

NORTH AFRICA.

L.I. - ~~Unesco~~ ~~Monday, Feb. 1, 1943.~~
Fri., Jan. 29, 1943

THE GREAT AMERICAN AIR BLOW IN TUNISIA IS TAKEN TO BE A PRELUDE TO A POWERFUL THRUST ON THE GROUND. WAVES OF UNITED STATES BOMBERS SMASHED AT THE AXIS PORT OF SFAX.

THE ATTACK WAS ~~BRANDED~~/BY LAUNCHED BY THE HEAVIEST BOMBER FORCE EVER ASSEMBLED IN NORTH AFRICA. FLYING FORTRESSES DROPPED TONS OF HIGH EXPLOSIVE ON THE DOCKS OF THE HARBOR, WHICH IS SO IMPORTANT FOR THE AXIS IN TUNISIA. THE FORTRESSES WERE FOLLOWED BY SQUADRONS OF BILLY MITCHELL BOMBERS, WHICH STRUCK AT RAILROAD COMMUNICATIONS. THE BILLY MITCHELLS GAVE A REMARKABLE DISPLAY OF PRECISION BOMBING. ROME DESCRIBES THE DESTRUCTION AT SFAX IN THESE WORDS: "TREMENDOUS DAMAGE" - A SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ADMISSION.

TODAY'S BULLETIN FROM OUR OWN NORTH AFRICAN HEADQUARTERS STATES THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE ON THE GROUND. THE ENEMY DIFFERS. THE NAZI CONTROLLED RADIO AT PARIS DECLARES THAT AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED IN SOUTHERN TUNISIA AND HAVE OCCUPIED THE TOWN OF MAKNASSY. THAT PLACE IS ONLY THIRTY-FOUR MILES FROM THE BORDER OF LIBYA. THE NORTH AFRIKA KORPS IS COMING IN THAT WAY - FROM LIBYA TO TUNISIA. SO ~~IS~~ THE AMERICAN ADVANCE, IF THE ENEMY REPORT IS CORRECT, MIGHT THREATEN TO CUT OFF THE RETREAT OF THE

AFRIKA KORPS.

LONDON BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT THIS NAZI FORCE, WHICH HAS
RETREATED ALL THE WAY FROM EGYPT, WILL MAKE GOOD ITS RETIREMENT
INTO TUNISIA TO JOIN THE AXIS TROOPS THERE. ITS REAR GUARD IS
FIGHTING A DELAYING ACTION IN LIBYA, NOT FAR FROM THE BORDER OF
TUNISIA.

(635P)

COMMAND - FOLLOW NORTH AFRICA

FROM NORTH AFRICA WE HEAR THAT A SINGLE COMMANDER IS TO BE PLACED IN CHARGE OF ALL ALLIED OPERATIONS FROM THE COAST OF THE ATLANTIC TO THE SUEZ CANAL. THIS SINGLE COMMAND IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN DECIDED UPON AT THE CASABLANCA CONFERENCE BETWEEN PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND PRIME MINISTER WINSTON CHURCHILL -- ONE OF THE IMPORTANT THINGS THEY AGREED UPON.

THE REPORT COMES FROM ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, AND NAMES ARE MENTIONED. ONE MOST FREQUENTLY -- MONTGOMERY. THE SUPPOSITION IS ^{the} ~~THE~~ GENERAL TO BE GIVEN THE UNIFIED COMMAND WILL BE GENERAL SIR BERNARD L. MONTGOMERY, COMMANDER OF THE EIGHTH ARMY WHICH DROVE ROMMEL HELTER SKELTER OUT OF EGYPT AND ALL THE WAY TO TUNISIA -- A FOURTEEN HUNDRED MILE RETREAT. ANOTHER SUGGESTION IS THAT OUR OWN LIEUTENANT ^{Gen} EISENHOWER WILL BE GIVEN THE POST.

THEY SAY THE SINGLE COMMAND IDEA WILL BE PUT INTO EFFECT AFTER THE AXIS FORCES IN TUNISIA HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED. IT IS TAKEN FOR GRANTED AT ALLIED HEADQUARTERS THAT THE NEXT STEP WILL BE AN INVASION OF EUROPE, AND THE DIRECTION OF THIS CULMINATING OPERATION WILL BE THE TASK FOR THE COMMANDER PLACED IN CHARGE OF ALL THE ALLIED FORCES IN NORTH AFRICA.

ADD COMMAND.

MORE FACTS ARE COMING TO LIGHT ABOUT THE FIRST AIRPLANE TRIP
EVER MADE BY AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT WHILE IN OFFICE. FOR EXAMPLE,
HIS VISITS WITH TWO PRESIDENTS - IN LIBERIA AND IN BRAZIL. PRESIDENTS
ROOSEVELT AND VARGAS HAD PLENTY TO DISCUSS CONCERNING JOINT ACTION
BY THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL. AND WE ARE DUE TO HEAR STILL MORE
ABOUT THE AMPLE USE THAT PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT MADE OF HIS TIME WHILE
SKY-VOYAGING BEYOND THE BORDERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

(617P)

ADD THIS TO ADD COMMAND.

HERE'S THE LATEST -- FROM BRAZIL. THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS ROOSEVELT AND VARGAS TOOK PLACE ABOARD A UNITED STATES DESTROYER. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ARRIVED FROM AFRICA BY AIR, AND FROM THE FLYING FIELD WENT IMMEDIATELY TO THE DOCKS AND BOARDED THE AMERICAN WARSHIP. THEN PRESIDENT VARGAS WENT ABOARD. THE CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENTS WAS ATTENDED BY HIGH AMERICAN AND BRAZILIAN MILITARY OFFICIALS.

(625P)

FRENCH.

~~FOLLOW COMMAND~~ TODAY IN NORTH AFRICA, HIGH COMMISSIONER GENERAL GIRAUD ANNOUNCED THE END OF RACIAL INTOLERANCE. HE SPOKE OF THE REPRESSIONS INSPIRED BY THE NAZIS AND PUT INTO EFFECT BY THE VICHY NORTH AFRICAN REGIME - ANTI-SEMITIC INTOLERANCE. GENERAL GIRAUD STATED TODAY THAT THE FIRST STEP WOULD BE TO PERMIT JEWISH CHILDREN TO ATTEND THE SAME SCHOOLS AS OTHER CHILDREN.

AND GIRAUD WENT ON TO SAY A FEW THINGS ABOUT HIS MEETING WITH GENERAL DEGAULLE AT THE TIME OF THE ROOSEVELT-CHURCHILL CONFERENCE AT CASABLANCA. HE SAID THAT HE AND DEGAULLE HAD WHAT HE CALLED - "EXCELLENT TALKS." THESE, HE ADDED, WERE 'ONLY A FIRST STEP TOWARD AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIS OWN NORTH AFRICAN ADMINISTRATION AND THE FIGHTING FRENCH. THUS FAR, NOTHING FURTHER HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED EXCEPT AN EXCHANGE OF LIAISON OFFICERS. THAT'S AS NEAR AS THEY HAVE COME TO A SETTLEMENT.

IN LONDON, A FREE FRENCH SPOKESMAN, WHO WAS AT CASABLANCA WITH DEGAULLE, SAID HE BELIEVED THE TWO FACTIONS WOULD SOON ARRIVE AT WHAT HE CALLED - "SOME SORT OF POLITICAL AGREEMENT." TO THIS HE ADDED THE RATHER CRYPTIC STATEMENT THAT IF GENERAL GIRAUD HAD BEEN ALONE WHEN HE CONFERRED WITH THE FREE FRENCH LEADER, A SETTLEMENT

FRENCH (2)

WOULD HAVE BEEN MADE THERE AND THEN. HE IMPLIED THAT THE ADVISORS WHO WERE WITH GIRAUD IMPEDED PROGRESS. HE DIDN'T SAY WHO THEY WERE, BUT OBVIOUSLY HE MEANT - FORMER ADHERENTS OF VICHY.

AND THIS FREE FRENCH SPOKESMAN DISCLOSED A BIT OF PERSONAL DETAIL - CONCERNING PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND DEGAULLE. WHEN THE FRENCH GENERAL CAME TO MEET THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT, THE WELCOME HE RECEIVED WAS HEARTY. "THERE YOU ARE," PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT EXCLAIMED. "AFTER SEEING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS I'D RECOGNIZE YOU ANY PLACE. COME SIT BY ME," HE SAID TO DEGAULLE.

SO THERE'S A PERSONAL BIT TO ADD TO THE DRAMA OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SKY VOYAGE TO CASABLANCA.

(6PM)

RUSSIA.

THE SOVIET OFFENSIVE IN THE SPOTLIGHT TONIGHT IS THE ONE IN FRONT OF VORONEZH. THAT IS NORTH OF THE AREA OF THE CAUCASUS AND THE DON - UP TOWARD THE CENTER OF THE LONG RUSSIAN FRONT.

FOR THREE DAYS THE RED ARMY HAS BEEN SMASHING FORWARD IN THE VORONEZH AREA, AND TONIGHT MOSCOW REPORTS THAT SEVEN GERMAN DIVISIONS HAVE BEEN TRAPPED. SOVIET FORCES DROVE FROM THE NORTHEAST AND SOUTH, AND BROKE THROUGH THE GERMAN DEFENSES ON A FORTY-THREE MILE FRONT. THE SEVEN GERMAN DIVISIONS WENT REELING BACK, AND NOW RAPIDLY MOVING RUSSIAN FORCES HAVE CUT OFF THEIR RETREAT.

THE DEPTH OF THE ADVANCE IS FROM TWENTY-FOUR TO THIRTY-ONE MILES, AND EIGHTY-SIX THOUSAND PRISONERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN. MOSCOW TELLS OF THE WIPING OUT OF AN ITALIAN ALPINE CORPS, ELEVEN THOUSAND ITALIANS CAPTURED - INCLUDING THREE GENERALS.

(622P)

HITLER.

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I WONDER WHAT HITLER WOULD SAY TOMORROW, IF HE SAID ANYTHING. THE FACT THAT HE WON'T, IS A STRIKING NOVELTY IN RECENT GERMAN HISTORY. EVERY YEAR, ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAY WHEN HITLER GRASPED POWER, DER FUEHRER HAS MADE ONE OF HIS NOISIEST HARANGUES. SHOUTS, THREATS, BOASTS, SHRIEKS AND A GRATING OF FRANTIC GUTTERALS. THESE HAVE BEEN THE INVARIABLE UPROAR OF A HITLER-ACCESSION-TO-POWER-ANNIVERSARY-CELEBRATION, TO COPY THE TEUTONIC WAY OF PILING WORDS TOGETHER.

LAST YEAR, THE ORATORY OF THE FUEHRER WAS A LITTLE MORE SUBDUED, AFTER THE FIRST WINTER CAMPAIGN OF THE NAZIS IN RUSSIA. DER FUEHRER COULDN'T BOAST SO MUCH, AFTER HIS ARMIES HAD BEEN ROLLED AWAY FROM MOSCOW. THIS YEAR - NOTHING, ALTHOUGH TOMORROW IS THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HITLER RULE IN GERMANY, AND SHOULD HAVE RATED THE BIGGEST CELEBRATION AND LOUDEST SPEECH OF ALL.

TODAY AT BERLIN, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT AN ADDRESS WOULD BE DELIVERED TOMORROW BY GOEBBELS, THAT IMP OF PROPAGANDA - NOT HITLER. GOEBBELS WILL ORATE, AND THEN HE WILL READ A PROCLAMATION BY HITLER. BUT THE VOICE OF DER FUEHRER HIMSELF WILL NOT BE HEARD - ON THE

PARTICULARLY LUGUBRIOUS TENTH ANNIVERSARY.

I WONDER WHAT DER FUEHRER WOULD SAY, IF HE SAID ANYTHING -
ABOUT THE CATASTROPHE OF STALINGRAD AND ABOUT THE SECOND WINTER
OF WAR WHICH HAS GONE WORSE THAN THE FIRST. OF COURSE, HE MIGHT
3 SPRING A SURPRISE AND MAKE A SPEECH AFTER ALL - BUT WHAT CAN HE SAY?

(SSOP)

SOLOMONS.

THE TEMPO OF WAR SEEMS TO BE STEPPING UP IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS. TODAY'S NAVY BULLETIN TELLS OF INCREASED ACTIVITY IN THE AIR -- AND EVENTS IN THE SKY ARE OFTEN THE OVERTURE OF THINGS THAT HAPPEN DOWN BELOW.

AN ENEMY AIR FLEET WINGING TOWARD GUADALCANAL - JAPANESE DIVE BOMBERS, HIGH LEVEL BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS. AN AIR BATTLE FOLLOWED IN WHICH NINE ZEROS WERE DESTROYED AND SIX PROBABLY DESTROYED. FOUR AMERICAN PLANES ARE MISSING. NO BOMBS WERE DROPPED, INDICATING THAT THE ENEMY AIRMADA WAS DRIVEN OFF.

AMERICAN PLANES MADE TWO ATTACKS ON JAPANESE SHIPS IN THE SOLOMONS. DIVE BOMBERS AND TORPEDO PLANES WITH FIGHTER ESCORTS ASSAILED A DESTROYER AND A CARGO SHIP. TWO DIRECT HITS WERE SCORED ON THE FREIGHTER AND BOMBS FELL CLOSE TO THE DESTROYER -- WHICH WAS LEFT SMOKING.

IN A SECOND ATTACK A TORPEDO BLEW UP AN ENEMY DESTROYER AND BOMBS DAMAGED A CARGO SHIP, AND A TANKER WAS SEEN ON FIRE.

~~THE JAP AIR ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST GUADALCANAL AND THE FACT THAT OUR OWN PLANES WENT AFTER ENEMY SURFACE SHIPS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD MIGHT SEEM TO INDICATE THAT THE JAPS WERE UP TO SOMETHING, MAKING~~

ARMA

I am in Brooklyn tonight, taking part in a twenty-five year anniversary celebration. The concern is one that I am sure you have never heard of. I know I hadn't. And, to give it a little publicity will not be of any help to anybody either. Because this happens to be a concern that only makes delicate precision instruments for Uncle Sam's Navy, particularly for battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers, and submarines.

Nearly all of you I presume have made the remark:- "Why is it that a battleship or an aircraft carrier costs so many millions upon millions of dollars?" Well, I saw one instrument here today at Arma that contains fifty-seven thousand different parts. Just one instrument to go on a modern man-o-war. So no wonder they are so incredibly expensive.

I saw the instrument panel of an aircraft carrier and all the wiring in it makes the panel of a big telephone exchange fade into insignificance. And the insides of a huge gyro-compass, well, that's something.

The men who founded this firm twenty-five years ago, Messrs. David Mayhood and Arthur P. Davis are still at the helm, still young men, sitting here beside me. Since they don't have much contact with the public, and deal only with Naval engineers, they are practically unknown. And on this Twenty-Fifth Anniversary, which finds us in the midst of by far the greatest war in the history of the world, I feel they deserve a special salute. They, and the six thousand employees who are here with them, are doing one of the most important jobs of all.

Already they have received the Navy E, the

All-Navy E and the only two-star-Army-Navy E I know of, at least in this section of the country.

Recently when the U.S.S. SAN FRANCISCO, the flagship of our task force that won such a smashing victory in the Solomon Islands, when the SAN FRANCISCO came home, her officers praised the Arma people for making the instruments that controlled the fire power of our ships in that all important battle.

We've got to win the war and we're beginning to win it, and these people who build our precision instruments in this highly mechanized age, on them we are depending. There is a vital role.

JEFFERS.

IN WASHINGTON, A WHIRLPOOL OF STORM AND TALK IS SWIRLING AROUND A STOCKY RUGGED FIGURE OF A MAN WHO HAS STIRRED UP MORE RUMPUS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL THAN ANYBODY ELSE IN A LONG TIME. THEY THOUGHT LEON HENDERSON WAS BLUNT SPOKEN AND SHARP TONGUED - IF ONE CAN BE BLUNT AND SHARP AT THE SAME TIME. HENDERSON CAUSED MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF TEMPESTUOUS ARGUMENT - BUT NOW THEY HAVE JEFFERS.

AS RUBBER DIRECTOR, WILLIAM M. JEFFERS HAS BEEN STRETCHING THE PATIENCE OF A LOT OF PEOPLE. HE TALKS RIGHT OUT, SAYING THINGS WITH A ROAR WHEN A WHISPER WOULD BE TOO LOUD. HE NEVER MINCES A WORD, ^{he} BUT OFTEN ^{and} MAKES A HASH OF OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS. HE IS WAGING A PRIVATE WAR OF HIS OWN TO GET MORE MATERIALS WITH WHICH TO BUILD SYNTHETIC RUBBER PLANTS. ^{In fact} HE IS CALLING TO HIGH HEAVEN, SHOUTING FROM THE HOUSE-TOPS, AND APPEALING TO THE PEOPLE.

IN WASHINGTON SOME FOLKS WHOSE NERVES HAVE BEEN JANGLED HAVE BEEN SAYING THAT JEFFERS IS BLOWING A POLITICAL BUGLE FOR HIMSELF. HE TAKES THE RUBBER QUESTION TO THE PEOPLE, BECAUSE HE HAS IDEAS OF BECOMING PRESIDENT - SAY THEY.

JEFFERS (2)

TODAY WILLIAM M. JEFFERS GAVE A VIGOROUS DENIAL. HE REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT HE WORKED UP FROM THE BOTTOM TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD, AND DECLARED THAT HE BELIEVES IN APPEALING TO THE PEOPLE - "THE MAN WHO EATS IN THE KITCHEN AND WORKS WITH HIS SLEEVES ROLLED UP," SAID HE.

AS FOR HAVING AN AMBITION TO BECOME PRESIDENT, HE RETORTED: "THE ONLY PRESIDENCY I AM INTERESTED IN IS THAT OF THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD - AND I'VE GOT THAT."

THIS WAS STATED IN AN INTERVIEW WITH JOSEPH LAITIN OF THE UNITED PRESS. "I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY TALK ABOUT IN WASHINGTON," SAID JEFFERS TO LAITIN. "AND I CARE LESS WHAT THEY THINK. I AM NOT INTERESTED IN POLITICS, NEVER WAS AND NEVER WILL BE - GET THAT STRAIGHT, YOUNG MAN." WHICH WAS TALKING LIKE A DUTCH UNCLE.

THE RUBBER DIRECTOR GAVE SOME EXPLANATION OF THE ASPERSIONS HE CAST THE OTHER DAY ON - "EXPEDITERS." AT THAT TIME HE SAID THEY WERE "ARMY AND NAVY LOAFERS." AND THAT CERTAINLY DID RAISE THE TEMPEST. IT APPEARS THAT THE EXPEDITERS ARE NOT LOAFING - THAT'S THE TROUBLE. THEY MERELY GOT IN THE RUBBER DIRECTOR'S NOT TOO ELASTIC WAY.

TODAY, JEFFERS EXPLAINED THAT PEOPLE HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD THE MEANING OF THE WORD "LOAFERS."

"IT IS AN OLD RAILROAD EXPRESSION," SAID HE, "AND MEANS SOMEBODY WHO IS UNNECESSARY ON THE JOB, NOT ONE WHO IS LAYING DOWN ON IT." SO MAYBE HIS OPINION IS THAT THE EXPEDITERS ARE UNNECESSARY HARD WORKERS.

SOME MORE ELUCIDATION ON THIS SUBJECT IS DUE. JEFFERS IS TO EXPLAIN HIS DEFINITION OF LOAFERS TO A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON MONDAY.

5 1/2
TODAY'S INTERVIEW WITH THE RUBBER DIRECTOR MIGHT SEEM TO HAVE BEEN VIGOROUS ENOUGH, BUT IT REALLY WASN'T UP TO THE JEFFERS STANDARD.

REFERRING TO THE ROW HE HAS HAD WITH THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION BECAUSE OF THE WAY HE HAS BEEN TALKING RIGHT OUT, THE UNITED PRESS REPORTER ASKED: "DO YOU INTEND TO CONTINUE TO SPEAK YOUR MIND?"

"I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR THAT QUESTION," SAID THE RUBBER DIRECTOR, AND HE SNAPPED: "THAT'S ONE I REFUSE TO ANSWER."

(512P)

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At any rate Hugh will you now speak your mind.