

Mateur Falls To Yanks

Nazis Still Flee Northwest of Tunis Base

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE
Associated Press War Editor

In the greatest single victory yet achieved by American arms in Tunisia, U. S. troops captured Mateur, the key to communications to Tunis and Bizerte and next to those cities the most important objective in North Africa. The new allied northern offensive yesterday (Mon.) carried other American and mixed French forces to within 15 miles of Bizerte along the Mediterranean sector.

The Americans swept into Mateur, which is 18 miles southwest of Bizerte and 34 miles northwest of Tunis, behind a German withdrawal which was general in the north of Tunisia. They fanned out beyond the town, for an aggregate advance of 14 miles, to reach the commencement of the plain leading to Tunis, the capital.

Several hundred axis prisoners were taken, aside from the heavy casualties inflicted in the earlier heavy fighting.

The French and their American comrades took more than 500 axis captives in their four-mile advance on Bizerte, the big axis naval base.

The general allied advance at late report still was unhalted; axis defenses were collapsing over a wide area.

The bulk of enemy forces in the north still were retreating, but it was not known how far beyond Mateur they had gone, nor exactly where they might attempt a new stand.

Seizure of the town definitely threatens both Bizerte and Tunis. In the extreme north before Bizerte the axis still holds hills for defense, and the naval base is further protected by the twin lakes of Bizerte and Garat Achkel.

(The Algiers radio said the US troops were continuing to advance beyond Mateur, with allied fighter and bomber planes pounding at the retreating axis forces.)

The crash through the crazy hills to Mateur in two weeks of the most bitter fighting, marked by heavy losses on both sides, was mainly a feat of infantry supported by long-range American 155-millimeter artillery that had shelled the town for five days.

American infantry units seized green and bald hills in the heavily-fortified Jefa positions west of Mateur this morning to clear the way for the striking advance. Mateur had been held briefly by British forces between November 27 and December 4 in early stages of the Tunisian fighting.

The American and French advances give the allies control of all territory west of a line between Mateur and Bizerte. This line bisects the great lake of Garat Achkel, and the only retreat for any enemy troops remaining in the area is through the narrow strips of land along the lake.

The French command announced that a German counter attack supported by tanks southeast of Pont du Fahs had made a slight gain, but that to the east of this action French troops had occupied the Djebel El Dib, near Saouf, and thrust out to the outskirts of the town itself.

From the British Eighth army in the far south no action had been reported beyond its earlier repulse of an axis counter attack in the coastal region northeast of Enfidaville.

In northern Tunisia the German (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

This Animal Not So Dumb

PORTLAND, May 3—(AP)—A cow came lowing to the Oregon Humane Society building early Monday.

Edward B. Silva opened the door to investigate, then led her to the barn and bedded her down. Soon she gave birth to a calf.

Reds Defeat New Attacks In Caucasus

Violent Fighting Flares Around Kuban Sector

LONDON, Tuesday, May 4—(AP)—Russian troops have killed 900 more Germans in violent fighting in the Kuban sector of the Caucasus, the Soviets announced early today, bringing the toll of enemy dead within the last week in that area to nearly 8000.

Actions flared all along the vast front from the Caucasus north to Leningrad, with a total of 1280 nazi troops killed Monday in land attacks and by artillery actions, said the midnight communique as recorded by the Soviet monitor.

Tremendous dog fights swirled in the air over the Caucasian battle fields, the Moscow radio reported, with 54 German planes shot down in combats "west of Krasnodar" Sunday and Monday against a loss of 21 Russian planes.

These aerial battles apparently accompanied the German assaults to broaden their bridgehead around Novosvolsk, attacks which the Russians reported Monday had been beaten back after six days of fighting in which 7000 German troops perished.

Patterson, Jeffers Feud Said Finished

WASHINGTON, May 3—(AP)—The bitter priorities feud between Rubber Administrator William M. Jeffers and Undersecretary of War Patterson seemed at an end Monday as the two men made plans for a joint tour of war plants looking for bottlenecks to break.

Patterson, who previously had protested that Jeffers' rubber factory program was taking vital materials away from the aviation gasoline program, disclosed the forthcoming tour at a session of the Truman committee, senatorial group inquiring into the quarrel.

Patterson still insisted a shortage of high octane gasoline was hampering the war program. He said the need for gasoline is growing, partly because American airmen have been so successful in combat that their percentage of plane losses "is considerably less than half of what we expected."

FR Approves Astoria Span

WASHINGTON, May 3, (AP) President Roosevelt Monday signed a bill under which the Oregon-Washington bridge board of trustees may construct a toll bridge across the Columbia river at Astoria.

Under terms of the act, construction must be commenced within two years.

Ruml Tax Battle Opens

House Clears Way For Finish Vote In Session Today

By FRANCIS M. LEMAY

WASHINGTON, May 3—(AP)—The finish battle on pay-as-you-go taxation opened Monday in the house, with republicans again fighting for the modified Ruml plan to skip a complete income tax year, and democratic leaders intent upon killing the proposal "so dead that it will never again be resurrected."

The house cleared the way for a vote Tuesday that may send to the senate a bill wiping out at least half, if not all, of the \$10,000,000,000 tax assessed against 1942 individual incomes.

The democrats were aligned behind a pay-as-you-go bill that would abate about 50 per cent of 1942 taxes.

Opening the debate Monday, Rep. Doughton (D-NC), 79-year-old chairman of the ways and means committee, shouted that the Ruml plan was "an iniquitous tax policy."

Republicans replied that the democratic-supported bill was "a seventh heaven for the loan sharks." Rep. Knutson (R-Minn) charged that the bill amounted to a capital levy, because of its "doubling-up" of taxes, and he said "heretofore the only people who have stood for capital levies are the communists, the nazis and the fascists."

The bill would apply the lower 1941 rates and exemptions to 1942 income; the taxpayer then would pay off this obligation over the next three years (or sooner if he desired) while at the same time paying his current taxes.

Rep. Carlson (R-Kas), author of the bill embracing the republican-supported modified Ruml plan, told the house the skip-a-tax-year proposal was "the only sound and simple method" of placing America's 44,000,000 income taxpayers on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Heavy Raids Are Renewed In Aleutians

WASHINGTON, May 3—(AP)—A renewed, large-scale aerial drive against the Japanese air and submarine base on Kiska island in the Aleutians was reported Monday by the navy. It said bombers struck at enemy installations 13 times on Saturday.

Fires were started; holes were torn in the runway which the Japanese have laboriously carved out on the mountainous island, and heavy smoke rose from bombed installations on many parts of Kiska. Other bombs hit at North Head—the northern side of Kiska harbor—and a heavy explosion resulted.

At the same time, other heavy bombers attacked Attu, secondary Japanese base in the North Pacific chain. Hits were scored on "enemy target areas" there, the navy reported, but exact results were not disclosed.

The areas hit on Attu, 200 miles from the main Japanese position at Kiska, were described merely as in the Holtz bay and Chichagof harbor vicinity. Those sections of the island were bombarded by United States warships a week ago.

French Admiral Protests Break With Antilles

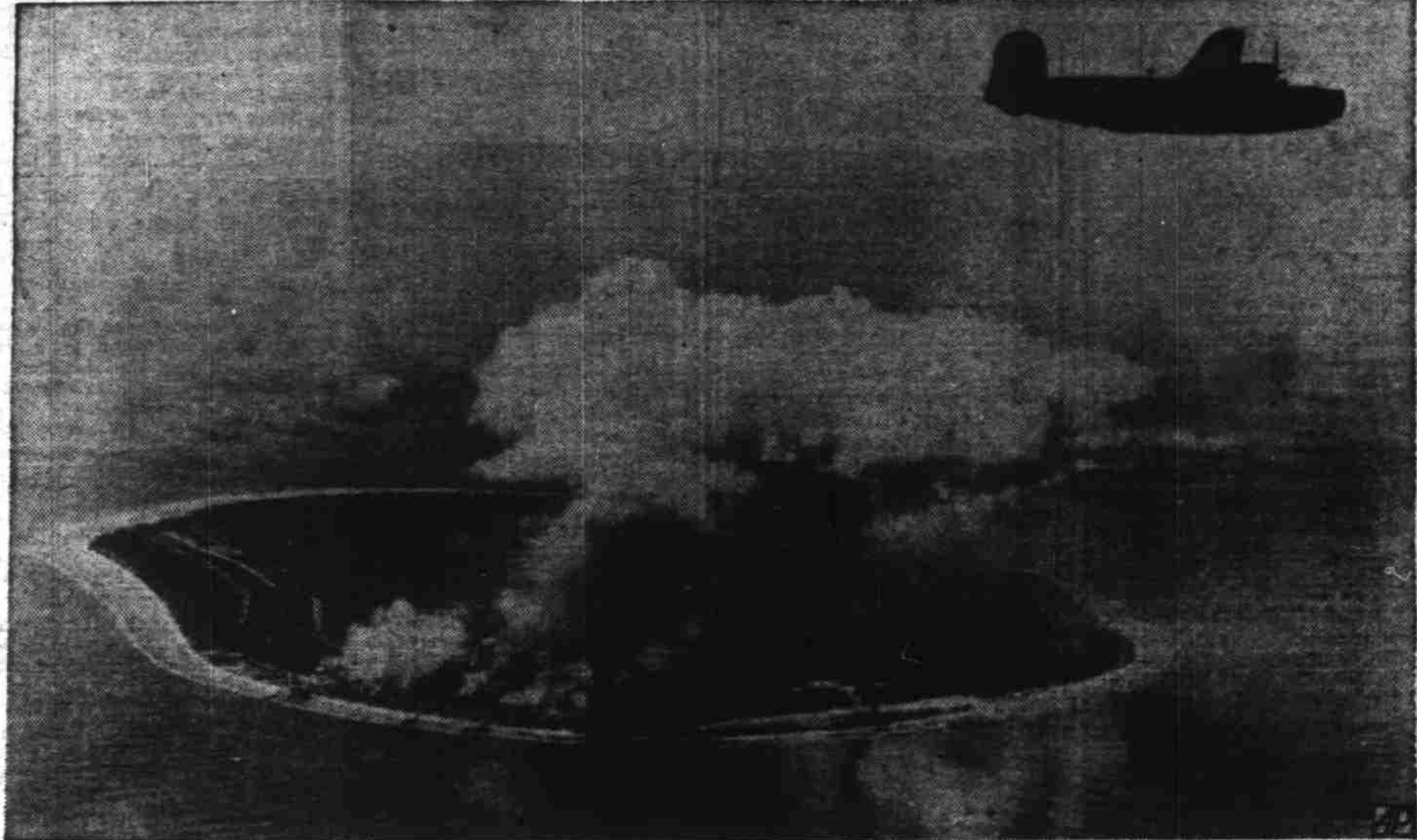
(Copyright, 1943, by the Associated Press)

NEW YORK, May 3—Admiral Georges Robert, French high commissioner of Martinique, disclosed Monday night that he had seen a note to the state department protesting the United States' action in breaking off relations with Martinique, and he urged that the department publish the text of this note.

Admiral Robert cabled this information to the Associated Press in reply to a query asking his views on the state department's action, announced Friday, abrogating informal agreements with Martinique.

Mines Resume Working

US Bombers Blast Nauru Island



Nauru Island, which the Japanese seized from the British in August, 1942, and where they, the Japanese, constructed an airfield to guard the enter approaches to Truk, was blasted by US bombers April 21 in what was the longest aerial task force mission of the war. Smoke billows from the important phosphate works and the airfield, as a US bomber wings over the little coral atoll in the Pacific. (Associated Press Teletext from Seventh Air Force.)

History Made At Champog

Celebration Attests Fame of Oregon's 1st Government

By RALPH C. CURTIS

At Champog on May 2, 1843, a few more than one hundred Oregon pioneers gathered to vote for—or in the case of the minority, against—creation of a provisional government. Not all of them were conscious that they were making history. One hundred years later to the day there was a gathering of more than two thousand, each one by his presence attesting recognition that on the former occasion history had been made.

Of the original small band of pioneers none remained to attend—but sons and daughters of some of them were present, and their grandchildren and great grandchildren; and there were more than a score who had been born here, or arrived by covered wagon, within the succeeding 16 years, before Oregon became a state.

Champog, like the Old Oregon Trail, belongs not exclusively to (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

Schenk to Take New Position

Harry Schenk, Eugene, arrived in Salem Monday preparatory to taking over his new duties as deputy secretary of state. He succeeds George Flagg, who has served in that capacity since the P. J. Stadelman administration.

Flagg will remain in the state department until May 15, so as to familiarize Schenk with its functions.

For the past several years Schenk has served as secretary-manager of the Oregon Publishers' association.

Perilous Flights Rescue 7 Airmen

By WILLIAM F. FRYE

WASHINGTON, May 3—(AP)—The seven airmen from the Greenland ice cap after five months of persistent attempts in which five men died was told Monday by the war department.

After the failure of various attempts to bring the men out, including use of motor sleds, Col. Ernst Balchen, noted flier and Arctic explorer, landed a navy flying boat and took off on three different occasions—not on water but on snow.

Three of the rescued airmen, accompanied by Gen. H. H. Arnold, six forces commander, visited President Roosevelt Monday—

City Council Meeting Skirts Pinball Question Salem Budget Boosted by \$54,000

Tax Levy Is Still A Problem for Citizen Group

A budget, which while still incomplete tops that of the current fiscal year by \$54,740.36 for next year's city operating expenses, was delivered in brief form to members of the citizens' budget committee Monday night as they met in organization session preceding the regular council meeting.

Operating expenses are estimated at \$330,167.59 in the document, which the committee headed by W. W. Chadwick will consider. Charles Heltzel was elected secretary.

Increased revenues are anticipated, but find no mention in the skeleton budget which was placed in mimeographed form on the desks of the 30 budget committee members.

Defense council totals were incomplete in that form, while no estimates were submitted for maintenance of parks, for which \$5807 was last year budgeted.

Heaviest increases noted in the first budget estimates were under (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

Beef Killing Quotas Lifted

CORVALLIS, Ore., May 3—(AP)—The Oregon board for the federal department of agriculture said Monday an order had been received from Washington, DC, to suspend all temporary beef slaughter quotas for May.

Consumer preference for beef under rationing has reached a point where there is not enough to supply military demands under present quotas, officials said.

They said Oregon slaughterers will be allowed to kill as many beef animals as were slaughtered in the 1941 period ending May 10. Those without a 1941 base will be allowed to kill half the amount of the October, 1942; March, 1943 period.

OPA Clamps Ceiling on Wood Prices

WASHINGTON, May 3—(AP)—Producers of lumber and wood products, seeking higher price ceilings on articles manufactured from logs and bolts, were warned Monday by the office of price administration that no consideration would be given to increased production costs based on above-ceiling prices paid for raw materials.

An order effective Saturday makes the already established maximum prices for logs and bolts the highest costs that can be considered, and will act as "indirect control" on values for standing trees, the OPA said.

Competition for the wood supply has encouraged some mills, the OPA explained, to buy and bid up stumpage to speculative levels, consequently making it unprofitable for persons to sell logs and bolts at present ceiling prices and shutting out regular logs and bolt buying plants which were observing the ceilings.

All petitions in anyway based on the costs of logs and bolts, OPA declared, must show the actual cost to the petitioner of the logs and bolts received during the three months prior to filing the petition.

Free French Heads to Meet

ALGIERS, May 3—(AP)—Gen. Henri Giraud has asked Gen. Charles De Gaulle of the Fighting French to meet him in North Africa as soon after May 5 as convenient to conclude an agreement between their respective French elements, it was announced Monday night.

Giraud's statement made public Monday said the invitation was to meet "in a North African city," and that they would go to Algiers after an agreement was reached.

Leisurely Session Takes Up 20 Other Business Matters

While the opposition to the so-called "pinball" ordinance filled the "gallery" seats and the proponents stood in the doorway, Salem city council moved in leisurely fashion through 20 other pieces of business Monday night and then proceeded without hearing more than the title of the bill for the two formal required readings to refer it to the police and licenses committee.

The measure, when it finally appeared late in a session at which the question of rentals for a portion of a street to be devoted to a defense industry had been discussed and a proposal to move bicycle licensing into the city treasurer's office had been thoroughly argued, bore the names of Alderman L. F. Legarie and Lloyd Moore as sponsors.

Dan J. Fry, Legarie and Albert H. Gille make up the committee which will consider it before it is allowed to return to the council for a final reading.

Mayor I. M. Doughton prior to the council meeting had promised to veto the ordinance if passed.

By petition, members of a women's class of the First Christian church, 50 strong, had expressed opposition to the proposed ordinance, while a letter from the Oregon Protective association expressed similar sentiments. Thirty merchants, largely tavern operators, sent to the council their own petition, declaring there was nothing secret about the sponsors of the bill or about the measure itself, declaring there would be no attempt to railroad it through the council.

The second petition was apparently in response to the Sunday night radio sermon over KSLM (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

City Income Upped \$10,500

Moving rapidly to assure the increased revenue sources before the budget meeting which is to proceed the May 17 meeting of the council, Salem city fathers Monday night suspended the rules and passed without the usual two-week interlude two ordinances which will up the city's income from utilities fees alone by \$10,000.

They raised the Portland General Electric company's direct payment from \$2500 to \$12,000 annually, Portland Gas & Coke company's from \$500 to \$1500 annually. Neither company had any objection, David O'Hara, chairman of the council's ways and means committee declared.

Other ordinances which would raise telegraph and express company fees and taxicab payments went back to committee for conference with operators at the request of O'Hara.

Dimout
Tues. sunset 8:24
Wed. sunrise 5:50
(Weather on Page 5)

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Where American Arms Won



The map above shows positions (solid line) which US forces under Lt. Gen. Patton stormed and took Sunday to smash on to the important rail head at Mateur. It is predicted that new allied attacks (open arrows) will be launched to split axis forces at the Tunis base. This might indicate that enemy forces would split, one unit staying to defend Bizerte and the other retreating to the mountainous peninsula east of Tunis. (Associated Press Map.)



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