

# BRITISH CUT FARTHER INTO MARETH LINE

Our Job Is to Save Dollars Buy War Bonds Every Pay Day

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## Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

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### In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THIS is interesting news from Tunisia: Patton's Americans, pushing on BEYOND Maknassy, win control of the last MOUNTAIN PARTS overlooking Rommel's escape corridor along the sea. In other words, it's DOWNHILL from there on.

FROM their newly-won high ground, American guns, firing at a range of 11 miles, knock out five axis planes grounded on the Mezouana airfield (between the Americans and the sea) and practically destroy the field itself. This gives you an idea of what possession of dominating heights means.

AN interesting story comes from the Maknassy area. Forty Italians, coming forward to surrender to the Americans, are FIRED ON immediately by a German unit on their right. That tells us quite a lot about the feeling between the Germans and the Italians. In this area, a front-line U. S. officer says, more than a thousand Italians have been taken prisoner in three days, but practically no Germans.

WE still speak of Italy as a member of the axis, but it is becoming increasingly apparent that the Italians no longer have any stomach for this war.

WE mustn't become too optimistic about the prospects in Tunisia. Rommel is an experienced and able general, commanding a battle-hardened army that is amply supplied with all the weapons necessary for modern war. But neither must we become unduly pessimistic because of the setback suffered by Montgomery at the point where he undertook to breach the Mareth line. This Mareth line assault was only ONE PART of his plan.

At the same time, he sent a flanking column around the end of the Mareth fortifications and Patton's Americans struck from Gafsa (see map) toward the sea-coast in Rommel's rear with the idea of cutting off his retreat. The direct frontal attack on the Mareth line apparently failed (at least of immediate success) but the other two phases of his battle plan appear to be working out so far.

That isn't a bad batting average.

A MILITARY commentator in London, dispatches tell us, thinks we have no occasion for gloom.

It took nine days, he says, to

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## Meat, Butter Dole Program Ready for Consumers of U. S.

### Canned Fish, Fats, Edible Oils Included

Red Stamps' Use Begin Next Week; Meat Quota Likely to Be Slashed

WASHINGTON, March 27.—(AP)—For most Americans, today marks the deadline for the purchase of meats and cheese—except with ration coupons. And, beginning next week, red stamps from ration book No. 2 also will be required for the purchase of canned fish, butter and other fats and oils, sales of which are presently frozen. Aimed to equalize distribution and—along with price ceilings—combat black markets, the government's ambitious new rationing program for those products is scheduled to start Monday. A relatively few neighborhood stores will continue sales tomorrow, but the great majority will stop regular transactions on rationed goods as closing time tonight.

Some even planned to close today because of lack of meat supplies. John H. Kotal, executive secretary of the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers, said in Chicago that at least 30 per cent of that city's more than 6,000 markets would be closed during the day, while Cincinnati reports indicated a shutdown there might reach as high as 75 per cent.

Weekly Dole 16 Points. In meat-starved New York City, Mayor LaGuardia and the regional OPA jointly announced that an emergency shipment of 1,000,000 pounds of beef for home consumers was being rushed to the city. Throughout the country, housewives studied the new ration list which includes all beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton, as well as cheese, canned fish, butter, margarine and lard. When sales of these goods are resumed Monday, each person will be allowed to spend 16 points weekly. Most steaks, butter and cheese call for

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### One Woman Accused Of Murdering Another

TULSA, Okla., March 27.—(AP)—Mrs. Ella B. Howard, Fort Worth divorcee, pleaded innocent at her arraignment today on a charge of murder in the swank hotel room shooting of Mrs. T. Karl Simmons, widely known horsewoman. Preliminary hearing was set for Wednesday. She was held without bond. Mrs. Howard, 44, prematurely gray and the mother of a son and daughter, was taken into custody Thursday night shortly after Mrs. Simmons was found dead in Mrs. Howard's room in the fashionable Mayo hotel.

## Increased Natural Gas Flow From Exploration May Ultimately Grow To Volume Ample for All Roseburg

A belief that he will soon have sufficient natural gas available to supply the city of Roseburg was expressed today by W. F. Kernin, local well driller, who for the past three years has at odd times been exploring for oil on the Preschern farm about five miles west of Roseburg. Mr. Kernin last night conducted a demonstration for James Mess and Wm. Adair, chamber of commerce officers, exhibiting a considerable flow of gas which burned cleanly when ignited. He states that he has no measurement on the present flow of gas, but believes the well is now producing about 30,000 cubic feet daily. Using a drilling outfit of his own design and manufacture, Mr. Kernin has drilled to a depth of 2,000 feet. He recently struck a formation of brittle shale, he reports, and has penetrated about

300 feet into this rock. During the last 200 feet, he states, the flow of natural gas has been increasing very rapidly and he anticipates the volume will increase still more as the hole is deepened. Kernin estimates that a flow of 500,000 cubic feet daily would be required to supply the city of Roseburg. The type of gas, he states, indicates the presence of petroleum, and he plans to continue the drilling with the hope that he will reach oil in commercial quantities. He is conducting the exploration independently utilizing time when he is not otherwise occupied with commercial well drilling. He is prepared to continue to much greater depth, having materials available, but is somewhat handicapped in securing tool steel.

### Named as Czar Of Food Program



Chester C. Davis, above, has been appointed by President Roosevelt as administrator of the new set-up to direct food production and distribution in the department of agriculture. Davis, former director of the AAA, was called to his new job from the presidency of the Federal Reserve bank at St. Louis. He takes over all top power in the national food program formerly held by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard.

### Five Jap Bases Blasted by Allies

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, March 27.—(AP)—Allied heavy bombers, striking powerfully at Japanese military installations on New Guinea, dropped 19 tons of bombs on the newly constructed enemy base at Wewak on the north coast last night and set two 500-pound bombs squarely on a 4,000-ton cargo vessel, an allied communique said today.

The bombers were over Wewak for three hours and at times dropped as low as 75 feet to put their bombs on the targets despite intense anti-aircraft fire, it was announced. The Japanese shore installations suffered heavily in the attack, the communique said. Other allied bombers taking part in the sweep over New Guinea blasted at the Japanese footholds at Finschhafen, Salamaua, Lae and Mubo. The attack on Wewak was described as the greatest ever made by allied planes on that port. The weight of the attack indicated the importance placed by the allies on the new base which was the destination of a recent Japanese convoy from Rabaul, New Britain, attacked by allied planes.

In the raid on Lae, the communique said, enemy positions along Markham road were bombed and fires were started "which gradually merged into one large blaze visible 20 miles away." The allied planes made 14 passes over the Mubo positions and started more fires. The dock area at Finschhafen was the main target of the bombers.

### Junk Dealers Accused Of Price Top Violation

PORTLAND, March 27.—(AP)—The OPA charged three Portland scrap metal dealers yesterday with breaking price ceiling regulations. MacCormac Snow, OPA attorney, said the Alaska Junk company, the Zidell-Steinberg Machinery company, and the A. & A. Machinery company mixed inferior metal with high grade scrap and sold it at excessive prices. He filed suits in federal district court to restrain the companies. No penalties were asked.

## RAF Bombs Ruhr Center Of Duisburg

Small Towns in Region Also Raided; Germans Report "Casualties"

LONDON, March 27.—(AP)—A strong force of RAF bombers attacked Duisburg and other targets in the Ruhr last night, the air ministry communique said today. Four bombers are missing. Aircraft of the fighter command were also on patrol during the night, the communique said. Two failed to return.

The Berlin radio earlier acknowledged that "high explosive and incendiary bombs had inflicted casualties during raids on small towns in western Germany."

Meantime, it was reported authoritatively, no enemy planes had been over Great Britain for 36 hours.

It was the 57th raid of the war on Duisburg, one of the biggest railway junctions in the Ruhr and the largest inland port in Europe. The last attack was Dec. 20.

Besides its importance as a railway and communication center, Duisburg has a power station, blast furnace, coke oven and airdrome targets. One of the largest railway bridges spanning the Rhine also is located there. The city, which is about 300 miles by air from England, has 440,000 population and is connected with Germany's North sea ports by canal.

NEW YORK, March 27.—(AP)—A Swedish dispatch quoted by the office of war information today said 500 British agents and 500 Norwegians have been dropped into Norway by parachute during the winter and that "there's an army of ghosts now in Norway which may one day suddenly grow up like mushrooms."

"They are living in secret places awaiting action," the dispatch said.

Nazi occupation officials recently intensified the search for the foreign agents after discovery that 8,000 pistols, 12,000 guns and 320 machine guns had disappeared, it was said, and also that 17,000 Norwegians were missing from the country. They were believed to have fled into Sweden.

### Store Heads Accused of Weights Law Violation

SPOKANE, March 27.—(AP)—Nine managers of Spokane chain stores were arrested yesterday on warrants charging violation of the ordinance for fair weights and measures. D. R. Caldwell, of the city weights and measures division, obtained the warrants.

## Ready to Roar Against Rommel's Forces



This line-up of tanks being readied for battle after arrival at Oran, Algeria, may be in action now with allied forces on the Tunisian front. Civilian diesel engine experts supervise the tank assembly.

## Pursuers of Rommel Wary of Flowery Death



These British Eighth Army sappers avoid pushing up daisies by searching through a flower field for hidden mines planted by Nazi Marshall Rommel's Afrika Korps in Tunisia, near Medenine, during the assault on the Mareth line.—Photo radioed Cairo-New York.

### Mayor LaGuardia Slated For Service in Army

WASHINGTON, March 27.—(AP)—Stephen Early, white house press secretary, said today that "all indications point to service in the army" for Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York City.

Asked about published reports that the mayor might serve in some administrative capacity in north Africa or possibly Italy, when that country is occupied by the allies, the secretary told reporters he had seen those reports but "it has not been decided where he would serve, to any knowledge." LaGuardia was a flier in the first world war.

### Treasurer Convicted of Collecting Pay Rebates

SEATTLE, March 27.—(AP)—A superior court jury last night convicted Carroll Carter, King county treasurer, on eight counts of collecting rebates on wages paid to employees of his office.

Carter had testified the employees voluntarily collected the money to help him clear up \$3,500 of personal debts and he knew nothing of the plan until it was put into effect.

Each conviction is punishable by a maximum of 90 days in jail and a \$250 fine.

### U. S. Troops Reported at British Red Sea Outpost

LONDON, March 27.—(AP)—A German broadcast recorded by the Associated Press said today that a great number of United States troops had arrived in Aden, the British-garrison outpost across the mouth of the Red sea from Africa. The report had no confirmation from allied sources.

### Wood Aplenty but Labor Lacking, Dealer Says

PORTLAND, Ore., March 27.—(AP)—Clyde Marsh, president of the Oregon Fuel Merchants association, said today the state had plenty of wood fuel but that dealers were experiencing difficulty supplying Portland. This because of the labor scarcity in the wood-yards and on the trucks.

He said, however, there was no need of a firewood rationing program. Rather the dealers want a survey to determine consumer needs. He protested OPA forms sent dealers to determine fuel conditions, saying they served only to make more work for small operators.

### Widow Tries Suicide In Three-Story Drop

PORTLAND, March 27.—(AP)—Hospital attendants had little hope today for the recovery of Mrs. Grace Reid, about 50, Durham, Calif., who apparently slashed her wrists and leaped out of a third floor hotel room.

She was found lying in the street a few moments before she was to have accompanied the body of her husband, Roy E. Reid, to a cemetery.

### Sales Tax, Vets School Bills Given State Dept.

SALEM, Ore., March 27.—(AP)—Governor Snell sent to the state department today two house bills, H. B. 268 and H. B. 400, one for a retail sales tax and the other for an educational program for veterans of the present war, which were referred to the people by the 1943 legislature. Referred bills require no action by the executive.

## Reds Rout Nazis In Belgorod Area

(By the Associated Press)

Soviet dispatches declared today that red army troops, seizing the initiative in the fierce battle around Belgorod, stormed into German trenches during the night and routed the nazis in hand-to-hand fighting.

Field reports said the Germans were making a gigantic effort to score a major breakthrough southeast of Kharkov, throwing vast numbers of dive-bombers, tanks, motorized troops and infantry into the assault, but the Russians were holding at every point.

On the central (Moscow) front, the soviet command said Russian troops smashed deeper into the German defense zone on the outer approaches to Smolensk, overrunning more nazi strongpoints as the red armies attacked from three directions.

Dispatches said the campaign was being fought in the worst weather of the year for military operations, with the spring thaw flooding many battlegrounds.

### Police Heads Accused in Boston Gaming Round-Up

BOSTON, March 27.—(AP)—Seven Boston police officials, including Commissioner Joseph F. Timilty and Superintendent Edward W. Fallon, were indicted today by a special Suffolk county grand jury on charges of conspiracy to permit the operation of gaming houses and the registration of bets.

Timilty appeared before the jury yesterday as did Dr. Harry J. Sagansky, now serving a prison sentence for operating a \$90,000,000 pool.

Besides Timilty and Fallon, those named in the indictment which was reported to Chief Justice John P. Higgins, were: Deputy Superintendent James R. Claffin, Deputy Superintendent John M. Anderson, Captain John A. Dorsey, Captain Edward J. Keating and Sergeant Arthur Eanson.

Arranged before Chief Justice Higgins, all the men pleaded innocent, and were released on \$2,000 bonds each for trial on Monday.

### Roosevelt Asks U. S. to Observe Army Day

WASHINGTON, March 27.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today proclaimed Tuesday, April 6, as army day and asked the American people to reflect on ways and means of increasing the flow of supplies to American soldiers on the world battlefronts. He asked the state governors to issue proclamations appropriate to the day. He also requested that on that day, "while intensifying the war effort in factories, fields, mines, transportation lines and ports, the American people reflect upon the soldiers whose very lives they hold in trust and upon ways and means of increasing the flow of supplies to them and of maintaining in this nation a country worthy of their sacrifice and fit for their return.

## Prisoner Take Heavy in Two Days' Battle

American Forces Also Make Gains in Plan to Entrap Rommel Army

(By the Associated Press) Allied headquarters announced today that Gen. Montgomery's British 8th army delivered a successful attack on the Mareth line in Tunisia yesterday and said operations were "proceeding according to plan in spite of stiff resistance."

The official war bulletin indicated that Montgomery's forces were surging deeper into the 40-mile long defense works.

In northern Tunisia, the communique said, Lieut. Gen. Anderson's British 1st army stabbed out in a series of "reconnaissance in force" operations against axis lines before the Tunis-Bizerte zone.

Montgomery's advance in the assault on the Mareth line was the second announced by allied headquarters in two days, and a communique said "many prisoners were taken."

The German high command said the allies made fresh attacks on a heavy scale, both in the Mareth area and farther north, but asserted the thrusts were beaten off after heavy fighting.

Frontline dispatches said British 8th army troops were advancing under a hail of artillery fire, picking their way through minefields and storming Rommel's formidable array of pillbox defenses.

Heavy rains again fell over the southern and central fronts, hampering operations.

### U. S. Army Also Gains

The communique said there were only "local" actions in the El Guetar and Maknassy sectors, while axis broadcasts admitted that U. S. troops under Lieut. Gen. Patton were making progress in both regions in their synchronized drives toward the sea.

Montgomery's smash into the Mareth works, centering on the bloody "devil's cauldron" salient, was in its seventh day and the Germans themselves conceded that Marshal Rommel had fallen back on the defensive after his mid-week counter attacks.

The nazi-controlled Paris radio said Rommel's troops were en-

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## Father Ignores Tiny Son in Court; Judge Shows Ire

DETROIT, March 27.—(AP)—Scene: Courtroom.

Principal characters: Three-year-old boy and father, 24—but let them remain anonymous here.

At sight of his father, in the prisoner's box, the boy shouted and ran from his mother's side. He stood in front of his father, but there was no sign from the latter. Not even a nod. His father was talking to the "other woman."

The boy waited. Still no sign. He climbed the rail into the box, tugged at his father's sleeve. No response.

A court attache, who looked like he was all tightened up, took the boy back to his mother. But a moment before the judge called the case, the boy ran again to his father. He fingered the crease in the man's trousers, waited vainly for a word or a smile.

The judge gave the father 90 days for desertion, then exclaimed: "Get him out of this courtroom!"

### Missing Army Plane Sought Near Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., March 27.—(AP)—Army airmen searched today for a twin-motored pursuit ship missing on a routine flight in the Portland area.

The plane became separated from others in its echelon yesterday. The Portland air base said radio contact with the pilot was lost at 4:30 p. m., when the ship had about two hours' gasoline supply left.

The air base said the plane was believed down within a radius of 100 miles north of Portland.

Levity Fact Rant By L. F. Reizenstein

Surrendering in Tunisia at every opportunity, and usually without a fight, Mussolini's "valiant warriors" may be appropriately dubbed QUITTALS.