

# BRITISH SHATTER ROMMEL DEFENSE LINES

## Roseburg News-Review

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### In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
IMPORTANT war news is scarce again. The world is in another of those lulls between storms.

HERE on the Pacific coast, we note with stern pride that MacArthur's deadly bombers have finished off the Jap naval concentration at Kavieng harbor, in New Ireland.

Score: Seven Jap warships and five cargo ships sunk or damaged without the loss of a SINGLE ONE of our planes.

MacArthur's headquarters communicate tersely: "The Japanese naval concentration at Kavieng has now been destroyed or dispersed."

THE job was done by three waves of Flying Fortresses, the first of ten planes and the last two of eight each, operating from a distance of 1100 miles, far beyond the usual bombing range.

IN Tunisia, Patton is battering hard at the German lines, trying to establish a junction with Montgomery's northward-moving 8th army. His infantrymen take more German high ground, and hold it successfully against hard counter-attacks.

A junction, however, hasn't yet been effected.

NAPLES, chief axis supply port for Tunisia, is hit hard by nearly 100 American heavy bombers from North Africa. Twenty-one larger axis ships and many smaller ones are reported hit and much damage done to docks and other shipping installations. Among other craft, three axis subs are smacked.

From Naples, as from the South seas, we get the cheering word that ALL our planes returned safely.

The raid, of course, is primarily designed to break up axis (German) communications with Tunisia.

THE Russians still hold the line of the Donets unbreached, and the dispatches say that in addition they are holding a number of bridgeheads on the ENEMY side of the river.

That is important. These bridgeheads will be immensely useful if and when the Russians launch a counter attack. Crossing a river in the face of strong enemy resistance is much easier if you have a toehold on the other side.

RECENT dispatches report that the American China air task

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## State Farm Bloc Strives To Delay Test on Vetoed Measure to Boost Prices

### Group Wants Bill Back In Committee

Capital Sees Opening of Campaign to Raise New War Loan of 13 Billion

WASHINGTON, April 7.—(AP)—Dilsession on capitol hill over farm and labor legislation contrasted today with the White House launching of a campaign of national unity—the raising of \$13,000,000,000 in the country's greatest war loan drive.

While the senate farm bloc strove to delay a test on the vetoed Bankhead bill and a CIO representative protested against a measure to forbid the unionization of foremen, President Roosevelt sold the first \$25 bond of the campaign to help finance the country's fighters, and proclaimed this as its slogan:

"They give their lives. We lend our money."

**Bloc to Continue Fight.**

The farm argument continued over from yesterday when the administration displayed enough separate strength to sustain the veto of the Bankhead bill to increase price ceilings.

Farm leaders dropped broad hints that, if they can get the bill referred to the agricultural committee, they hope to renew their drive against the veto after settlement of the current wage increase demands of the United Mine workers. The related effects of farm price raises and wage increases were frequently discussed in debate on the bill.

**Bankhead Raps Byrnes.**

Senator Bankhead, author of the farm price bill rejected by the president with the declaration that it might set off an inflationary tornado, charged yesterday during a warm debate that the measure had been misrepresented by "anonymous compilers of tables in the departments."

He said the bill would

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### Seed Spud Minimum Off For Victory Gardens

WASHINGTON, April 7.—(AP)—Victory gardeners won't have to buy seed potatoes in 50-pound lots after all.

To aid persons with small gardens, the OPA today removed its 50-pound regulation, originally established to curb sales of seed potatoes for human consumption in order to escape price ceilings.

Purchases for planting purposes now may be made in any quantity.

### Aloha to Japanese in U. S. Army



When more than 2600 Hawaiian-Japanese soldiers in the U. S. army left for active service, they were presented with leis and best wishes by 50 young American women of Japanese ancestry at Honolulu. Here, Florence Shirotake bids aloha to 2nd Lieut. Robert Kadowaki, right, a battalion officer.

### Missing 4 Fliers Thought Located In Idaho Region

CASCADE, Idaho, April 7.—(AP)—Tracks in the snow around a supposedly-occupied mountain cabin led Meroy Flier Penn Stohr today to believe he may have located four missing army airmen.

Stohr, civilian pilot who twice this winter has rescued army fliers from central Idaho's wilderness areas, saw the tracks while searching for crewmen who parachuted from a four-motored bomber before it smacked into a mountainside near Challis, Idaho.

Five of the crew members were brought here by Stohr yesterday after reaching a forest ranger's station on the middle fork of the Salmon river and telephoning for assistance. They said all nine occupants of the plane parachuted in the area.

Noting the tracks in the snow some seven miles up the middle fork from the rancher station, Stohr said he planned to fly low in an effort to attract the attention of anyone who might be in the cabin.

Still missing were Second Lt. Joseph Brensinger, Fairfield, Ala., pilot; Second Lt. George W. Smith, Jr., Hawthorne, Calif., bombardier; Staff Sgt. H. C. Van Slager, South Bend, Ind., engineer; and Staff Sgt. H. A. Pope, Athens, Ga., assistant engineer.

Also missing was a searching plane from the army's hill field at Ogden, Utah. Piloting it was Capt. Bill Kelly, accompanied by Lt. Arthur A. Croft and Forest Ranger C. E. Langer of Stanley, Idaho.

Crewmen of the Walla Walla bomber were ordered to bail out when the ship became lost and unable to pick up radio beam signals.

The nine men became separated in their descent from 14,000 feet.

### Chilean Earthquake Deals Death, Destruction

SANTIAGO, Chile, April 7.—(AP)—Three of Chile's most populous cities—Santiago, Valparaiso and Concepcion—and scores of villages and towns were shaken yesterday by an earthquake that affected nearly 2,000 miles of the 2,600-mile Chilean coast and took at least 18 lives.

Fragmentary messages gave reports of widespread destruction around Ovalle, about 180 miles north of Santiago, where seven were reported dead and 81 injured.

### Air Bombing Sets Fires to Nippon Base

South Pacific Area Sees Hard Blows; Kiska, Attu Also Receive Pounding

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, April 7.—(AP)—Allied bombers hit the Japanese base at Salamaua on the north-east coast of New Guinea yesterday in a concentrated mid-day attack which started a number of large fires and silenced anti-aircraft positions. General MacArthur's headquarters reported today.

A Flying Fortress followed up later in the day with an attack on the jetty area which demolished supply warehouses. The Fortress returned, as had the earlier force, without meeting any enemy craft in the air.

Wide-sweeping but relatively light bombing and strafing forays were made by bombers on the villages of Konari and Wokam in the Aroe islands, closest Japanese positions to the Australian mainland, and on Alitit, in the Tanimbar islands, also to the northwest, as well as on enemy positions in New Britain and New Guinea.

As allied fliers drove home these thrusts to keep the Japanese off balance, an official announcement disclosed the return from Washington of the mission headed by MacArthur's chief of staff, Maj. Gen. Richard K. Sutherland, and Lieut. Gen. George C. Kenney, allied air chief in the southwest Pacific.

Members of the mission said merely that they had presented details of the military situation

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### British Subs Hit Cruiser, Two Tankers

Convoy Attacked Off Tip Of Italy; Nazi Sub Sunk By Brazilian Bomber

LONDON, April 7.—(AP)—British submarines in the Mediterranean have attacked an Italian cruiser of the Regolo class and torpedoed two tankers and an enemy supply ship, the admiralty announced today.

It said the attack on the cruiser occurred in the straits of Messina, between Sicily and the Italian mainland, and a heavy explosion was heard but results were not observed.

"Other submarines operating against the axis supply lines in the Mediterranean have torpedoed two tankers and a supply ship of medium size," the admiralty's communique said.

One of the tankers was intercepted under escort near Cape Spartivento, at the extreme southern tip of Italy, while the other was torpedoed while being towed off the north coast of Sicily, it said.

The supply ship formed part of a convoy attacked near Marittimo.

"Noisy but ineffective counter-measures by enemy escorts made it impossible to observe full results of the attacks," the war bulletin said. "At least one of the tankers is believed to have been sunk."

The Regolo class is composed of twelve 3,362-ton cruisers laid down in 1939 and scheduled for completion in 1941.

Jan's fighting ships said the armor was practically nil. As de-

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### Gas Coupons in Seized Car Good for 2,676 Gals.

SEATTLE, April 7.—(AP)—Ration coupons good for 2,676 gallons of gasoline were seized by police yesterday in the automobile of a 19-year-old youth.

Police Sgt. Arthur E. Duggins said the youth, looked as Stephen Carter O'Brien, had 640 B coupons and 21 C coupons which he told officers he had bought for \$10.

### Private Johns of Azalea Missing in Action

AZALEA, Ore., April 6.—Private Darwin Johns, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Johns, of Azalea, has been reported missing in action, according to official notification received by his parents from the war department. He was serving with the U. S. army in North Africa.

### Four Killed in Crash Of Coast Guard Plane

SEATTLE, April 7.—(AP)—All four occupants of a coast guard patrol plane lost their lives as result of the craft's crash on a hill near Discovery bay, northern Olympia peninsula, coast guard headquarters reported today.

Lieut. (J. G.) Carl Heussy, former Seattle attorney, and Earl H. Muyskens, aviation pilot first class, of Port Angeles, died during the night in a hospital of injuries suffered in the wreck.

The two others aboard, Lieut. Comdr. F. L. Westbrook of Kansas City, Mo., and Radioman First Class T. E. Kesner of Port Angeles, were killed outright.

The crash occurred shortly before noon yesterday on a routine flight.

### Youth Missing After Fleeing Home With Gun

CORVALLIS, Ore., April 7.—(AP)—A sheriff's posse searched the coast range near Summit, 35 miles west of here today, for a 16-year-old boy missing since Monday.

The parents told officers the boy seized a rifle and ran into the hills near his home after an argument.

## Smashing Victory in Tunisia Assault Nets 6,000 Prisoners; Axis Forces Flee Toward Sea

American Troops Advance to Within 40 Miles of Junction With British After Destroying German Tanks, Howitzers; Allied Planes Aid in Triumph

(By the Associated Press)  
Gen. Montgomery's British 8th army marked up a smashing new victory over the German Africa corps in Tunisia today, capturing more than 6,000 prisoners and driving the enemy from the Wadi El Akarit defense zone after a bombardment by 500 big guns.

British infantry, charging with bayonets, seized all key positions in the line in seven and one-half hours of assault, it was announced.

Simultaneously, dispatches from allied headquarters said the American 2nd army corps had lashed out in a heavy attack from the El Guetar sector, on the road to the sea.

Accurate-firing U. S. 155 mm. guns earlier had destroyed three heavy German howitzers in that area with direct hits at 16,000 yards—more than nine miles—and allied planes had smashed a large concentration of axis tanks.

News of the 8th army's spectacular triumph was disclosed to a cheering parliament in London by Prime Minister Churchill, who declared:

"Rommel's army is now retreating northward and being hotly pursued."

Rommel's retreat from El Akarit left the axis chieftain in precarious straits, with his next logical defense area lying at Sfax or even Sousse, the latter only 110 miles below the northern anchor at Bizerte.

London quarters said the capture of 6,000 more prisoners, along with 8,000 seized in the Mareth line battle 10 days ago, meant that Rommel had lost about 17 per cent of his 80,000-man army, not counting dead and wounded.

Rommel still had a force of perhaps 170,000 troops under Col. Gen. von Arnim in the north, however, to bolster his hard-hit Africa corps.

Churchill's announcement on the break-through the El Akarit line, 20 miles north of Gabes and 40 miles north of the crumbled Mareth "little Maginot" fortifications, followed an allied communique late yesterday revealing that the 8th army had launched a major new push with developing success.

**Allied Junction Nearer.**  
"This successful frontal attack should enable the desert army to join hands with United States forces which have been pressing the enemy unceasingly from the west," Churchill said.

Two U. S. armored columns, under the command of Lieut. Gen. Patton, have been driving toward the coast from the El Guetar and Maknassy sectors and were last reported within 40 miles of a junction with the 8th army.

Asked if Gen. Montgomery's feat had been achieved against the main forces of Rommel, or merely against axis rearguards,

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### Black Sea Port at Stake in Battle

MOSCOW, April 7.—(AP)—Sharp fighting along the Donets river and in the Kuban delta, in the Caucasus, was reported by the Russians today as the long soviet-German battlefront experienced better weather.

In the Kuban delta, where the red army had been said unofficially to be fighting in the suburbs of Novorossisk, the Black sea port, dispatches said the Russians kept up their offensive and drove doggedly into the Germans against strong resistance.

The fighting there extended over acres of glue-like mud and swollen streams, but the Russians said their troops plunged on nevertheless, falling upon the nazis flanks in some areas and in others surrounding the foe.

Sharper fighting flared on the Donets river from the south of Izum on north past Chuguev, Izum is 70 miles and Chuguev is 22 miles, respectively, south-east of Khar'kov.

The Germans' newest attacks south of Izum against a soviet bridgehead were announced to have cost them more than 500 dead and one of their front lines.

Russian dispatches said the German air force was operating in considerable strength up and down the Donets, but was losing heavily under attacks by Russian fighter planes and anti-aircraft batteries.

### Ration Coupons Can't Be Transferred With Car

PORTLAND, April 7.—(AP)—The office of defense transportation today warned that certificates of war necessity and "T" ration gasoline coupons cannot legally be transferred with titles to trucks or other commercial vehicles.

New operators must file an application for CWN on acquiring the vehicle.

### Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Felzensteln  
Henry Kaiser continues to court federal indictments by trying to speed the war effort. He now plans to build a plane capable of traveling 17,000 miles without a stop, but it's a good bet that it won't enable him to outrun the FBI.

## I SAW

By Paul Jenkins



R. L. (DICK) PRESTON, executive secretary of the local war rationing board, has a job I wouldn't want, which you wouldn't want, and which he didn't want. But it was a job which had to be done—someone had to do it—so, being a good average public-spirited American guy and conscientious citizen, Dick said, he'd do it, and do his darnedest.

It's quite probable that the members of the rationing board, the executive secretary and the office personnel are the most cursed individuals in Douglas county. This supposition is true of each rationing board in each county, or like district, in the United States.