

King Michael makes sensational broadcast: 'We have accepted armistice offered by Russia, Britain and the United States. All hostilities against the Allies have ceased'

RUMANIA MAKES PEACE, NOW FIGHTS WITH US

Hitler thrown over, army turns round

THE BREAK-UP BEGINS

RUMANIA is out of the war as an ally of Germany. She is the first of the three Balkan satellites to throw Hitler over. She has accepted peace terms from Russia and she is ready to fight on the side of the Allies.



KING MICHAEL
"Let us save Rumania."

This sensational news was given by Bucharest radio last night in a proclamation read in the name of young King Michael.

With dramatic suddenness the announcer broke into the ordinary programme and for 45 minutes he repeated the terms of the proclamation. The broadcast disclosed the fall of the Antonescu Cabinet and the formation of a pro-Ally Government.

The only Allied reaction to the Rumanian report was this statement by the Soviet Information Bureau early this morning: "Shooting between the withdrawing Rumanian forces and German troops has broken out at several points." The Germans said in their Forces bulletin that the Rumanian Third Army had already turned round and were fighting on the side of the Russians.

The suddenness of the whole dramatic manoeuvre indicated that King Michael had acted to give Germany as little warning of the break as possible. This is the text of his proclamation:—

"Rumanians! In the difficult hour of our country I have decided, for the salvation of the Fatherland, the immediate cessation of hostilities with the United Nations. I call upon a Government of National Union to fulfil the determined will of the country to conclude peace with the United Nations.

"Rumania has accepted an armistice offered by the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and the United States of America. From this moment all hostilities against the Soviet armies and the state of war with Great Britain and the United States will cease.

"The United Nations have guaranteed the independence of Rumania. Anyone who opposes the decision we have taken and who takes justice into his own hands is an enemy of our nation.

"I order the army and the whole nation to fight with all means and at the cost of any sacrifice against him.

"All Rumanians must rally around the Throne and the Government. He who does not assist the Government and resists the will of the nation is a traitor to the country.

"The United Nations have recognised the injustice of the Diktat of Vienna under which Transylvania was torn from us. At the side of the Allied army, and with their help, we will cross the frontiers unjustly imposed upon us at Vienna."

The last part of the broadcast was indistinct, but the announcer was understood to say that the future of Rumania depended on the courage with which Rumanians would defend their rights. Then the national anthem was played.

The new Prime Minister is General Konstantin Sinescu. His Cabinet includes M. Iuliu Maniu, veteran Opposition leader and chief of the Peasant Party.

His Foreign Minister is M. Neulescu-Buzesti. M. Bratianu is also in the Cabinet. George Bratianu was reported earlier this year to be one of the signatories of a memorandum submitted to King Michael on the dangers of the Government's pro-German policy.

Juliu Maniu supported an appeal by King Michael to Antonescu to seek armistice terms from the Soviet.

Hitler had at least 16 divisions in Rumania at the close of the Russian offensive this spring, but what

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Big bangs NOW—IT MAY BE in the Pas A RACE TO BERLIN de Calais

By MORLEY RICHARDS

Express Staff Reporter

DOVER, Wednesday.—Mighty explosions behind Calais and Boulogne rocked Dover and neighbouring towns this afternoon and evening.

Windows rattled and houses shook as they did when the Allied Forces pounded the Pas de Calais area before the invasion of Normandy.

But the explosions did not appear to be made by bombs today. No big forces of bombers were heard across this coast and no flak was seen going up on the other side of the Channel.

Earlier German coastal batteries were in action, but after these ceased the rumbles and vibrations continued for six hours.

During the evening the French coast was obscured by a thick smokescreen extending for many miles.

One theory was that the bangs were caused by an Allied naval bombardment of the French coast.

'Volunteer'

STOCKHOLM, Wednesday.—Goebbels appealed today to all people exempt from labour service on account of their age to volunteer at war factories.—Express News Service.

Cloudy

Straits: Cloudy after sunshine. French coast visible at times.

Gen. Hausser wounded

GENERAL HAUSER, colonel-general of the Waffen S.S. and commander of the German Seventh Army, has been wounded in Normandy, says the German radio.

The report added that he was wounded during the fighting west of the Upper Dives, where the German formations were "temporarily cut off."

Here the Allies were attacking with superior forces, said the radio, and were also trying to undermine the morale of the German soldiers by dropping leaflets.—A.P.

Jap women call-up

Japan yesterday introduced compulsory labour service for all single women between the ages of 16 and 40.—German radio.

BEFORE THE CEASE FIRE

Russians drove into Rumania

—And Red planes bombed forts

NEW Soviet victories in Rumania were announced by Marshal Stalin last night before the news of the Rumanian acceptance of Soviet peace terms.

In two Orders of the Day Stalin announced the capture of the towns of Vaslui, Bender, and Akkerman, and 350 more uninhabited places.

A Soviet air communiqué said that the Black Sea Fleet Air Arm bombed the Rumanian ports of Constanza, Sulina, and Valcov, all on the Black Sea south of Akkerman.

In the last four days the two Ukrainian armies of General Malinovsky and General Tolbukhin have smashed gaping holes in the German defences, and the German-Rumanian army has lost more than 37,000 men.

Thousands there

The determination and strength with which the Soviet commanders led their men into Rumania apparently convinced Antonescu's Government that further resistance was useless.

Rumania is still garrisoned by thousands of German troops and the Red Army may find it necessary to continue a military campaign to clear the country of Nazi elements.

Vaslui, which fell yesterday, is 100 miles south of Jassy, the largest town in Rumania, captured by the Russians on Tuesday night.

Daily Express War Reporter Alaric Jacob cabled from Moscow last night:—

Jassy, captured yesterday, fell virtually undamaged. The power stations and water supply are intact and few houses have been burned or blown up, including the headquarters of the German Corps commander.

The Germans removed the machinery from some of the factories, although others had machines taken from Odessa, Melitopol, and other Rumanian cities.

Apartments were found furnished with rugs and pictures looted from the Ukraine.

Bolshevik bogey

At the end of the first day's occupation some thousands of inhabitants returned to the town. The Red Army occupied shops and private houses to prevent looting, but as the owners returned their property was handed back to them.

Thousands of citizens, frightened by Bolshevik bogey propaganda, hid in their cellars for two days, but are now emerging.

More than 1,000 Russians were liberated, many in a pitiful condition. Maria Petliukova, of Odessa, hair grey, face lined, had worked for three years for the Rumanians in a brick works. She turned out to be only 19.

Finland moves

Sends out new
peace envoy

From E. D. MASTERMAN

STOCKHOLM, Wednesday.—Despite German efforts to discredit the new Finnish Government by rushing military missions to Finland and awarding the highest military decorations to Finnish statesmen there are clear indications that indirect contact between the Russians and Finns has been established in Stockholm during the past few days.

Following the sudden visit to Helsinki last weekend by the Finnish Minister in Stockholm, the Foreign Minister's secretary, named Segerbrant, arrived two days ago.

It is reported that his mission was to establish direct contact with the Russians. It is said he has already met Mme Kollontay, the Russian Ambassador.

900 Tito wounded
leave by air

ROME, Wednesday.—Wave after wave of Dakotas yesterday flew over German-held territory to evacuate 900 wounded partisans from Yugoslavia. They flew in daylight and carried food on their outward flight.—B.U.P.

3,000 to be free

STOCKHOLM, Wednesday.—About 3,000 Allied prisoners will be exchanged at Gothenburg next month for more than 4,000 Germans.—Reuters.

PATTON 150 MILES FROM GERMANY

PARIS: The first story

BASTILLE WAS STORMED

The French Second Armoured Division, fighting with the Allies in France, has entered Paris, said a front line cable to New York early this morning.

Express Staff Reporter

FIRST accounts of the liberation of Paris reaching London last night told of the people storming the Bastille, and of police, women, butchers and bakers reviving the Paris of 1792, 1840, and 1870 with the cry "To the barricades."

It was on Saturday that orders were given to the police to strike the first blow. They seized the Ile de la Cité from S.S. troops, who called up tanks and reinforcements.

The prefecture of police was also occupied.

Fighting began in the Boulevard des Bonnes Nouvelles in St Denis and the Germans returned the fire.

At the railway stations, railwaymen tore up the rails and even lay down on lines to stop trains from moving out of Paris.

Yesterday Parisians were marching through the streets carrying the Tricolor and British and American flags. And the song they sang was the Marseillaise.

In London last night it was learned that the people had had the authority of the French Provisional Government and was awaiting its arrival.

OPEN TO ALLIES

The Political Correspondent of the Daily Express writes:—

THE French patriots' triumph over the Germans means that American columns can enter the city and possibly are now doing so. Rearguards of the enemy on the river banks and in the suburbs might cause trouble, but the main body of Germans have fled.

Possession of the city will give the Allies many crossings over the Seine to aid the sweep into northern France and the Low Countries. Control of the town and its communications of France also passes into Allied hands.

New routes to Germany open up. It will be found, when the day's story of the liberation can be told, that the police and the Garde Mobile played a big part. They knew exactly where the Germans were, and made good use of them.

Inside knowledge of the German defence plans was useful to the Allies and who joined them after the call to rise.

FORMAL ENTRY

FRENCHMEN who held positions of trust under the Nazis are known to have revealed themselves at the critical moment as leaders of the rising.

The liberation of Paris will presumably be followed as soon as possible by the formal entry of General de Gaulle.

Lord Templewood (formerly Sir Samuel Hoare) went over the French-Spanish border yesterday as the first British diplomat to enter liberated France. He talked to the local Maquis leaders and to the Mayor of Biarritz, Mr. Igoyen, who returned to his post from Spain.

SALUTE

Radio France, Algiers, announced last night:—

THE Provisional Government of the French Republic issues the following proclamation on the occasion of the liberation of Paris:—

August 23, 1944: Paris is free. The Provisional Government salutes the dead and martyrs of Paris as well as the soldiers of Allied and French Armies who have fallen in five years of battle.

It pays homage to the National Council of Resistance to the Paris Committee of Liberation; to the patriots who directed and inspired the fight against the enemy and his accomplices; to the people of Paris, which won its battle for freedom.

Paris—risen to join in the war effort—stands in the vanguard of the ultimate battle for the liberation of the peoples. Its fall had been a sign of mourning. Its liberation heralds victory.

By their sacrifices and their immeasurable sufferings the people of Paris will have opened the road to new progress and new hopes.

Vive Paris! Vive la Liberté! Vive la République!

Massed guns batter 100,000 in trap

GENERAL PATTON'S tanks are racing on east of Paris. Last reports indicate that they are 150 miles from the nearest point on the German frontier.

Though official Allied sources are keeping secret the names of places reached, United Nations radio at

3 a.m. LATEST

F.F.I. MADE AN ARMISTICE

American broadcast said that chief of F.F.I. in Paris concluded armistice with Germans yesterday and Germans withdrew.

The Daily Express is going to Paris

THE Daily Express has made application to the military authorities for facilities to produce in Paris a Continental edition of the Daily Express.

At present many thousands of copies of this newspaper are flown daily to France for circulation among the Allied troops.

The Continental Daily Express will replace this edition sent from London and give an even larger number of troops a copy of the newspaper every day.

As conditions return to normal the Continental Daily Express will serve first France and then all Europe with the full Daily Express service of news from all over the world.

Production of the Continental Daily Express will begin as soon as the necessary permits are obtained and an allocation of newspaper made available.

The Daily Express is reopening its Paris news bureau. A full staff is in readiness to take over this bureau, which before the war was the great clearing house for all the news of Europe.

Marseilles falls to the Allies

MARSEILLES, Wednesday.—Marseilles, France's second largest city and largest port, was occupied by French troops today.

It fell with minimum resistance after it had been completely encircled and the last escape route for its defenders severed. Only small pockets of Germans remain to be overcome.

After armoured units had carried out reconnaissance in the heart of the city overnight, and had then withdrawn, tanks and infantry broke in at first light and plunged into street battles with scattered groups of Germans who manned ancient and modern batteries along some of the defences.

Detonations and some shooting and shelling were still going on in scattered sections in the afternoon, but most of it has been cleared up as the Resistance Forces have been almost in control for the past two days.

When the liberating forces entered civilians turned out in force to give them a tremendous reception. Men and women flooded into the streets, and girls and children flung their arms about the necks of the troops.

When a convoy of armed jeeps drove through men of the Maquis were racing round in cars flying the Tricolor, guns bristling at every window and through the roof.

Here and there groups of Germans, their faces bloodstained,

Trap closing

And from the east bank, too, the Americans continue to strike from their bridgehead towards the coast, according to German reports.

The new trap is closing at incredible speed, say front messages. It is a major rout.

Headquarters cannot keep pace with the movement of individual units.

The Seventh Army is in the final stages of disintegration. More than ten divisions have been destroyed, and those still resisting are being slaughtered in masses.

Their only escape route is over the Seine on ferries. There are no bridges between Rouen and the

Algeria says that the column which captured Sens, south-east of Paris, is advancing on Troyes—itsself only 130 miles from the border.

Germany's Overseas News Agency, too, reports that strong American forces are thrusting at Troyes and the Upper Seine between the Rivers Risle and Seine.

At the same time, another great massacre of the 100,000 Germans left in the Seventh Army has begun in a 20-mile "killing ground" between the Rivers Risle and Seine.

Hundreds of British guns are throwing in an enormous weight of fire power. The drum-beat of death has started.

From Tactical Air Force Headquarters in Normandy comes the message that the battle is moving so fast in some areas that it is almost out of range of our aircraft.

British and Canadian troops are cutting into the Germans at a rate of a mile an hour in places.

The Americans are speeding along the Seine's west bank behind them.

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She does her floors in "NO TIME" with Johnson's Wax Polish—

Puts a brilliant polish on all floors—and the shine lasts twice as long!

Millions of women say that this amazing Johnson's Wax Polish keeps all floors, furniture and leather bright, sparkling and mirror-like—and it's non-greasy! In tins, 10½d. and 1/6d.

Johnson's Wax is limited in supply, so make sure you get it for as long as you can. Obtainable only from shops.

JOHNSON'S WAX POLISH

J. C. JOHNSON & SON, LIMITED

ALAN MOOREHEAD reports headlong rush to the Seine, everything falls in the wake of Paris—Page Two

Liberator crashes on village infants school and sets it on fire

34 CHILDREN KILLED AT LESSONS

Soldiers trapped in snack bar

Express Staff Reporter: FRECKLETON (Lancs), Wednesday

THERE are many heroes among the 1,400 people in this market-gardening village tonight, but the village has lost nearly all its children aged from four to six.

Thirty-four of them out of the village's total of 41 were killed when a Liberator bomber crashed on the church school beside the village green this morning and set it on fire.

The bomber struck the school, then swung right across the main street, demolishing a snack bar, and trapping several people, including Service men, in the wreckage.

Tonight the people of Freckleton are standing silent round the wrecked area of the damage, watching Americans with bulldozers, cranes, and ten-ton lorries clearing debris.

30 injured

Latest death-roll figures tonight to 33—the children, one woman teacher, five other women, a man, two R.A.F. men, nine Americans and an unknown.

About 30 people were injured. Miss Jennie Hall, of Manchester, was the schoolteacher who died. She was leading her infants' class in choir-singing before starting the day's lessons when the plane crashed. It was the second day of the term, and Miss Hall, 22 years old, was just one year qualified.

The other infants' teacher, Miss L. Hulme, was badly burned. She came from Salford with evacuees two years ago, is due to retire on pension at the end of the month.

The infants' section was demolished and set on fire immediately by the bursting petrol tanks. A wall of flame 100 feet high enveloped the school, the roadway, and the houses opposite. Inside the school were the infants and 139 boys and girls in the senior school.

The plane landed by the side of the war memorial, and afterwards, in the words of Mr P. A. Billington, the headmaster, the whole area was "a sea of flame."

Americans thanked

"There was a great crack," he said. "The windows blew in, and children all over the school were knocked over. Flames spread rapidly everywhere. I dragged one or two children out."

At the doors of houses along Freckleton's two streets tonight people are saying "Thank you" to Americans.

The Americans were rescuing the children almost as soon as the village A.R.P. turned out. They helped the Civil Defence and N.F.S. from Preston, seven miles away, Kirkham, and Blackpool with the terrific rescue job.

American soldiers took off their coats to provide covering for the children and gave sweets to those who were on the verge of tears.

They worked in the enclosed school yard helping children over the six-foot high wall as flames spread and burning debris fell all around. No one in Freckleton quite knows how all the senior children were rescued, but somehow or other the bulk of them escaped.

Among the children there were heroes, too. Though Freckleton is still too bewildered to be able to name the bravest of them, it was said that 11-year-old Henry Dodd, evacuated from Bethnal Green, London, had rescued six infants.

"I was flung on the floor by the

crash," said Henry, "and the wooden partitions of the classroom crashed on top of us in flames. I put out the flames with my hands. I grabbed a girl who was very frightened and pushed her through a window and I jumped after her myself. That's all I can remember."

Among the dead children are three London evacuees, John Cox, Martin Alston, Sylvia Whynshaw. Their mothers brought them here a few weeks ago.

Mr W. Durant, an A.R.P. warden, said he tried to rescue some of the children. "Many of them were in the school yard calmly walking towards a field," he said. "Part of their school was blazing. Two of those who escaped were my own children. For some time I could not find them. But later I discovered one in the field at the back of the school and the other sheltering in a neighbour's house."

One of Mr Durant's children, nine-year-old Jean, said: "We were all reading when there was a sudden bang, a tremendous jolt and the windows fell in. We were all started and the teacher shouted 'Run,' but we marched out quietly into the field at the back."

'None of us cried'

"We could see that a great part of the building had been hit by something but none of us cried."

The demolished snack bar known as the Sad-Sack, was owned by Mr and Mrs Alan White. They and their 15-year-old daughter were killed while serving tea and coffee. Their women assistants were also killed.

On the school death-roll

Names of some of the dead Freckleton children, all between four and six years old, were given last night as:

Clifford, Richard Wright, Thomas Rawcliffe, William Iddon, Tom Hargreaves, Foster, John Hardman, Gladys Muscott, Annie Harrington, Lillian Waites, Millicent Garner.

John Sudell, John Townsend, K. Woodcock, David Carr, Alan Wilson, Peter Dawson, George Preston, Howard Allenson.

June Stewart, Gillian Parkinson, Dorothy Siddall, Edna Rae Askew, Sylvia Bickelstaffe, Sonia May Dagger, Vera Christine Jones, June Parkinson, Jean P. Butcher, and Kathleen Isles.

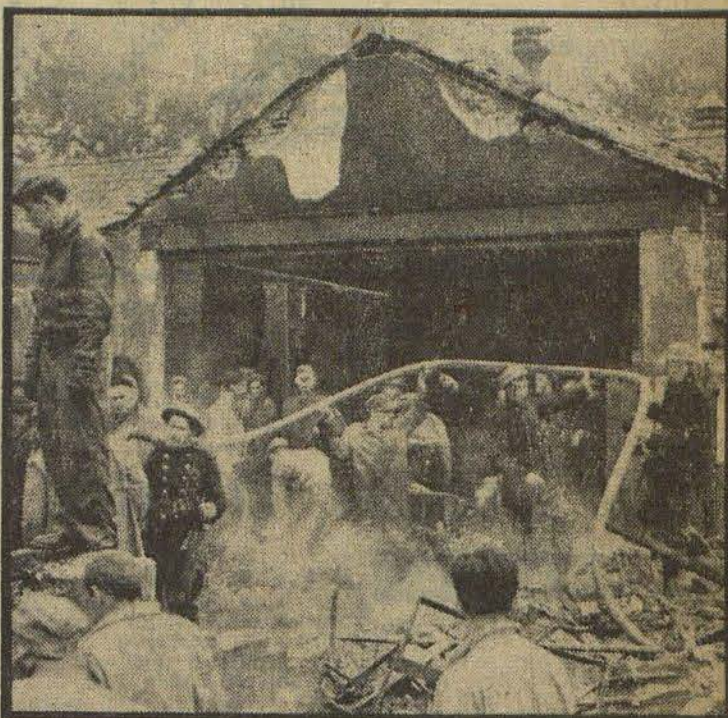
ITALIANS GO ON STRIKE

A thousand Italian prisoners who have been helping East Anglian farmers gather their harvest have gone on strike.

They are said to have a grievance against one of their own officers and to have asked for more cigarettes.



AMERICANS HELP THE FIREMEN



A CRANE helps to clear the debris where houses stood beside the school at Freckleton. In the picture on the right a bulldozer ploughs through wreckage

CORSETS WILL BE STRONGER

AFTER the end of this month corset manufacturers will be able to use the strongest utility cloths in corsets of all sizes and in some additional types, the Board of Trade announced last night.

AREA INCREASED

The area of elastic which may be used in utility brassieres has been increased.

People needing surgical corsets will no longer have to obtain two doctor's certificates.

A single certificate will be sufficient if it says that the patient needs a corset as a sufferer from one of the conditions named on a special list drawn up in consultation with the Ministry of Health and the British Medical Association.

If a patient is suffering from some other condition for which a special corset is urgently needed, the doctor will prescribe it, but the certificate will not be valid unless it is specially endorsed by the Board of Trade.

Union leaders to visit France

By TREVOR EVANS

Six British trade union leaders were selected yesterday to visit France. They are to inspect the handling of supplies to the Forces.

The six are: Mr Jack Tanner (Amalgamated Engineering Union), Mr Arthur Deakin (Transport and General Workers' Union), Mr Jack Benstead (National Union of Railwaymen), Mr George Gibson, Mr G. H. Bagnall, and Mr H. Bullock.

Six American trade union leaders including representatives of the American Federation of Labour and of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, are also to inspect depots in France. After their return to Britain they will investigate the war activities of the trade unions in this country.

Monty's mother is 80

Lady Montgomery, mother of General Montgomery, was 80 yesterday.

Sudan Cotton surprise

IN a circular to shareholders of Sudan Plantations and the Kassaala Cotton Company, Sir Alexander MacIntyre, the chairman, publishes an announcement by the Sudan Government that it will not be in a position to extend the existing concessions beyond June 30, 1950.

In its announcement the Government pays tribute to the great work done by the companies, and says that the decision is made "in view of certain developments now taking place and under contemplation due to conditions resulting from the war and because of political and social changes which these involve."

Sir Alexander MacIntyre says that "land which was mostly desert now produces a crop which makes a notable contribution to the revenue of the country."

Directors of Minimax, makers of the famous "Minimax" still that produces fresh drinking water from sea water, say that the company may suffer substantial hardship due to inactivity in drafting the Finance Act 1949 and 1950.

After a dull opening, stock markets made a marked recovery at the close of business yesterday. Oil-edged rose further.

At 10.15 a.m. the outstanding feature of the day with a rise of 3/8 to 76/9.

British American Tobacco.—Second

Home Guard carry on

'Invasion danger not yet passed'

THERE is to be no delay in letting the Home Guard know when it may relax its duties; but for the time being it must carry on, for the danger of invasion has not yet passed.

This is in an Order of the Day issued by Lieut-General Sir Edmund Schreiber, G.O.C.-in-C. South-eastern Command. The Order thanks the Home Guard for its splendid way in which it assumed the operational responsibility of keeping watch and ward over this country during the successful crossing of the Allied Expeditionary Forces, and continues:

"For the future the possibility of enemy action against this country is by no means over. It is for this reason that the Home Guard will continue to be necessary."

CABINET DECISION

"The time will come, however, when the Home Guard will no longer be needed to defend our country from an invader. This may coincide with the end of the war in Europe, or it may be earlier. The decision must rest with the War Cabinet, but the time for this has not yet come."

"While there remains even the smallest danger of a Hun attempting to set his foot in this country, the Home Guard will continue to be necessary."

1st Division in Italy

The First Division has been fighting in Italy since January 22, it was disclosed yesterday. The division fought in France and Flanders in 1940 and was also in the Tunisian campaign.

Lord Barnby

Lord Barnby is making slow progress after the accidental injury to his eyes by pellets, caused while shooting on the north Yorkshire moors.

Germans still free

The three German prisoners missing from their camp in Cumberland on Tuesday were still at liberty last night.

Many improvements

The bomb contains improvements in casing design and a new method of dissolving marsh-gas in petrol under pressure. When used in the heavy private model, weighing 30lb, into the back room, the flames shot 15 feet diagonally across the building.

Steel shutters were opened to allow more oxygen into the room, and the bomb burned for two minutes.

The descent of the bomb is controlled by a parachute which reduces its terminal speed. The Super Flamer—as the R.I.B. call it—was tried out on Munich in April. Two hundred and fifty Lancasters carried hundreds of canisters. Results were terrific. Air pictures of the city suggested a far heavier attack than was in fact made. Buildings were reduced to the level of the pavements.

It was decided to make further tests. Stuttgart was chosen for a try-out on the nights of July 24, 25, and 26.

It had always presented a

Professor exploded his fire bomb in back room

GERMANS CANNOT PUT IT OUT

Express Staff Reporter LEONARD HOLLIDAY: LEEDS, Wednesday

AT daybreak one morning 12 months ago two men left Leeds University with a 21-inch long 5-inch wide metal cylinder. They carried it to the university sports ground two miles away.

A few minutes later people saw from near-by houses a white trail of flame 15ft long, 2ft wide shoot across the end of the football field.

They saw the two men walk up and down beside the flame, meet where it leaped from the cylinder. They shook hands. The war's deadliest bomb had been invented.

The two men were 47-year-old Professor Donald Thomas Alfred Townend, head of Leeds University Coal, Gas and Fuel Department, and his technical assistant, Dr. E. C. W. Smith, now acting consultant to a London firm.

The story of the bomb and the background of the men who invented it, and the technical details of the bomb, were revealed tonight. It is the deadliest incendiary bomb yet made, and its tail of flame cannot be put out.

The team of six men responsible for its introduction are Professor G. I. Finch, Ministry of Home Security, and Dr. Smith; Lieut-Colonel C. J. P. Bateson and Captain A. Hayton Cowap, of I.C.I., and Squadron Leader D. R. Ashworth, Ministry of Aircraft Production.

Son of an architect, Professor Townend, married man, with two young children, who lives in West Leeds, was the guiding genius behind the invention. Yet he has never seen a bomb dropped from a German or British plane.

In the last war he served on the ground staff of the Royal Flying Corps. He went back to London to finish his university training when the war was over.

In 1938 he came to Leeds University as head of the gas department, and as Britain's leading authority on combustion. His job is worth £2,000 a year, but although he has been offered £5,000 a year, he has refused. He prefers to stay at the university to carry out his research work.

Last-war service

Tricky target because of its irregular shape and because it has large areas sparsely built up, with wide streets covering as much as a third of the ground. In spite of the protection this gives against the spread of fire, the centre of the town was covered by an all-enveloping cloud of smoke. On July 26 and after the third attack the devastation extended over hundreds of acres, with many buildings burned completely to the ground. In the main, walls had collapsed.

The new bomb was last used in the attack on Bremen last Friday night. Spy planes discovered next day that fires extending from the docks to the centre of the town were still out of control, and smoke was blowing into open country to a distance of 60 miles.

Fewer parcels for war prisoners

Transport difficulties

As a precaution the Red Cross is reducing the rate of issue of food parcels to prisoners of war in Germany from one for each man every two weeks.

This is due to interruption in transport to Geneva and to ensure that the best use is made of supplies already in the camps and at Geneva.

There is no immediate danger of any serious shortage of food in the prison camps, and every effort is being made to re-establish communication.

Badoglio lunches with Mr Churchill

ROME, Wednesday.—Mr Churchill received Signor Bonomi, the Italian Prime Minister, at the British Embassy yesterday morning. Afterwards Signor Bonomi and Marshal Badoglio lunched with Mr Churchill at the Embassy.—Reuter.

Opening hours cut

Windsor Licensed Victuallers' Association yesterday decided to recommend all public houses to open only between noon and 1 p.m. and between 8 and 10.30 p.m. daily.

Next 16's to register

Boys and girls born between July 30, 1928, and August 26, 1928, both dates inclusive, must register next Saturday unless exempted.

MOONRISE MOONSET

12.36 P.M. 11.27 P.M.

Troops link up with rescue squads after disaster



MOTHERS QUEUE TO GET HOME

Express Staff Reporter

IT looked like an evacuation scheme in reverse at London stations yesterday, when more and more mothers came back from the safe areas. Some had as many as four children.

"Anyone would think the war was over already," said a porter as they lined up for taxis at Euston. Half an hour after a train came in from Liverpool, 12 parents were standing at the taxi rank. Three of them had prams. Two had babies in arms.

Other families had scrambled down the Tube stairway, pulling bags, pushing prams, and holding up Service men returning to their depots.

Mrs Winifred Simpson, of Hordsham, Sussex, was bringing her three children, aged ten, seven, and two, from Aintree, Liverpool.

'A good rest'

"We were not evacuated officially," she said. "We have just been away for a few weeks. We have had a good rest—and anyway, most of the danger is over now."

A man and wife with three children were among families arriving from Northampton. "We have been away for six weeks," they said. "Flying bombs? We're not afraid of them."

Four prams were in the guard's van of a train from Chester and North Wales. There were six women with babies, a naval petty officer with his wife and three children under nine, and about ten other mothers with children.

At one London town hall it was estimated that 90 per cent. of the mothers and children evacuated after Mr Churchill's warning had returned.

Only 2,000 mothers and children left London on Tuesday, although 10,000 had been expected to go. No more war news is good, mothers are inclined to think there is less danger.

Mr Willink, Health Minister, gave this message to expectant mothers in the Greater London area yesterday: "Please register for evacuation now and make sure that your baby shall be safe and have a good start."

'Large' savings down

The total of "large" savings for the week ended August 22 was £27,260,661.

Careless writing costs her £10 fine

Mrs Janet Littlewood, c/o E.N.S.A., Renfield-street, Glasgow, was fined £10 at Edinburgh yesterday for giving in a letter from Perth to a friend in Leeds, information about forces, ships, and war prisoner camps.

Sheriff Macdonald said he was satisfied Mrs Littlewood had no sinister motive.

RITA HAYWORTH is sparkling 'Cover Girl'

Rita Hayworth is making a big hit in Columbia's glamorous film, "Cover Girl." She stars as Rusty Parker, shining light in a small Brooklyn night club, who is photographed for the cover of a famous magazine, and quickly gets her name in lights on Broadway.

How lovely Rita Hayworth is! Her complexion is dazzling. She relies on Lux Toilet Soap to keep her skin fresh, clear, and flawless.

LUX TOILET SOAP

USED BY 9 OUT OF 10 FILM STARS

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LEVER BROTHERS, PORT SUNLIGHT, LIMITED

* A FRENCH'S PRODUCT

The "Rufflette" way of hanging curtains is the established practice of the experts. If you are making your own curtains isn't it clear that you, too, ought to use Rufflette Curtain Tape? Better stocks are now available at all the leading stores.

Rufflette

CURTAIN TAPE (with woven pockets) also HOOKS, RINGS and RAILS

THOMAS FRENCH & SONS LTD. Factories: MANCHESTER & WYTHENSHAW FALL RIVER, MASS., U.S.A. London Office: 156 Oxford St., W.1. Also Brit. Emp. Bldg., N.Y.C.

Her teeth are YOUR concern

Every mother wants her children to grow up with strong, firm white teeth safe from the danger of decay. Dentists advise the use of Phillips' Dental Magnesia, the one toothpaste containing "Milk of Magnesia", which corrects acid mouth, so often the cause of dental trouble.

Phillips' Dental Magnesia

(Regd.)

* Milk of Magnesia is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.

Scotland makes you a promise. No. 3

Misses and mellow Fruitfulness

These reaping machines have begun to clatter across the Lothian oat fields. The Scotch mist has swollen the oat grains until they hang heavy on their stalks. Even the rabbits seem to know it's harvest time. Having lived on the fat of the land in the oat fields for the past few weeks, something tells them it would be safer to move on.

The oats are now four feet tall. It seems almost a pity they should be cut. But these are Scotch oats; good to look upon but even better to eat. Most of the grain will be eagerly snopped up to be made into rolled-oats, a food rich in such essentials as Vitamin B, Carbohydrates, Proteins and Fats. This winter these valuable foods will be on your breakfast table. When you buy a packet of Scott's Porridge Oats you will be buying the pick of these Scotch oats, which at this moment are falling before the knives of the reaping machines.

Scott's porridge Oats

SCOTTISH AND QUICKEST

MADE BY A. & B. SCOTT LTD., AT WEST MILLS, COLINTON, MIDLOTHIAN, SCOTLAND

The complete reply!

most smokers find in pure, natural Rubicon the complete answer to their search for a cool-smoking, richly-satisfying tobacco. Are you still searching?

Made by JOHN SINCLAIR LTD.

RUBICON

MIXTURE • NAVY CUT • SPUN CUT

25/-

RED LABEL 25/- per bottle 13/- per half bottle. BLACK LABEL 27/- per bottle

PRICES AS FIXED BY SCOTCH WHISKY ASSOCIATION

LIKE ALL GOOD WHISKY...

Johnnie Walker

is scarce nowadays. But the high quality is being strictly maintained and the available supplies are being distributed as fairly as possible.

RED LABEL 25/- per bottle 13/- per half bottle. BLACK LABEL 27/- per bottle

PRICES AS FIXED BY SCOTCH WHISKY ASSOCIATION

Riviera beauties sip aperitifs as Germans surrender

POCKET CARTOON



Russia and Poland Socialists appeal to both sides

Express Industrial Reporter

AN appeal to the Soviet and Polish Governments in association with the Polish Committee of Liberation to overcome their differences so that the two nations can live harmoniously after the war was issued by the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party last night.

For much of the last two days the British leaders have been considering and discussing the Polish question.

Their representatives on the National Council of Labour heard the Polish Premier designate, M. Tomasz Arciszewski, say on Tuesday that many points of difference still existed between him and the Soviet Government.

No statement was issued after this meeting.

Separately yesterday the T.U.C. General Council and the executive committee of the Labour Party considered their attitude towards the dispute.

They agreed on a joint statement, carefully phrased to reflect their interest and their impartiality.

The declaration

Their declaration "sends greetings on behalf of British workers to the Polish workers and peasants, and to the valiant defenders of Warsaw, confident that their efforts will materially help the forces of the Soviet Union to defeat the Nazis."

Appreciation is expressed of the help already given by the Polish fighters by the British and American Governments.

There is little doubt that serious differences exist between sections of the National Council of Labour, Co-operative Party delegates on the Council refrained from committing themselves to any statement.

Some trade union leaders felt that no comment should be made at this stage, but others thought it would be discourteous to M. Arciszewski to remain silent.

Miss Wilkinson explains

Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Home Security, explained last night why she and Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister (as reported in yesterday's Daily Express), left a London meeting of the National Council of Labour addressed by Polish delegates.

She said: "The Poles were due to arrive at 11 a.m. and I had made my time-table accordingly. The National Council finished its business at 11 a.m. and awaited their visitors. By 11.30, when I left the meeting, they had not yet arrived, though I met them on the stairs on my way out."

I deeply regretted not being able to stay, as I am sure did Mr. Attlee."

More cakes

Reception areas are to have increased allocations for the manufacture of confectionery during the present rationing period.

IF YOU CABLE... THEN -

Make your message concise and above all check the address for accuracy, particularly to those in the Forces.

EASE THE BURDEN

Look after them!

War-time has taught every one to value Rubber Footwear, especially when replacement cannot be made without a permit.

Give your Wellingtons that little care that means so much extra wear.

NORTH BRITISH RUBBER FOOTWEAR

THE NORTH BRITISH RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED

19/2/43

DERISIVE CLAPPING

From JAMES COOPER: With the 7th Army, Wednesday

THIS is still a shooting war, but one has got to turn back to be shot at. That is the strangest thing in this triumphant entry into southern France, this overrunning of a thousand square miles at the rate of hundreds a day.

When we war correspondents of the second wave arrived comfortably, dropping on to the bridgehead in a Douglas transporter, we had to drive in a truck for a longer time than we had flown from Rome to reach the new Press camp 30 miles inland.

There are some of us who slept on German folding metal beds occupied last weekend by the staff of a cinema.

But this morning we had to turn back to reach the front. We might have travelled something like a hundred miles further inland to try to catch up with the Americans or followed others beyond Aix towards Avignon.

Instead, we turned back to where there was the rumble of gunfire with an occasional deeper roar as the Germans, virtually trapped in Toulon, demolished more and more of the premier naval base of France.

And we spent the day circling the circumference of what has now become the bridgehead enclosing Toulon.

But between this outer circle of the German prison and the race north there is a strange mixture of war and peace.

Along the coast the villas of the wealthy still slumber with blue shutters closed to the sun, white walls and red roofs floating like the green of the pine trees and the grey bones of the granite hills.

There is no sign of war in the Maitres Mountains, with their peaks and defiles through rocks, that the Germans might have turned into defences, with Crucifix Hill had not our paratroopers dropped behind.

One has to travel through the pines, over their horseback bends, before one finds the first slit trenches, shallowly dug by men who had become accustomed to night disturbances by the Luftwaffe, and who were in too much hurry to press on to waste time digging deeply.

But go back to the coast and try to enter Cannes and you will find 88 screaming shells on the road, so that the road to the castle is far more exciting than roulette.

To the west, we dined on ham and melon with wine at the perched at the Grand Hotel in Lavandou, with only the sound of the sea as the bluest of blue waters crinkles its nose at the most golden of sands.

While keeping almost complete silence about operations in the west, the Germans talked of "the hardest Russian pressure on our lines" by the use of war materials "on an unprecedented scale."

Victory salvos

To give the Germans a picture of the magnitude of the victory in the west, the B.B.C. last night broadcast a special report from Algiers.

From Algiers radio came the sound of big and fanfare and drums from 100 victory guns.

Delirious crowds thronged the streets of Algiers, shouting: "Ships entering the port greeted the news by loud blasts from their sirens, and everywhere the bands played and the people danced."

Moscow radio gave the news in English, French, German, and many other tongues, each followed by the "Marseillaise" and the German invader's "Death to the German invader."

New York broadcast the cheers of immense crowds who celebrated the fall of Paris in Times-square.

Enthusiastic Frenchmen anxious to join in the liberation today brought prisoners in at the double.

It made a strange scene as Germans panting in winter serge under the summer sun passed Riviera beauties in shorts or traditional white blouses and floral skirts sipping aperitifs in the shade of the plane trees.

And under the eyes of these Riviera beauties, the German prisoners rushed about at the double as they reported to interrogating soldiers under heavy guard. Grey uniforms still not replaced by summer drill.

Not long ago the officers among them slipped brandy on the veranda. They are all too humiliated to be prisoners here, where they once lorded it to hear Frenchmen clap derisively as they come in escorted by the Maquis, itching to finger the arms we dropped by plane.

McCleave was outclassed and had been down 14 times before, in the fifth round, with the head running from a split above the left eye, he rose and surrendered by holding out his glove to his younger and stronger opponent.

As I suggested, Hawkins won by his strong body attack. The older fighter's only chance of retaining his title was to box Hawkins at a distance, but he chose to mix it, fighting, and he came off second best.

McCleave's trouble began in the third round when Hawkins rushed at him with a fierce two-handed body attack.

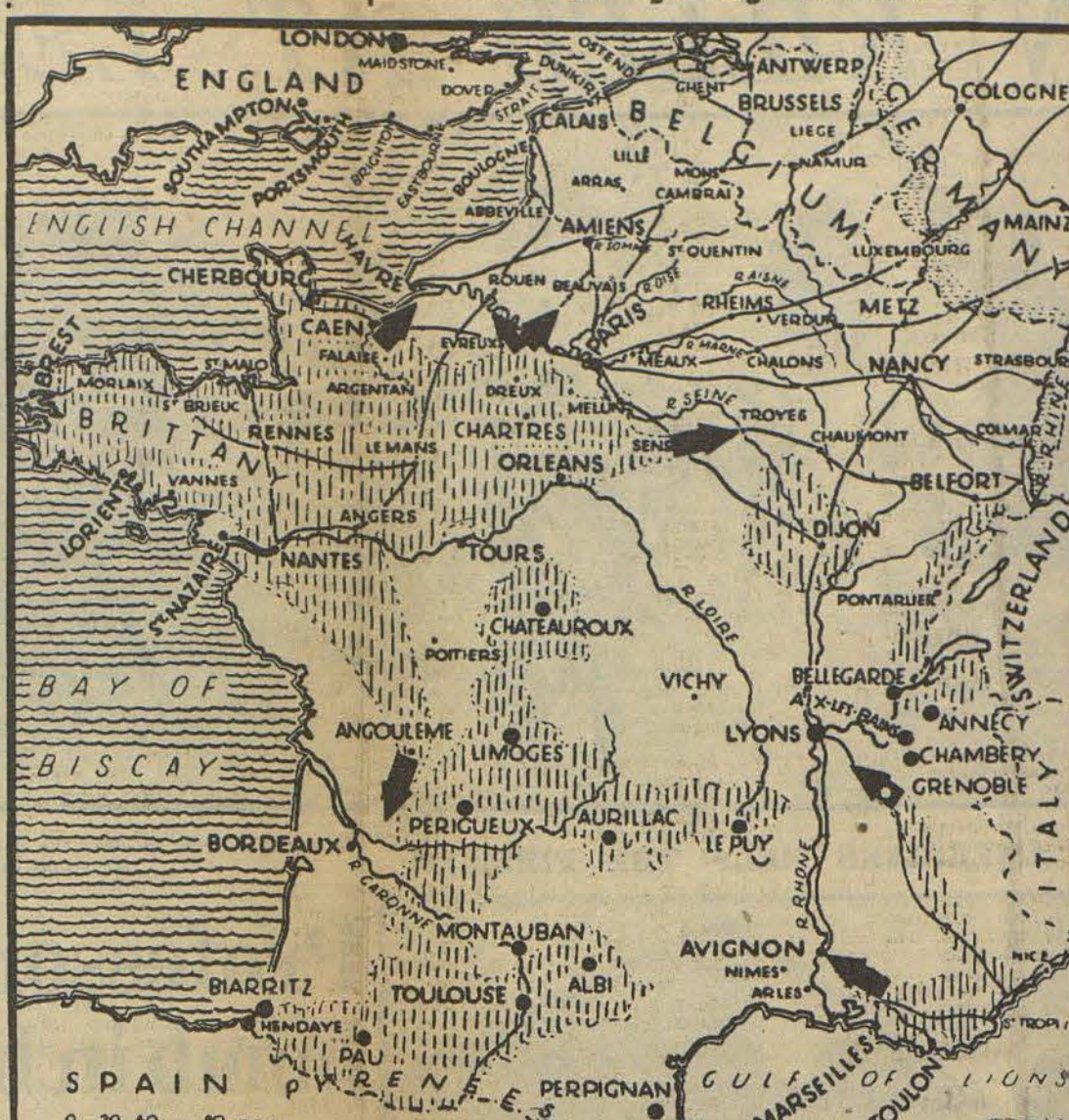
McCleave took counts of 4, 5, 6, 8, and 2 before the bell sounded. The last punch, a right hook, had split his left eyebrow.

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'Freedom' sweeps across the map of France



GOEBBELS KEEPS IT DARK

Express Staff Reporter

STOCKHOLM, Wednesday. This afternoon Goebbels has not yet found a suitable formula to reveal to the worried Germans the fall of Paris.

Speaking of the operations in the west, the German military spokesman only said: "The French patriots prove to be a danger to the German forces fighting in southern France."

In the past two days German military commentators have consequently talked of further withdrawals in the victory guns.

But German claims that the main forces of their Seventh Army got out of the Falaise trap led most Germans to believe the Wehrmacht would at last try to delay the fall of Paris.

While keeping almost complete silence about operations in the west, the Germans talked of "the hardest Russian pressure on our lines" by the use of war materials "on an unprecedented scale."

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Battle in streets of Lyons

From ERNEST ASHWICK FRENCH FRONTIER. Wednesday.

THE battle for the liberation of Lyons started this morning.

Some 35,000 men of the French Forces of the Interior have practically surrounded the city and are advancing towards the centre.

The Germans are retreating behind prepared positions, including sandbagged blockhouses, and are fighting desperately.

The streets are deserted, except for the Germans and the members of Darnand's Militia, who are constantly fired on from windows.

German planes are flying over the working-class districts and it is feared they will bomb the workers' homes.

German air service planes to Spain and Portugal, which used to refuel at Lyons, are no longer arriving.

North of Lyons there are German troop movements back towards the Franco-German border. Thirty thousand Germans passed north through Pontarlier, close to the Swiss frontier, last night.

Other towns reported free are Carcassonne, 60 miles north of the Pyrenees, Aix-les-Bains and Chambéry in the east, and Blois, between Tours and Orléans.

General Cochet, Military Delegate for the Southern Zone in France, has called on all French Forces to take to the airfields to prepare landing grounds and signal posts.

He says: "The Allied Air Forces must be able to use the airfields of southern France."

The Vichy Government is now at Belfort, where Laval was greeted in the second with cries of "Down with Laval!"

It was announced from S.A.E.F. at midnight that the Allies have taken Evreux and advanced seven miles beyond it against slight resistance.

It is confirmed that reconnaissance units are east of Sens.

Some Germans are still resisting slightly in Lisieux.

General Dempsey's columns made the most spectacular advance of the day, storming east for more than 17 miles from Caen to capture Laigle. The Germans blew the bridge across the river, but the advance of the British was not affected.

In the Falaise pocket it is now revealed that 40,000 and 50,000 prisoners were taken.

No estimate yet of the German dead, but it is expected to be as tremendous as the figures for tank losses.

Since August 7 the Canadians have taken at least 18,000 prisoners.

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U.S. Newsfront—by

STORY OF MUTUAL AID

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—President Roosevelt did his best today to stop the talk that Lend-Lease to Britain should be stopped as soon as Germany is beaten.

In his sixteenth report to Congress on Lend-Lease operations Roosevelt said it should continue until Japan has been defeated.

"Through Lend-Lease American weapons and war supplies are being used by our Allies to destroy our enemies and hasten their defeat," he said.

"We should not permit any weakening of this system of combined war supply to delay final victory by a single day or to cost unnecessarily the life of one American boy."

We know now that by combining our power we can speed the day of certain victory.

"We know also that only by continuing our unity can we secure the peace and durable peace."

The President said that Lend-Lease supplies sent to America's Allies in the three months ending June 30 amounted to \$1,001,550,000. The grand total so far was \$7,067,500,000.

THREE-MONTH TOTAL

The President gave these figures: We have sent 30,900 Lend-Lease planes to our allies since March 11, 1944. They have purchased another 7,000 for cash. We retained for our own forces more than 175,000 planes.

We have sent 26,900 Lend-Lease tanks and 637,600 other military motor-vehicles, including ordnance vehicles, jeeps and trucks. Our allies have purchased for cash 1,600 tanks and 270,000 trucks.

We have leased more than 1,400 aircraft for our allies. The majority of which were landing and smaller craft.

Since March 1941 we have sent \$285,000,000 worth of food, almost entirely to Britain and Russia. Through reverse Lend-Lease Britain furnished our forces with supplies that could be provided locally. Most of the ships engaged in the landing and supply operations were British-manned.

We have shipped 6,000 medium and light bombers, fighters, and other planes, and 9,000 tanks to Britain, but the British produced by far the larger share of the equipment needed for their forces.

REVERSE EXAMPLES

We have received without cost more than \$725,000,000 of reverse Lend-Lease from our allies. Most of this has been provided to American forces overseas.

Examples of reverse Lend-Lease:—All rail transportation to invasion ports, costs of transporting many types of British ships, including the world's two largest liners—Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary; 1,100 Spitfires and other fighters; 1,000 Thunderbolt fighters on long-range missions to the heart of Germany.

Also supplied by reverse Lend-Lease were:—More than 25,000 miles of steel landing mats; 2,000,000 pairs of wool socks; thousands of parachutes, quantities of howitzers, anti-aircraft and anti-tank equipment, all heat, light and water bills at our bases and barracks.

Rail combine accused

The Department of Justice today filed an anti-trust suit against the Association of American railroads, the Western Association of Railways, and the National Railway Union.

Attorney-General Francis Biddle, said the complaint charges that "a combination of private, financial, industrial and railroad interests conspired to maintain non-competitive rates for transportation and to prevent improvements in services and facilities in the western part of the United States."

It is urged that the court dissolve the Association of Railroads, representing 85 per cent. of the nation's principal steam rail lines, the Western Association of Railway Executives, and the organization for the western system.

Also named as defendants are German officers and directors of the Association of American Railroads, top executives of the 47 railroads named, and 31 other people.

Two Vienna raids in two days

ROME, Wednesday.—Nearly 500 Liberators and Fortresses today attacked the Vienna area. It was the second raid in two days.

Liberators bombing Mankersdorf airfield, 35 miles west of Vienna, fought through an exceptionally heavy fighter screen.

Other heavies attacked rail bridges over the River Po at Ferrara, north Italy, and Mitchell's made their deepest dive into France to bomb bridge and rail yards at Lyons.—B.U.P.

Altan Fiord raid

British carrier-borne planes have bombed and strafed a German patrol-boat in Altan Fiord, North Norway (where the battleship Tirpitz was last reported), German radio said yesterday.

Eight enemy ships destroyed

In two engagements in Audierne Bay—between Brest and Lorient—early yesterday the cruiser Mauritius and the destroyers Urag and Iroquois destroyed eight enemy ships and, though fired on by shore batteries, received neither damage nor casualties.

In the first engagement a supply ship was sunk and a mine-sweeper and an escort vessel set on fire and the ships disabled.

In the second a convoy of two supply ships, a mine-sweeper, and two heavily-armed escort ships were all destroyed.

Freedom is gone in Buenos Aires

MONTEVIDEO, Wednesday.—The Argentine Conservative leader, Rodolfo Moreno, former Governor of the Buenos Aires Province, said that life in Buenos Aires had become impossible for citizens who had a conception of freedom.

Lunching with friends at the Buenos Aires Hotel, he found plainclothes police controlling their talk.—A.P.

Dieppe man killed

QUEBEC, Wednesday.—The Brunelle Hotel in Lost River, Quebec, has been closed while the owner is held by the police in connection with the death of Private Hugh Miller, a Dieppe veteran, who was shot while talking to a friend last Friday night.—B.U.P.

Enterprise there

NORMANDY, Wednesday.—The British cruiser Enterprise supported the advance to Deauville and beyond, moving along the coast to shell German positions.—Reuter.

'J.T.' left £12,352

John Thomas Hearne the former Middlesex and England cricketer, left £12,352.

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