

The Texts of the Day's Communiques on Fighting in Various Zones

United Nations

AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Dec. 4 (P)—The noon communiqué:
NORTHWESTERN SECTOR

Timor:
 Kupang—Our attack units executed a successful surprise raid on the airdrome. Eighteen enemy bombers and three fighters caught on the ground were damaged or destroyed with cannon and machine-gun fire. Fires from burning aircraft and fuel dumps were visible fifty miles away.

NORTHWESTERN SECTOR
New Guinea:
 Buna-Gona—Intermittent fighting continues in all areas. The enemy is resisting stubbornly. Our ground forces are receiving artillery and air support.

AT ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Dec. 4 (P)—A communiqué:

1. In an attack in the southern sector a French and Allied force has captured a number of prisoners. Our forces in the neighborhood of Tebourba are consolidating their positions.
2. The docks at Bizerte were bombed in daylight yesterday and both day and night raids have been made on the airfield at Tunis. Our fighters have made sweeps over the forward areas and over coastal areas between Tunis and Gabès.
3. Further reports of air fighting during the past three days show that thirteen enemy aircraft have been destroyed in addition to those already announced and that eight of our aircraft are missing.

United States

SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 4—Navy communiqué 212:

SOUTH PACIFIC
 All dates are east longitude.
 1. On Dec. 3 ground activity on Guadalcanal Island was confined to routine patrol operations, during which fourteen Japanese were killed. Army fighters supported ground forces on five attack missions.

British

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 4 (P)—A joint British Headquarters and R. A. F. communiqué:

There is nothing to report from our land forces.
 Some air activity took place over the battle area and our fighters successfully engaged a formation of ME-109's, damaging some of them.

During the night of Dec. 2-3 at least two merchant vessels were set on fire and sunk when our torpedo aircraft attacked a southbound convoy off the east coast of Tunisia.

Bizerte and Tunis were effectively bombed the same night and hits were scored on fuel storage tanks and dockyard workshops.

A southbound train near Gabès was attacked by our long-range fighters.

Candia airfield in Crete was also attacked on the night of Dec. 2-3. Bombs from heavy and medium aircraft caused many fires.

Our night fighters patrolled the battle area and also strafed the jetty at Ras El Aail. One JU-88 was destroyed over Tobruk by our ground defenses. Another JU-88 was shot down over the sea yesterday by our long-range fighters, which also attacked an enemy destroyer.

From these very extensive operations only one of our aircraft did not return.

LONDON, Dec. 4 (P)—An Admiralty communiqué:

During the night of Dec. 2-3, off Eastern Tunisia, light naval forces under command of Captain A. L. Poland, C. B., D. S. O., D. S. C., R. N., engaged and sank an Italian torpedo boat which had formed part of the escort of a southbound enemy convoy.

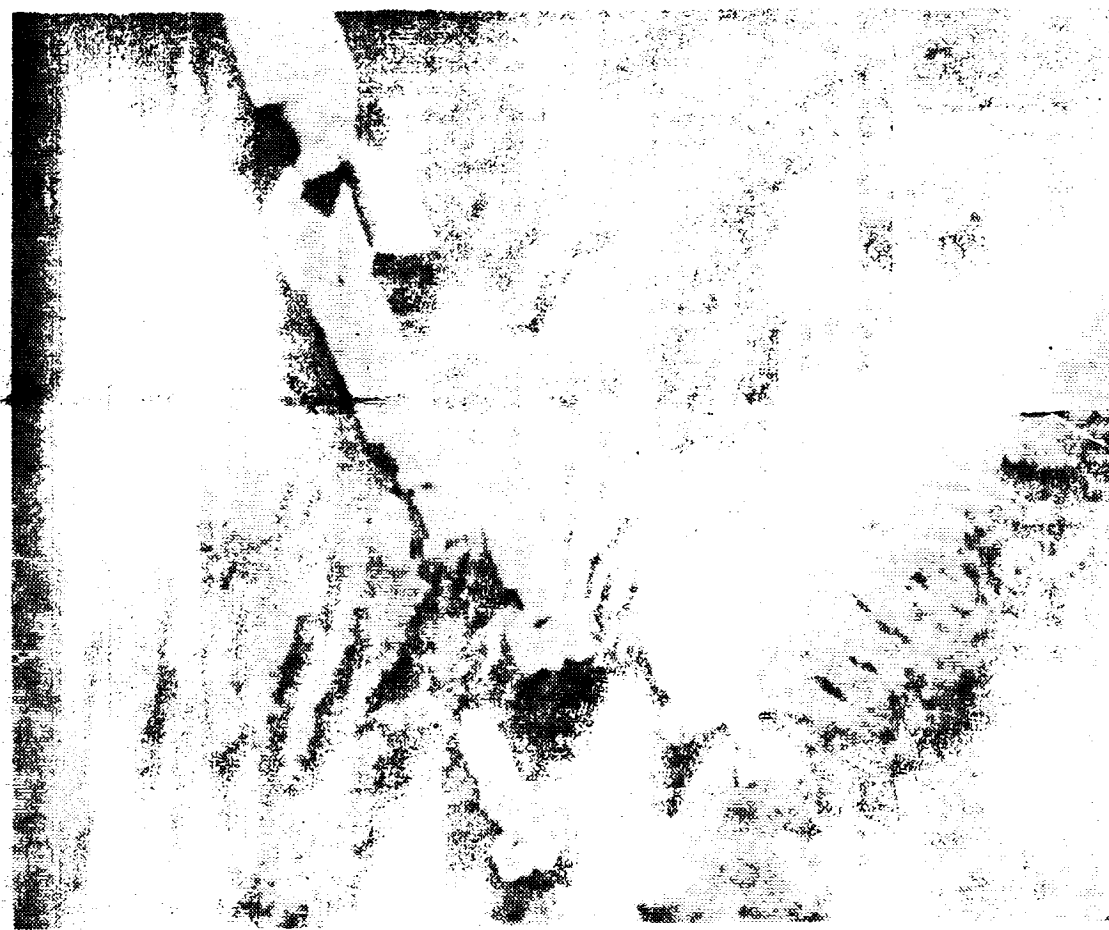
This engagement took place shortly after the convoy had been attacked by torpedo aircraft when, as announced in the Middle East joint war communiqué today, at least two enemy merchant vessels were sunk.

An Air Ministry communiqué:
 This afternoon squadrons of

THE NEMESIS OF JAPANESE FORCES IN THE ALEUTIANS



Four U. S. B-24 bombers in formation on their



A piece of wreckage is released by one of the machines

Associated Press (U. S. Signal Corps)

Spitfires carried out extensive sweeps over France and Belgium. One enemy fighter was destroyed and others were damaged. Four of our planes are missing.

A joint Air and Home Security Ministries communiqué:

There was some slight activity early last night over a coastal area of Northeast England but no bombs were dropped.

French

LONDON, Dec. 4 (P)—A General French Headquarters communiqué broadcast over the Morocco radio:

Our troops together with an Allied contingent have captured important enemy positions and taken some hundreds of prisoners, mostly Germans, east of Sidi bou Zid.

Between Gafsa and Gabès one of our units forced some enemy patrols to retreat.

Russian

MOSCOW, Dec. 4 (P)—The Soviet Information Bureau's noon communiqué:

During the night of Dec. 3-4 in the Stalingrad area and on the central front our troops continued offensive operations in the same directions as before.

In the industrial district of Stalingrad our artillery and patrols were active.

Artillery of "X" unit destroyed eight German pillboxes and dugouts, three guns and fifteen machine guns and wiped out about a company of infantry. Mortar gunners dispersed a concentration of enemy infantry and trucks.

Northwest of Stalingrad our troops continued offensive operations and in a number of sectors repulsed the enemy.

At one point Soviet troops repulsed an attack by a German infantry battalion supported by five tanks, killing 150 Germans in

hand-to-hand fighting. Two Red Army men brought down a three-engined enemy transport plane by rifle fire.

Southwest of Stalingrad our troops conducted active operations. "X" unit dislodged the enemy from a number of pillboxes and dugouts, killing about 300.

Two enemy attempts to regain lost positions were hurled back. In other sectors our patrols wiped out about one German company.

On the central front our troops continued their offensive and repulsed enemy counterattacks. West of Rzhev one unit in three days destroyed five tanks, seven armored cars, nine guns and twelve mortars.

They captured twenty-four guns, ten mortars, 164 machine guns, about 900 rifles and automatic rifles, more than sixty trucks, eight wireless stations, nine depots and about 1,000,000 shells. In these engagements the en-

emy lost several thousand officers and men.

In the Rzhev-Vyazma sector our troops repulsed an enemy counter-attack, wiping out about two companies of infantry.

In the north our coastal artillery sank two enemy transports with a total displacement of about 16,000 tons.

MOSCOW, Saturday, Dec. 5 (P)—The midnight communiqué:

During Dec. 4 in the area of Stalingrad our troops continued their offensive and occupied the following populated places: Yakty-Yul, Senishin, Avinsky, Lisinsky, Popov, Verkhni-Chirskyaya, Chepurin, Nagavskaya, Deyev, Parshin and the railway station of Sekretev.

On the central front our troops continued their offensive and occupied several inhabited localities.

In the northern area of Stalingrad our troops advanced 200 to 300 yards and occupied several enemy fortified positions. In the factory area our troops cleared one city block of the enemy, killing about 350 men.

Northwest of Stalingrad our troops advancing from the left bank of the Don continued their offensive operation, occupying enemy positions.

Towards the end of the day our troops occupied a commanding height over a locality and dug themselves in. The enemy lost 600 officers and men in dead alone.

Southwest of Stalingrad part of our forces launched an offensive and occupied a strongly fortified point. In fighting for this point about 1,000 German officers and men were wiped out. Six tanks, nineteen machine guns and two trucks were destroyed and thirty enemy dugouts were demolished.

In the area of Velikiye Luki our units conducted operations for the liquidation of encircled enemy strong points. Men of "X" unit advanced and routed a German battalion which defended a height controlling an important road. Hundreds of enemy dead remained on the field of battle.

Forty-one machine guns, one anti-tank gun, seven trucks and an ammunition dump were captured.

In the area to the west of Rzhev "X" formations overcoming the enemy's stubborn resistance occupied several populated places. On one sector a battalion of German infantry supported by tanks launched a counter-attack. Our men smashed the enemy in a counter blow. About 300 enemy dead remained on the battlefield.

German

A High Command communiqué broadcast from Berlin and recorded here by The Associated Press:

Northeast of Tuapse and on the Terek River the Soviets again vainly attacked with strong forces. German mobile formations carried out successful attacks in the region north of the Terek during the last two days, making considerable territorial gains and annihilating several enemy cavalry and motorized units. Numerous prisoners and large quantities of arms and numbers of vehicles were captured.

In the course of fighting in the Kalmuck Steppe an enemy infantry battalion was scattered, eight tanks and numerous vehicles destroyed and a most important supply route of the enemy was interrupted.

In continuation of ferocious defensive fighting between the Volga and the Don strong Soviet attacks repeatedly collapsed yesterday under heavy losses. Thirty-six tanks were wiped out. Hundreds of prisoners, arms and other

booty fell into the hands of our troops.

In the great Don bend our own attacks proceeded favorably despite tenacious resistance by the enemy.

On the Lake Ilmen-Kalinin sector violent attacks by Soviet tanks and infantry were again repulsed with heavy losses of men and material for the enemy. The enemy lost forty-nine tanks.

Bomber and dive-bomber squadrons intervened successfully in fierce defensive fighting. Our fighters challenged strong enemy air formations and shot down twenty-two Soviet aircraft. Four other Soviet aircraft were annihilated by anti-aircraft artillery of the air force. Three of our own planes are missing.

On the Cyrenaica front there was mutual artillery fire.

In Tunisia German troops occupied important positions. Italian troops annihilated a formation of British parachutists. Seven hundred fifty-four prisoners were taken.

Formations of the German and Italian air forces fought in dive attacks and low-level attacks against enemy tanks and columns of vehicles.

Night attacks were carried out against port establishments and the airdrome in Bone and against enemy supply traffic in Algeria. German fighters shot down sixteen British aircraft. Two of our own planes are missing.

From Nov. 21 to 30 the British Air Force lost 111 aircraft, sixty-two of them in the Mediterranean area. During the same time fifty of our own planes were lost in fighting Great Britain.

In the course of repeated raids on the British coast, German motor torpedo boats sank a merchant ship of 5,000 tons and an escort vessel on Dec. 1 and a destroyer of the Hunter class and two merchant ships totaling 4,500 tons on Dec. 3 after violent night actions with enemy destroyers. All our boats returned to their base.

Italian

A High Command communiqué broadcast from Rome and recorded here by The Associated Press:

Intense enemy artillery fire on our advance strongpoints on the Cyrenaican front was effectively countered.

German units have captured an important position, taking 456 prisoners, including eighteen officers.

In another brilliant action the Bersagliere Battalion captured another 300 British parachutists.

Axis formations are continuing day and night attacks on French North African ports and on shipping in harbors. During lively air battles with Axis fighters the enemy air force lost sixteen planes.

In the Central Mediterranean one of our reconnaissance planes in combat with four Spitfires shot down one and heavily damaged another.

The hospital ship Città di Trapani has been torpedoed and sunk.

Of the 120 persons on board 104 were saved.

British planes last night made incursions against several localities in Sicily. Two were wounded among the civilian population. One plane was hit by anti-aircraft batteries and crashed near Augusta.

Japanese

No broadcast of a Japanese communiqué was recorded yesterday by the principal radio listening posts in the United States.