

16 Flour Milling Firms Accused Of Price Conspiracy

CHICAGO, March 24.—(AP)—Sixteen flour mill corporations, eleven of their executives and their national trade association were indicted by the federal grand jury here today on charges of conspiracy to fix prices of packaged family flour sold throughout the United States.

The indictment set forth that approximately 45,000,000 barrels of family flour are sold annually in the United States and 81 per cent of this amount is milled by members of the Millers National Federation, the defendant trade association.

Packaged family flour is that sold ordinarily for use in homes, as distinct from bulk bakery flour. The indictment charged that in spite of variations among the defendants in their cost of producing packaged flour, the defendants met from time to time and agreed upon a uniform schedule of price differentials to be applied to the various sizes of packages in which family flour is sold.

The government charged that the millers federation published and circulated printed schedules of the uniform price differentials and that each of the defendants used these schedules in making up its own price list.

The addition of these packaging charges, the indictment contended, had the effect of increasing bulk prices charged by millers by more than 100 per cent in some sizes.

The indictment charged that as a result of this alleged conspiracy

the defendants fixed and maintained arbitrary and non-competitive selling prices for packaged flour and prevented the formation of selling prices by the free and competitive determination of individual millers.

Hitler's Former Baker Arrested in New York

NEW YORK, March 24.—(AP)—Adolf Hitler's former baker at the fuhrer's retreat at Berchtesgaden, Germany, has been apprehended by FBI agents as an enemy alien, it was announced today.

E. E. Conroy, special agent in charge of the FBI, said the 40-year-old baker told him he came here from Berchtesgaden in 1937, and had been employed in a well-known west 42nd St. restaurant. Conroy said he told agents he refused to serve in the U. S. army against any axis power, and had two brothers, one in the German army and the other a German policeman.

Coal-Burning Stoves May Again Be Bought

WASHINGTON, March 24.—(AP)—Coal-burning stoves can be purchased for supplementary heating by almost anyone who needs one and has the price after March 30, the OPA announced today.

Previously the stoves were rationed in those districts where fuel rationing is in effect. In announcing the relaxation of restrictions, OPA said these stoves may be purchased by "anyone who wishes to supplement central oil burning equipment for health and comfort in any essential living space or working space essential to the war effort, or to public health, or to safety."

Smash by Rommel Closes Gap in Defense

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his detachments which circled Rommel's inland flank gained about two miles in the smash to ward El Hamma, axis air base and oasis crossroads 20 miles west of Gabes and at the western end of the bottleneck between the Chott Djerid salt lake and the sea.

These forces drove the Germans off the high ground of Djebel Tebara despite strong armored opposition and reached a point only eight miles from El Hamma. (This fighting was taking place about 30 miles north of the main battle at Mareth, well to the rear of the axis positions.)

American infantry and tankmen by holding Guettaria pass east of El Guetar on the southern road from Gafsa toward the sea, saved Gen. Patton's armored forces beyond Maknassy on the northerly road from Gafsa from a threat to their rearward communications.

This enabled the northerly column to win Bon Douaou, a point six miles beyond Maknassy and only 28 miles from the enemy's coastal road.

Italians Taken Prisoner. This column took a number of Italian prisoners.

The Patton force defending Guettaria pass 10 miles south-east of El Guetar was officially reported to have destroyed 10 enemy tanks, but front reports said 20 more were knocked out. An Italian encampment of 200 men was captured.

Gen. Montgomery had not been able to advance his wedge driven into the Mareth line near Zarat, six miles northeast of Mareth and still under heavy counter-attack from both German and Italian infantry supported by armor.

The communique announced, however, that 2,000 prisoners had been captured there so far.

Air Forces Deal Blows.

The allied air offensive reached a new peak yesterday as American planes raided the Bizerte docks.

Low-flying sweeps accounted for a number of the tanks destroyed in the Guettaria pass struggle. In one sweep by Airacobras six enemy tanks were hit. Spitfires patrolling the Bizerte area had a battle with 12 enemy fighters and destroyed two of them.

(The Italian high command in Rome said today that 40 allied tanks had been destroyed in fierce fighting which was continuing in central and southern Tunisia and said 170 allied prisoners had been taken.)

(One and Philippeville were bombed by axis planes which caused "serious damage" to buildings and killed 10 persons and injured 32. Two more persons were killed by machine-

gunning of trains in Sicily, the Italians said.)

Heavy air action also was reported in northern Tunisia in front of the British first army where formations of medium and light bombers, fighting bombers and low-flying fortresses made numerous attacks on enemy tank, troop and transport concentrations, destroying many of the armored vehicles and trucks.

The heavy bombers also battered the docks at Bizerte again. In the 24 hours of aerial operations, it was announced, the enemy lost at least six planes while the allies lost eight.

U. S. Fliers Smash 72 German Planes in Raid

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the not too distant future will be operating with bombers that will be "bigger and faster and carry three to four times the bomb load and they will be better defensively."

It is estimated that American housewives during 1943 will can more than five billion jars of foods, or enough to supply every man, woman, and child in the country with about 40 jars of food.

Volunteer "shock troops" of business men, women and boys and girls in Watworth county, S. D., brought in more than 6,000 acres of grain last year when the county harvest was threatened by a labor shortage.

National Forest Timber for Sale

Sealed bids will be received by the Forest Supervisor, Roseburg, Oregon, up to 10:00 A.M. on April 3, 1943, and will be opened immediately thereafter, for all the live and dead timber designated for cutting located on an area embracing about 40 acres within the NE1 of the NW1 of Sec. 13, T. 32S., R. 2 W. W. M., Elk Creek watershed, Umpqua National Forest, Oregon, estimated to be 1,000,000 feet B. M., more or less, of Douglas fir and an unestimated amount of sugar pine, western hemlock, white fir, and California incense cedar. No bid of less than \$300 per M feet for Douglas-fir, \$500 per M feet for sugar pine, and \$100 per M feet for western hemlock, white fir, and California incense cedar will be considered. \$1,000 must be deposited with each bid to be applied on the purchase price, refunded or retained in part as liquidated damages, according to conditions of sale. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Before bids are submitted, full information concerning the sale, and the submission of bids should be obtained from the Forest Supervisor, Roseburg, Oregon. Before final award, the high bidder will be required to make a satisfactory showing of financial ability to carry out the agreement.

Nazis Lose in Efforts To Cross Donets River

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loges and wiping out a force of German rapid-fire riflemen surrounded in a forest north of Dukhovschino.

The Russians also were reported to have taken several other settlements in other sectors of their push toward Smolensk and to have seized a tactically important line.

Heavy losses were inflicted again upon the Germans in the Belgorod area when the soviet troops smashed a German truck column and destroyed trucks, tanks and fuel wagons.

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Japanese may have had to invade India before the monsoon.

Now the British must readjust their forces to positions which can be supplied during the monsoon period, when upwards of 300 inches of rain floods hundreds of square miles.

Only a few weeks remain before the monsoons break.

Eugene Council Cracks Down on Roaming Dogs

EUGENE, Ore., March 24.—(AP)—Eugene dog owners were busy today devising ways to keep their pets at home during the garden season.

A city council ordinance, passed Monday, provided that all dogs must be restrained from April through September. Dogs found

straying from their own lots will be held 10 days and then disposed of unless claimed by owners, who must pay a fine up to \$25 and give assurance the offending animal will not be allowed to run loose again.

W. B. A. to Hold Social—The Woman's Benefit association will hold a social meeting at two o'clock Thursday at the home of Mrs. Carl Havens.

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