AP)—The senate shelved today legislation to ban the collection of poll taxes as a requirement for voting in federal elections. The action followed defeat of a motion to end a filibuster through limit on debate.

The debate limitation proposal on the measure to abolish poll taxes as a prerequisite to voting in federal elections was beaten on a vote of 37 "ayes" to 41 "noes." Approval of two-thirds of those voting was necessary.

Democratic Leader Barkley of Kentucky, who had moved for adoption of the cloture rule limiting each senator's discussion to one hour, had announced previously if the debate limitation proposal failed he would seek immediately to have the bill laid aside for this congress. He said he also would oppose any effort by any other senate to obtain consideration of the bill.

The measure, already passed in (Continued on page 6.)

## Youth Faces Charge in Fatal Traffic Crash

GRANTS PASS, Ore., Nov. 23—(AP)—Holland Dale Stanley, 18, Crescent City, Calif., was accused by Josephine county authorities today of causing the death of Philip Kees, Grants Pass truck driver, in an accident on the Redwood highway.

Stanley was arrested yesterday at Crescent City and brought to the county jail here, charged with negligent homicide.

William Arents, Holland, Ore., said Stanley backed his car onto the highway in front of the oncoming truck. Kees swerved the truck, striking a bridge, and the vehicle overturned.

## Japanese Abandon Tanks in New Guinea Jungle



Along a battle trail in New Guinea, fringed by tropical trees, Australian and American soldiers find two abandoned Jap tanks. The two allies have joined forces in the drive to wrest Buna, New Guinea, from the enemy.

### In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

HEAVY fighting has begun at Tunis and Bizerte. Early reports are encouraging. The Germans are apparently getting the worst of it.

THEY seem to have elected to ATTACK, rather than to sit tight and defend.

They came boiling out in typical blitz style, with tanks and armored trucks paced by Stuka dive bombers and low-flying fighters. All the stuff that so often has terrified and broken their opponents.

The allied line NEVER BUDGED AN INCH.

Four times the Germans charged. Each time they were thrown back with heavy losses. Finally they retreated, after American FIELD GUNNERS had broken their offensive strength.

They lost a third of their armored equipment.

SUCH, in brief, is the dramatic story told by the dispatches. The best the Germans had wasn't good enough to break the ring of steel the allies are drawing around them there at the northern tip of Tunisia.

NOTE particularly the reference to American FIELD gunners who broke the German attack.

The dispatches mention NEW American MOBILE artillery. There have been guarded statements from time to time that in the new weapons we are building and the new tactics we are evolving we think we may have found the answer to the plunging German tank attack.

Maybe we have.

At any rate, the Germans in northern Tunisia seem to have been given a dose of the same death and destruction that Rommel administered to the British 8th army several months ago with his famed 88-millimeter guns.

WE Americans are natural optimists. In this bloody setback handed to the Germans at Bizerte and Tunis, some of us (Continued on page 2.)

## Parity Formula Changes, Synthetic Rubber, Universal War Duty Urged By Grange Executive Committee

TACOMA, Wash., Nov. 23.—(AP)—A 15-point program, embracing demands for immediate amendment of the parity formula, subscribing to universal service as a means toward winning the war, and touching upon numerous other problems of American life has been drawn by the executive committee of the national grange as agriculture's 1943 platform.

The committee remained after the annual convention closed Thursday and met with National Master Albert Goss before announcing its decisions yesterday on national policy for the organization.

The committee consisted of Chairman Ray W. Gill, Portland, Ore.; Eugene A. Eckert, Mascoutah, Ill., secretary, and Kenzie S. Bagshaw, Hollidaysburg, Pa.

Included in the platform were the following statements: "Universal service is favored if it is necessary to winning the war, provided it includes property, all branches of industry, capital and labor and is terminated when hostilities cease."

"Selective service's plan to defer essential farm workers on dairy, livestock and poultry farms is a step in the right direction, but it should be extended to other types of farming."  
"Continuing loss of farm work-

ers to industry, because farmers cannot pay wages high enough to compete with industry, emphasizes that farm income is too low. Asking farmers to work long hours while workers in industry receive higher pay for shorter hours, invites a food shortage. Fair prices to producers, stimulating production are a safeguard against inflation and a protection to consumers.

Would Alter Parity Plan.  
"The president's definition of parity . . . has been the goal of the grange for 20 years. Toward achieving it, the grange asks immediate amendment of the parity formula to:

A. Include all farm labor in cost of production.  
B. Make use of current price levels, instead of those of 30 years ago."

A demand was made for more flexible price ceilings, and subsidies were termed "wrong in principle" because they are "used to hold down the general price level to consumers while the impulsion prevails they are payments to farmers."

A floor under farm prices was seen as necessary to prevent another post-war depression and development of a definite rubber program, including manufacture of synthetic rubber, was proposed.