

One British Pilot Takes Airdrome

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The day has revealed that a lone pilot from the British fleet air arm, flying an American built plane, occupied an important North African airport in the early days of the United Nations invasions.

The British had assigned four "Marlets" (English name for the U. S. navy's Gruman "Wildcat" planes) to patrol the airports of Maison Blanche and Blida. The patrol encountered vigorous anti-aircraft fire over the fields.

A relief patrol then noticed that the anti-aircraft fire had ceased and that people on the Blida field were waving white handkerchiefs. A white ground strip has "U. S." printed on it.

The British patrol suspected a trap, but Lieut. B. H. C. Nation of the royal navy decided to land. He was met by a French general who handed him a slip of paper: "Blida aerodrome is placed at the disposal of the Allied armies."

While Nation pondered his next move, ground forces arrived and occupied the installation.

Average tornado travels a distance of 30 miles.

Mac Aussies Move on Sananada Japanese

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Jan. 6.—(AP)—An attack to clean the Mikado's men out of Sananada point, their last foothold in southeastern New Guinea, was shaped by allied forces today.

"We are regrouping our troops preparatory to attack," a communiqué from General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters said tersely.

The headquarters announcement told of far-ranging air activity, with the Japanese airdrome at Lae, in northeastern New Guinea, suffering the heaviest blows from allied bombs. Advice from the front also told of an air prelude to the tank and infantry drive massing against the Sananada salient.

Medium bombers roared in at low altitudes and dropped 300-pounders on Japanese machine-gun nests and light attack bombers swept over the area to strafe enemy positions. Fires were started in the Japanese-held positions.

Front-line dispatches also said that there was still intermittent fighting in the Buna sector where 50 more Japs had been killed in mopping-up operations.

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