

Yanks Take Two Airfields, Plunge North

Reds Pierce Orel's Main Defense Line

Artillery Shelling the City As Soviets Advance On All Fronts

MOSCOW, July 22 (UP)—Russian army forces tonight are fighting their way through the concrete fortifications of the main outer defenses of Orel, and the heavy Russian guns are steadily shelling the city itself.

The Germans further south have been forced to abandon their main Byelgorod defense lines, and the Russians are advancing everywhere on this sector, front line dispatches said tonight. Successive German counter-attacks,

Bazooka Believed Aiding Reds' Drive

WASHINGTON, July 22—The Bazooka, the American rocket gun which proved itself in Africa, now is being shipped to Russia under lend-lease, and is believed here to be one of the factors in the Red Army's success against German tanks in the current offensive.

south of Izyum and southwest of Voroshilovgrad, were shattered by the Russians, who steadily are widening their bridgeheads on the right banks of the Donetz and Mius rivers.

Planes Attack Behind Lines

Russian bombers are pounding German concentrations behind the lines, slowing down the German flow of reinforcements and supplies to their threatened positions in the south.

Two Russian columns are closing on Orel. To the north, Red Army forces are only nine miles from the city itself. A second column, advancing from the east against intense German pressure, is within 11 miles of the city.

A third Russian column, south of Orel, slowly is pounding forward against stubborn German resistance. German counter-attacks are reported from this area and the Nazis are making desperate efforts to hold back the Russians and keep open the main road running out of the city to the southwest.

Three Railroads Taken

Three great railways have now been taken in the Russian drive on Orel—the Orel-Kursk, Orel-Tula and Orel-Yeletz lines. At Studenko the Russian forces are pressing forward only five miles to the north of the vital Orel-Briansk railway.

The German channel of escape from Orel, now only 25-30 miles wide, is being daily pinched closer in the Russian offensive which is threatening in its stride bastion towns which the Germans have held ever since their first onslaught on Russia in the summer and autumn of 1941.

Inside the main defenses of Orel the Russians are coming up against stronger German resistance. The Nazi counter-attacks come more frequently and many of them are made with tanks.

These main defenses are of concrete which has been lined with a belt of armor plate, according to a front-line report.

French Army's Chance Coming

Gen. Henri Giraud, high commissioner of French North Africa, told his countrymen in a BBC French service broadcast that "soon it will be the French army's turn to take its place in the lines—this time with ultra-modern equipment which President Roosevelt assured me would be delivered as quickly as possible."

Reminding listeners of "the horrible clatter of tanks which overflowed our roads like a devastating avalanche," Giraud asserted:

"You will hear this clatter again, but more gladly when the last old German tank retraces the route, pursued by the tanks bearing French colors... that moment is approaching with clockwork precision; the moment that you and I have so long waited for.

"Bent not on conquest or even defense, but on deliverance and rescue... from the shores of Algeria, to which I return, our soldiers gaze toward the blue horizon beyond which they can feel and almost hear the presence of France."

Lightly Armed Airborne Units Held Panzers, Saved U.S. Line

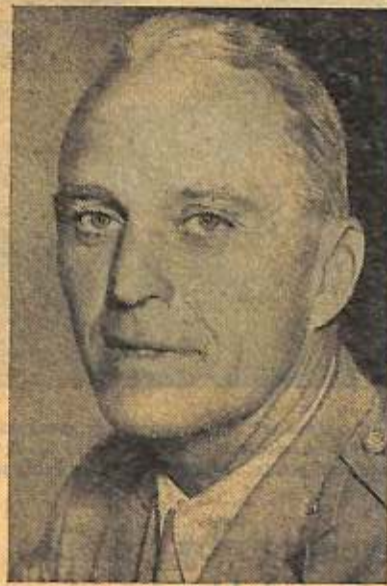
Chief, En Route to U.S., Describes Success of Biggest Air Convoy

American airborne troops, landing on Sicily on a bigger scale than has ever before been attempted by any army, contributed heavily to the success of the invasion and proved beyond question their ability to hold back crack German armor with only the light weapons dropped with them, Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Swing, airborne expert on Gen. Eisenhower's staff, said here yesterday.

The 49-year-old commander of the U.S. 11th Airborne Division, who is co-ordinator of plans for airborne troops on Gen. Eisenhower's staff, spoke at a press conference while in London to confer with Lt. Gen. Jacob Devers, ETO commander. He is en route to Washington to report on the lessons learned in the operation.

The American use of airborne troops in Sicily constituted the largest simultaneous landings in history, Gen. Swing said. The Germans on Crete landed more men from the air but their operation was spread over a period of time "in a sort of continuous shuttle"; it was not a simultaneous landing.

"The Sicily invasion was the first time in history," said Gen. Swing, "that a self-contained unit, complete with its own engineers, artillery, ammunition and quartermaster, was committed to battle by air. It is a far step forward from the former method of using small groups of



Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Swing

parachutists to drop behind enemy lines to seize or destroy a specific point. "This was no raiding unit. It was a powerful force—a complete division ready for action and able, in fire power, to compare favorably with an infantry division."

The U.S. airborne troops, using M1 rifles, machine-guns, anti-tank weapons

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Los Angeles Aircraft Plants Hard Hit by Transit Strike

LOS ANGELES, July 22 (UP)—The Los Angeles area, largest aircraft production center in the world, was virtually paralyzed today when 3,000 bus and trolley workers went on strike and many of the area's 1,000,000 factory and office workers were unable to reach their jobs.

Gen. McQuillan, commander of the Western Defense Zone, immediately threatened to place the area under martial law and place the transit system under Army operation.

Yanks on Edge Of Munda Base

Solomons Garrison Gets Heaviest Raid Ever In So. Pacific

WASHINGTON, July 22—American troops on New Georgia, veterans of three weeks of bitter jungle fighting, yesterday hurled back strong Japanese counter-attacks with many enemy losses, then advanced to within 1,000 yards of the village's airfield, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced today. At the same time United States planes dropped 133 tons of bombs on Bairoko harbor in New Georgia (12 miles from Munda) in the heaviest Allied raid yet in the southwest Pacific, and completely destroyed the harbor facilities.

A spokesman at South Pacific headquarters announced today that U.S. troops on New Georgia were engaged in final battles for Munda against Japanese troops which are situated behind strong defensive positions ringing the airfield but the Americans were making "satisfactory progress."

Jap Artillery Knocked Out

The majority of the enemy's artillery had been knocked out and the Japanese were fighting chiefly with mortars, machine-guns and small weapons, the spokesman said.

Sharp fighting is reported near Comitatum in New Guinea, a short distance from Salamaua. More than 280 Japs were killed at Mount Tambu, the report said.

Allied planes attacking Jap bases at Madang for the second day in succession shot down 19 Jap planes and probably 11 more.

Allied Forces in Near East Are Ready to Strike Axis

JERUSALEM, July 22 (UP)—Allied armies, trained to the very razor edge of perfection, are today standing by in the Near East—awaiting the signal, says Henry Gorrell, British United Press war correspondent.

"This whole area packs a terrific surprise wallop for the Axis. That is my impression after making a 2,000-mile tour of this whole area, from Egypt to Cyprus, through Syria and the Lebanon to the Turkish frontier and back to Jerusalem."

U.S. Forces 15 Miles From North Coast; 17 Towns Captured

Italian 26th Div. Gives Up Almost as Unit; Germans Fire on Surrendering Italians; British Gain Near Catania

A lightning American advance across western Sicily resulted in the capture of the two great Axis airdromes of Castelvetrano and Sciacca yesterday and brought U.S. columns within 15 miles of the north coast—virtually isolating the three biggest towns of Palermo, Trapani and Marsala.

In Washington Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson disclosed last night that the spearheads of the American drive had reached the outskirts of Marsala, on the extreme western tip of the island, and the port's fall was imminent.

In all, 17 towns fell to the Allies during the day, most of them to the American steamroller. Italians made little attempt to resist. Their 26th Assietta division surrendered almost en masse. Allied headquarters confirmed the report that the Germans were firing on Italians walking forward to surrender. And the Italians, in turn, continued to shoot German officers, Allied headquarters said.

Eighth Army Inches Forward

Fierce fighting continued south of Catania, the communique said, but the Eighth Army made small gains in spite of the enemy contesting every inch of the ground at the cost of heavy casualties. The communique also disclosed that large quantities of booty were captured at Caltanissetta, including 14 undamaged steam locomotives and 100 freight cars.

The Italian debacle in western and central Sicily was described by Associated Press correspondent Daniel DeLuce at Allied headquarters as comparable only to Marshal Graziani's defeat by Field Marshal Wavell in the Libyan Desert in 1940.

Capture of Castelvetrano gave the Allies one of the most modern airdromes in all Sicily and an important highway and rail junction 20 miles southeast of Marsala. Sciacca, a coastal town of 20,000, will be useful as a supply base as well as an airfield. Algiers radio said the U.S. forces overwhelmed the town with the support of warships.

Many Towns Captured

The Americans also occupied Santa Caterina, eight miles north of Caltanissetta; Caltabellotta, 10 miles northeast of Sciacca; Menfi, 10 miles northwest of Sciacca; Ribera, a railway junction five miles east of Sciacca; San Stefano Quisquina, 40 miles west of Enna; Rivona, in the same area; and the towns of Castel-termini and Campofranco on the railway from Agrigento north to Termini.

Allied headquarters also reported the capture of Ramacca, Serra di Falco, Mirabello, Mincio, Pietropieria, Marianopoli and Mussomeli, but except for Ramacca, a village on the western edge of the Catanian plain, taken by the British Eighth Army, it was not clear which force took them.

Allied headquarters said the unexpectedly fast American advance was achieved at almost no cost to life or equipment. Italians were reported to be falling back at the mere approach of the U.S. vanguard and giving up strong fortifications without firing a shot.

Under secretary Patterson, apparently confirming this report, said casualties were "only a fraction of prisoners taken." He

(Continued on page 4)

Rome Air Raid Alert Reported Again Today

BERNE, Switzerland, July 22 (UP)—Rome had an air raid alert lasting 65 minutes today, according to telephone reports from the Italian capital to a citizen here.

No planes appeared over the city area, but there were reports that a few incendiaries had been dropped over suburban areas, these reports stated. The warning went a few minutes before noon and the all clear was sounded at 1 P.M.

Axis Prisoners in Africa Will Be Sent to States

WASHINGTON, July 22 (UP)—Many of the 267,000 Axis prisoners of war now held in North Africa will be brought to the U.S., the War Department announced yesterday.

There are already 65,058 Axis prisoners interned in the U.S., the announcement adds. Of these 45,335 are Germans, 19,641 Italians and 62 Japs.



Americans in western part of Sicily strike northward along the coast and in the center of the island, capturing 17 towns in the drive. British and Canadians buck strong defenses at Catania.

Cardinals Rap Giants, 3-1, 14-6; Dodgers Split

Orville White Tops Qualifiers In Links Play

North Carolina Pro Cards Under Par 70; Betty Hicks in Front

CHICAGO, July 22—Orville White, veteran Winston-Salem, N.C., golf pro, making a comeback after four years on the sidelines, paced the qualifying round of the All-America Open at the Tam O'Shanter Club here with a two under par 70.

Byron Nelson and 70 others, automatic qualifiers exempt from the qualifying round, watched White set the course afire. White got birdies on the tenth hole, the 135-yard 11th, where he missed a hole-in-one by less than a foot, and on the 15th.

Forced out of golf four years ago because of heart trouble, White went to the Far West for a rest cure. He started his comeback with the Miami Open last December. He is still under doctor's orders not to play more than 18 holes a day.

Chambers, Wehrle Win

His 70 gave him a single stroke advantage over Johnny Palmer, of Badin, N.C., and veteran John Rogers, of Denver. White got \$150 for being the medalist, while Palmer and Rogers split \$100.

Tied for third place with 73s were Byron Harcke, Bensenville, Ill.; Denny Champagne, Orlando, Fla.; Pfc Frank Moore, Chanute Field, Ill., and Bill Heintz, Noblesville, Ind. Carding 74s were Al Favelli, Highland Park, Ill.; Benny Tosti, Dalton, Mass.; Sid Harmon, Walla Walla, Wash.; Everett Nelson, Tallahassee, Fla., and Buck White, Greenwood, Miss.

In amateur competition 64 players played a double elimination round. Bill Chambers, Great Lakes sailor, eliminated Pvt. George Cisar, of New Orleans, La., and Lee Bohle, of Parkridge, Ill., both three and two. Wilford Wehrle, of Racine, Wis., eliminated fellow townsman Bob Silver, six and five, and Bill Witzles, of Sixon, Ill., six and four.

In the women's qualifying round, Betty Hicks, of Long Beach, Cal., set the pace with 79. Patty Berg, of Minneapolis, was second with 80.

Minor League Results

International League

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes games like Newark 7, Jersey City 4; Rochester 1, Buffalo 0.

Eastern League

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes games like Scranton 2, Binghamton 0; Springfield 10, Utica 6.

American Association

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes games like Milwaukee 7, Toledo 0; Columbus 3, Kansas City 1.

Southern Association

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes games like Knoxville 9, Nashville 2; Memphis 4, Little Rock 3.

Pacific Coast League

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes games like San Francisco 6, San Diego 2; Los Angeles 18, Sacramento 1.

Help Wanted AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, Stars and Stripes, Printing House Sq., London, E.C.4.



They fly through the air with the greatest of ease—these ball players, none of whom has a foot on the ground in this play, shot during a Cleveland Indians-Detroit Tigers game at Briggs Stadium, Detroit.

Officials Announced for ETO Swimming, Diving Tournery

Names of the officials for ETO championship diving and swimming meet were released yesterday by The Stars and Stripes Athletic Committee.

The three judges will be Lt. Jack H. Haldeman, Des Moines, Iowa; Lt. William J. Keville, Worcester, Mass., and Lt. James C. Jordan, Lt. Haldeman officiated in meets in Iowa, while Lt. Keville swam for Bowdoin College, Maine, and officiated there and in Florida.

The diving will be refereed by Capt. John H. McNally, of Baltimore. A member of the South Atlantic Swimming Officials Association, Capt. McNally also was director of the Stoneleigh Swimming Club and the Olympic Swimming pool, Baltimore.

Capt. Stanley Bach, of Lexington, Ky., athletic officer, ETO; Gerald Fitzgerald, St. Paul, Minn., American Red Cross director of athletics, and Lt. Harrison D. Kohl, Mason City, Iowa, former Drake University athletic official, will be the official timers.

Tex Blaisdell, of Chicago, ARC athletic department, has been named official scorer, while Capt. Harry Harchar, of Bethlehem, Pa., former Lehigh swimmer and associate editor of The Stars and Stripes, will function as starter. Events will be announced by Jim Carnahan, of Normal, Ill., ARC athletic department.

Outfit in the second game, the Eagles took advantage of four errors to tally six runs off five hits. S/Sgt. James Sheldon, Prescott, Ariz., was the winning hurler, Cpl. Cal Dingess, of Detroit, the loser.

The Stars and Stripes Athletic Committee ETO SWIMMING AND DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

To be held August 8th, 1943, at Marshall Street Baths, London, England

Registration form with fields: NAME, RANK, UNIT, APO, HOME TOWN, COLLEGE OR HIGH SCHOOL, PRELIMINARIES—2 PM, FINALS—7 PM.

- EVENTS: 50-YD. FREE STYLE, 100-YD. FREE STYLE, 200-YD. FREE STYLE, 100-YD. BACK STROKE, 100-YD. BREAST STROKE, 100-YD. MEDLEY (Individual), FREE STYLE RELAY (Four-Man Team, each leg 33 1/3 yds.), 1-METER DIVE, 3-METER DIVE.

Approved (Special Service Officer) Diving competition consists of four compulsory and four optional dives. A list of optional dives must be submitted with this entry blank. Mail entry blanks to The Stars and Stripes Athletic Committee, Printing House Square, London, E.C.4, before July 31

HOW THEY STAND.

American League Wednesday's Games

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes games like St. Louis 1, New York 0 (10 innings); Cleveland 7, Philadelphia 0.

National League Wednesday's Games

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes games like St. Louis 3, New York 1 (first game); St. Louis 14, New York 6 (second game).

Leading Hitters

Table with 4 columns: Player, Team, G, AB, R, H, Pct. Includes Curtright, Chicago; Wakefield, Detroit.

Home Run Hitters

Table with 4 columns: Player, Team, G, AB, R, H, Pct. Includes Musial, St. Louis; Herman, Brooklyn.

Runs Batted In

Table with 4 columns: Player, Team, G, AB, R, H, Pct. Includes American League—Stephens, St. Louis; York, Detroit.

Home Run Hitters

Table with 4 columns: Player, Team, G, AB, R, H, Pct. Includes American League—Stephens, St. Louis; York, Detroit.

Home Run Hitters

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Senators Gain On Yankees; Tribe Wins, 7-0

Bucs Smash Phillies, 10-2; Bosox Divide With White Sox

NEW YORK, July 22—The New York Giants got off on the wrong foot yesterday in their attempt to pull themselves out of the National League cellar as they dropped both ends of a double-header to the Cardinals at St. Louis, 3-1, 14-6.

The Cards made only three hits in their opener, one of which was Marty Marion's double in the second which drove in two runs to win the ball game.

It was in the second contest that the Cards really went to town, getting 19 hits for their 14-6 triumph. The hitting stars were Stan Musial, with a triple, two doubles and two singles, and Harry Walker with four hits.

The Flock had to come from behind twice in the nightcap. Trailing, 3-2, in the fifth, they went ahead with a three-run rally only to lose the lead to the Reds, who tallied four in their half.

Hi Bithorn, Puerto Rican hurler, gave up nine hits for his 11th success as the Cubs set down the Boston Braves at Wrigley Field, 4-1.

The Pirates poured it on the Phillies for a smashing 10-2 triumph at Forbes Field. Bob Klinger allowed the Phillies four hits as he scored his seventh, while Dick Conger, who was relieved by Lloyd Dietz in the seventh, was the loser.

Three-Run Rally Helps Nats

Over in the American League, the Washington Senators gained a full game on the New York Yankees by defeating the Detroit Tigers, 6-5, at Griffith Stadium, while the Yankees were taking it on the nose, 1-0, at the Yankee Stadium.

Hedinger's Homer Helps Bombers in 10-2 Triumph

A LIBERATOR STATION, July 22—Behind a batting spurge which reached its peak in the fifth inning, the Bomb Squadron defeated the Headquarters Squadron in the first of last night's softball games, 10-2.

The Bombers staged a six-run rally in the fifth with Cpl. Herb Hedinger, of Chicago, homering to clinch the game. Sgt. Millard Morris, of Chicago, was on the mound for the victors, while Pfc William Beasley, of Joplin, Mo., twirled for the losers.

Stopped recently after a 13-game winning streak, the Bomb Squadron resumed its winning ways with a 6-0 victory over the Headquarters Squadron in the nightcap.

Classy two-hit pitching by Lefty Al Smith gave the Cleveland Indians a 7-0 decision over the Philadelphia Athletics at Shibe Park.

The Chicagoans bounced back to score all their runs off Oscar Judd in the first four innings of the second tilt.

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Blondie (By courtesy of King Features Syndicate and the London Daily Sketch) by Chic Young

