

AXIS RECAPTURES LIBYA KEY POINTS

Siege of Tobruk Is Renewed After British Imperials Are Driven Out of Sidi Rezegh; British Rushing Tank Reinforcements.

CAIRO, Dec. 2 (U.P.)—A powerful Axis tank attack broke through the British trap in the Libyan desert, an official spokesman said today, renewed the siege of Tobruk and drove British imperials from Sidi Rezegh and Bir El Hamid.

"The Germans nipped off the very end of the appendix that barred their way westward and made a junction in the Sidi Rezegh-Bir El Hamid-Zaaran triangle," the spokesman said in describing the setback.

In London, a British military spokesman said that "this is one round for them but the next round is coming up and it can be assumed that operations are now taking place to restore the corridor from Tobruk to Sidi Rezegh." Heavy British tank and infantry reinforcements were rushing into the battle zone.)

Axis Forces Joined

The Germans under Gen. Erwin Rommel and the Italian Ariete (Battering Ram) division, of which repeatedly had been attacked by the British, joined to make the Axis attack on a narrow front, according to a communiqué.

Sidi Rezegh had been the main point in the British drive to relieve Tobruk and to trap the main German and Italian armored forces in the desert.

Previously, it had been acknowledged that the Axis armored units trapped east of Sidi Rezegh had joined in a strong attack that broke through and made a junction in the Sidi Rezegh-Bir El Hamid-Zaaran triangle.

Deny Heavy Tank Losses

An R. A. F. communiqué said that eight enemy planes were shot down and several others severely damaged in the last 24 hours. Eight R. A. F. planes were missing, indicating that the Germans had reinforced their air squadrons in Libya.

The British, however, still hold numerical superiority in tanks, it was said.

An authoritative London source said that figures regarding tank losses as issued by Axis sources were "fantastic." Berlin reported 814 British vehicles and 127 airplanes had been destroyed.

New Zealand General Captured by Axis

ROME, Dec. 2 (U.P.)—Axis forces in the Sidi Rezegh zone of Libya have taken an additional 1,500 prisoners including Brig. Gen. Reginald Miles of the New Zealand expeditionary force, a high command communiqué said today.

(Miles is commandant of the headquarters of divisional artillery, first echelon, of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force.)

AUTHOR TO ADDRESS KIWANIS TOMORROW

Dr. Andrew W. Cordiner, nationally known author, educator and lecturer and head of the Department of History and Political Science at Manchester College, will address the Kiwanis Club at 12:15 p.m. tomorrow in the Columbia Club.

DOWNSTATE NAVAL DEPOT DEDICATED

BEDFORD, Ind., Dec. 2 (U.P.)—Capt. Edgar G. Oberlin today began his tenure as officer in charge of ordnance at the Burns City Naval Ammunition Depot following informal dedication ceremonies yesterday. Officials said formal dedication probably will take place April 1 when the entire project is completed.

Nazi Plane Shifts to Libya Easing Pressure on Russia

By A. T. STEELE
Copyright, 1941, by The Indianapolis Times and The Chicago Daily News, Inc.

KULIBYCHEV, Dec. 2—Observers here are reasonably sure that the Germans have been forced to transfer numbers of airplanes from the Russian front to Africa in order to meet the intense Royal Air Force pressure in the North African operations.

This is indicated by circumstantial evidence only, but that more definite news will shortly be forthcoming.

Few Nuisance Raids

The sorely pressed Luftwaffe, even before the reopening of the Libyan front was obviously drawing on all its resources to meet the enormous needs of the Russian campaign.

It is limiting itself strictly to the business of co-operation with the German ground forces. Such lightning raids.

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Raising \$225,000 for Earlham College. . . . Front (left to right) Elmer W. Stout, E. Clifford Barrett, the Rev. Errol T. Elliott; rear (left to right) Dr. William Cullen Dennis, Mrs. Robert L. Glass and Isaac Woodard.

18 ARE CONVICTED IN PLOT AGAINST U. S.

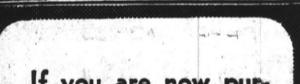
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 2 (U.P.)—Seventeen men and one woman faced maximum prison terms of 10 years today for allegedly advocating armed overthrow of the United States Government.

Albert Goldman, defense attorney and one of the convicted defendants, asserted the case would be carried to the Supreme Court if necessary in an effort to invalidate the Smith Act of 1940, under which the defendants were found guilty.

The defendants were charged with membership in the Socialist Workers Party and with following the doctrines of the late Leon Trotsky, exiled Russian revolutionary who was assassinated in Mexico.

All defendants were acquitted of a count accusing them of violating the Sedition Conspiracy Act of 1861, which outlawed plotting to overthrow the government by force. Guilty verdicts were returned under the second count charging the defendants with violating the Smith Act by advocating armed overthrow of the Government.

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BELIEVE VICHY MAY JOIN AXIS

Waiting Is Thought at End After Petain Confers With Goering.

VICHY, France, Dec. 2 (U.P.)—(Censored)—Informed quarters, interpreting official announcements concerning the meeting of Marshal Henri Philippe Petain and Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering, believed today that the Vichy government had agreed to end its policy of waiting.

Petain, French chief of state, conferred for an hour yesterday at Saint Florentin, 100 miles southeast of Paris in the occupied zone, with Goering, who represented Adolf Hitler. Accompanied by Vice Premier Jean Francois Darlan, he lunched and conferred with Goering in a car of Goering's train.

The French party returned late last night and went immediately to government offices. Jacques Bénist-Méchin, Secretary of State, told a press conference that the principle of German-Franco collaboration would be expanded.

He said however, that no immediate consequences of the meeting could be expected.

"Let the people beware, however, of impetuous haste or sterile resignation," he said "the work of French reconstruction and reintegration into Europe are, as the Marshal himself explained, a long affair requiring much patience and tenacity."

Authoritative sources said France made no concrete concession or agreement at the conference. The official announcements made no mention of French possessions in Africa or of the French fleet. Germany is said to have demanded the fleet and French Africa for use against Britain.

BERLIN, Dec. 2 (U.P.)—Authorized quarters said today that Reichsmarschall Hermann Wilhelm Goering and Marshal Henri Philippe Petain of France discussed "firstly, the Bolshevik danger; secondly, the British blockade, and thirdly, American attempts at intervention" during their meeting in occupied France yesterday.

France suffers no less, and perhaps even more from these three factors than any other country on the continent," these quarters said.

NINE FREIGHT CARS ON PENNSY DERAILED

Nine freight cars of an 85-car Pennsylvania train were derailed early this morning at Fayette, Ind., 15 miles northwest of Indianapolis.

Railroad officials here said that none of the freight cars overturned. The wreck was caused, they said, when a "defective car" jumped the track, pulling eight other cars with it.

The train was inbound to Indianapolis from Logansport, Ind.

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Tuberculosis Rises in Reich; Lack of Proper Food Blamed

By DAVID M. NICHOL
Copyright, 1941, by The Indianapolis Times and The Chicago Daily News, Inc.

BERN, Dec. 2—The German people are suffering from a "sharp increase" in tuberculosis and a noticeable gain in dental difficulties as the result of war conditions, says the Neue Zuercher Zeitung today, reporting an interview with Reich Minister of Health, Dr. Leonardo Conti.

Dr. Conti ascribed the tuberculosis increase primarily to insufficient fats and fresh fruits and vegetables in the Nazi diet. As other factors he cited the wartime nervous strain, the longer hours of labor, the housing shortage as a result of the absence of new building, and the decreased number of doctors available for civil practice, making early diagnosis difficult.

He hoped that the planned production of fruit and vegetables in the new eastern territories would improve the situation.

Referring to war wounds Dr. Conti said that mechanized armies produced a greater number of bone fractures, burns and facial injuries than had been the case in previous wars.

The health minister, who is at the wars.

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