

28/8/43.

Riga Radio, *

3.45 p.m.

News by the German News Agency.

We give the following report from the German Army Headquarters: The Führer's Headquarters, August 28th. On the Mjus front, in the Kharkoff region, to the South-West from Orel, our formations were engaged yesterday in heavy defensive fighting with bolshevik infantry and tanks in numbers that far outnumbered them. The enemy again suffered heavy losses. 161 tanks were destroyed. Enemy formations that had penetrated into our lines were cut off and surrounded in energetic counter-attacks. Our air forces, on the Mjus front, to the West from Kharkoff and in the region to the South-West from Orel attacked enemy tank formations, infantry and supplies. On the 26th and 27th of August fighting units destroyed 104 Soviet planes. In the heavy fighting to the West of Vjazma the Hamburg Tank Grenadiers Division distinguished itself particularly. During the night of August the 26th heavy German fighting planes attacked naval units in the region of the port of Algiers. With bombs of every calibre hits were scored on some warship and 7 transport ships. Over Northern Italy German fighter planes and anti-aircraft batteries shot down 8 enemy machines. A German U-boat in the Mediterranean has sunk a strongly guarded/cruiser of the Aurora class, while another scored heavy hits with torpedoes on another cruiser. West of Cap Finisterre a cruiser was set afire by bombs dropped on an enemy formation, and a destroyer sunk after an explosion. During daylight raids of English and American planes on the coastal region of occupied Western Europe 15 enemy machines were shot down. A strong terror attack of a formation of British bombing planes which was made on Nurnberg last night caused losses to the inhabitants and caused heavy damage in dwelling houses, churches, hospitals and other buildings of cultural and historical value. As far as could be ascertained the anti-aircraft defence destroyed 60 of the attacking bombers.

Report from the Italian Army Headquarters: During the last few days, Italian machines have destroyed 9 enemy planes all along the Calabrian coast. Units of the fleet destroyed another plane. Enemy formations bombed Sulmona, Catanzaro and some places in the Campania, ⁱⁿ Salerno heavy damage was caused. Fighting heavily, Italian fighting planes shot down 6 machines, and German planes - 7 enemy machines. Three more enemy machines were destroyed by anti-aircraft batteries.

The heavy defensive action that is proceeding South-West of Izjum since August the 22nd, has lost some of its strength in the last few days. As the bolsheviks are continually bringing up reserves to increase their fighting forces, and as these are being regrouped, it must be supposed that the fights will increase in intensity again. Contrary to their former practice, the bolsheviks began their attacks with masses of infantry. Only when they saw that

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their effort to break the German defence was useless, did they employ a mechanized corps and several strong tank formations in order to penetrate into the German lines at all costs. This tank battle went on for three days and ended with the almost complete destruction of the brigade the enemy had sent into battle. After having filled up the gaps in their formations, the bolsheviks directed a heavy blow against the German positions. The battle went on for a whole day. All attacks, strongly supported as they were by squadrons of fighting machines, broke down in the massed fire of German arms. Leaving behind them a great number of dead and wounded, the bolsheviks finally retreated to their original positions. Untiringly, ^{the} German air force with its fighting and diving machines, took part in the battle, relieving the men that were fighting with great bravery. In the evening, the enemy's force was broken, and he limited himself to smaller attacks on the 26th of August. In these attacks new formations were employed in order to disguise the losses suffered by the enemy formations. The enemy did not only lose a great number of men, but also numerous Panzers. On the 24th of August, in the sectors of a tank division from Württemberg-Baden and a grenadier tank division from Westfalen alone the bolsheviks lost 202 Panzers. A shock unit of artillery which stood where the fighting was heaviest ~~shot~~ destroyed 250 enemy tanks in three days. In another sector, 200 bolshevik tanks were directed against the German positions in a narrow passage. The German tank grenadiers from Westfalen destroyed 147 tanks in heavy engagements. In the sector of another Westfalen division the bolsheviks, by sending infantry and tanks into battle in the night, had succeeded in making a gap in the German lines which threatened seriously to hamper further resistance. Thanks to the energetic steps taken by a feldwebel the enemy was repulsed after hand-to-hand fighting. The bolsheviks made several counter-attacks from all sides against the German lines, but the German soldiers held their sector until reinforcements could be brought up and the useless attacks of the bolsheviks had to be abandoned.

It is reported from Esbjerg that five Danish cutters entered the port after having been heavily fired on by British planes. Three members of the crew were wounded, one of them dangerously. The fire from the British machine-guns has damaged one of the cutters so heavily that she had to be hauled into port.

Reuter reports from La Paz that the entire Bolivian Cabinet has resigned. It is expected that a military Cabinet will be formed.

It is reported from Salonika that, according to a local newspaper, the Greek Premier made a strong stand against the spreaders of rumours. The Prime Minister said the enemy made all in his power to divide the Greek nation and prevent it from carrying out indispensable work. He said rumour-mongers were enemies of the nation. They made use of people's naivité and tried to poison the Greek people.

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It is reported from Geneva: Reuter reports that Lord Louis Mounbatten, the newly appointed Anglo-American Commander-in-Chief in South Eastern Asia, has left Washington. The report says that he will confer personally with the Chungking military authorities. Chungking formations are expected to take part in an offensive in Burma. Well-informed circles in Washington think, Reuter goes on to report, that the commander of United States formations in Burma, India and China, Chilwell, will be appointed Lord Mounbatten 's assistant as Commander-in-Chief. Thus the difficulties that have arisen on the subject of the supreme command would be averted. The Reuter statement regarding Lord Mounbatten 's negotiations with Chungking show that, in Quebec, Roosevelt and Churchill have agreed to use Chungking as cannon-fodder in the Jewish-plutocratic interest.

It is reported from Tokyo: The Chief of Press of the Japanese Armed Forces has, in an interview with the Domei Agency, declared his views on the communiqué of the Quebec Conference. He expressed the opinion that, at the conference, the two main points discussed were, surely, the question of attacks by air against the Japanese mainland and bases in Chungking China as well as operations for regaining the Burma road. In this connection Jahasi stated that the Japanese armed forces are not only prepared to repulse such attacks but also in order to destroy Anglo-American strategical points in India. At Quebec Roosevelt and Churchill, he said, had given Chungking promises of help which they could not hold, in order to prevent Chungking from giving up and joining the Nanking peace settlement. If Chungking as an armed force were excluded from the fight, England and America would be obliged to evacuate Eastern Asia, and this would considerably hasten economic reconstruction in that sphere. China was, he said, the sister of Japan, and Japan was still hoping sincerely that Chungking would at last waken from its illusions and free itself from the fangs of England and America, so that Japan should not be obliged to subdue Chungking by force of arms. Japan was firmly convinced that the time would come when the Chungking problem, at present the most important of all problems, would be solved by mutual agreement between England, America, Japan and China. -

This was followed by an announcement in which Latvian provincial towns the Meat Central, formerly the Bacon Export, would purchase cattle, between August 30th and September 3rd.