

Basic Gasoline Ration To Be 2000 Miles a Year

OTTAWA, Feb. 8.—A basic gasoline ration of 40 units, good for approximately 2000 miles of driving for the year for every automobile owner, will be announced shortly, it is reported here.

In other words every car owner, on application will be issued the 40-unit AA ration book, and owners who consider themselves entitled to special or commercial category books must make a special application to their regional gasoline ration board.

It is understood there are three categories in the new regulations: AA with black cou-

pons, special category in light red, and commercial in brown.

The new system will be effective April 1, the day after the present ration books expire.

Broken down into mileage figures, the 40-unit will give the average motorist a close to six miles driving per day for 365 days.

It is presumed there will be no restrictions on when the coupons may be used, as in the first three quarters of last year.

A motorist will probably be able to use his entire quota in six months—then lay up his car for the next six months.

Churchill Returns to Launch '2nd Front'

Press Clamors for 'Action at Once'; Gen. Alexander Mooted Commander-in-Chief of Allied 'Big Push'

By JAMES KING
Associated Press Staff Writer

LONDON, Feb. 8.—Prime Minister Churchill's return from his 10,000-mile air tour of North Africa and the Middle East touched off new demands today for speeding the invasion of Europe while the Russians have the Germans rocking on their heels.

According to unofficial reports Churchill has brought home plans for an all-out Allied invasion of Europe "this spring" but when and where, of course, are matters known to no one outside the highest leaders in Britain and United States.

Another report current in London names Gen. H. R. G. Alexander, British commander in the Middle East, as slated to be Generalissimo of the Allied Invasion Command for the venture into Europe as soon as Gen. Dwight Eisenhower of United States, who last week was official appointed "Commander-in-Chief in the North African theatre of operations" cleans up Tunisia.

The appointment of Eisenhower to a specific command, according to observers here, indicates clearly that he is not slated for the bigger job which will go to the more war-experienced Gen. Alexander.

'NOT AN HOUR TO LOSE'

The insistent press clamor for action sounded the warning "not an hour must be lost."

The Times set the pace with the declaration: "If the moment cannot be seized before the impetus of the Russian advance is exhausted, the enemy may gain breathing space for recuperation and be enabled to carry on the struggle into another year."

Lord Beaverbrook's Daily Express said:

"Already the Russian offensive has gone on for many weeks longer than any previous offensive. The resources of Britain and America must make ready to take over the burden: They must lose not a day and not an hour."

"The great Russian sweep forward," said the Daily Mail, "serves only to emphasize in

starker clarity the urgency of an Allied offensive somewhere in Europe early this year."

The Prime Minister, home from significant conferences in Casablanca, Cairo, Adana and Algiers, showed he was wasting no time as he met with Ministers within a few hours of his arrival for discussions which continued well into this morning.

He reached Britain yesterday in a Liberator bomber flown by his pilot, Capt. William Vanderkloot. He came to London by special train, being greeted at Farringdon Station by Mrs. Churchill and other members of his family, government officials and diplomats.

"I feel splendid," he said. "It was a perfect flight."

Many conferences Since his conferences with President Roosevelt, he had engaged in important military meetings in Cairo, conferred in Adana, Turkey, with President Ismet Inonu and other Turkish leaders, visited Cyprus and Tripoli and conferred with British.

Please Turn to Page Three See "Churchill"

Montgomery About to Hit at Rommel Again

By Canadian Press

CAIRO, Feb. 8.—Rain and mud have again bogged down the Allied ground campaign in Tunisia, restricting activity to patrols.

A French High Command communique announced today that French troops had occupied an important height "in the region of the high valley of the Kebir river."

A further closing of the Allied pincers upon Marshal Rommel was indicated, however, by a Cairo communique which said British 8th Army troops were in contact with the enemy in the coastal region of the Tripolitanian-Tunisian border west of Flisda and they are believed to be preparing for a new attack.

Gen. Sir Bernard Montgomery's patrols, whose activities in the past frequently have driven

COMMISSIONER



ALD. CHARLES JONES
On 3-man board to sell seized Japanese property here.

3-Man Board To Sell Jap Property Here

News of the appointment of a three-man commission by the Federal Government to dispose of Japanese-owned real estate in Vancouver was conveyed today to City Council by telegram from Hon. Ian Mackenzie.

The wire to Mayor Cornett stated that a Supreme Court judge, a representative of the City Council and a spokesman for Japanese interests will comprise the disposal board.

Mr. Mackenzie's request that the council nominate its representative was adopted, after aldermen stated they have agitated for months for the sale of these properties to white citizens.

Ald. Charles Jones, chairman of the City Council's properties' committee was named.

The message from the Minister made no distinction between properties owned by Japanese aliens, naturalized Japs or second generation Nisei.

Councillors interpreted the move as an indication that the Federal Government shares their belief that Japanese must not be permitted to return to Vancouver from evacuation centres.

"Their properties will never be re-occupied," said Ald. G. H. Worthington. "They will be disposed for all time and this is certainly a step in the right direction."

Ald. W. D. Greyell stated that the action is indicative "of the government's attitude in dealing with these people when the war is over."

Machinery to handle the sale has already been set up by the local deputy custodian of alien property, reported Ald. George Buscombe.

Hotel Destroyed by Fire at Bralorne
BRALORNE, Feb. 8.—The Goldbridge Hotel at Bralorne was destroyed by fire Saturday with an estimated loss of \$25,000.

Daylight Smash at Naples

Sardinian Bases Are Battered by U.S. and RAF Bombers

By WILLIAM DICKINSON

Special to The Vancouver Sun
Copyright, 1943, by British United Press

LONDON, Feb. 8.—Allied planes based in former Italian Africa, opening a general offensive on Italian objectives, blasted Naples, Sicily and Sardinia, it was disclosed today, while at the other end of the aerial front, Britain-based planes made their heaviest raid of the war on Lorient, French coast submarine base.

Planes of the Middle East Command, which an Italian communique said were American four-motored bombers, made a shattering daylight attack on Naples, scoring hits on three ships in the harbor, starting big fires along the waterfront, and shooting down two enemy planes.

Italy admitted damage and said casualties had not been ascertained.

Raid on Algiers
Italy reported that Axis planes had raided Algiers.

The Allied planes attacked Naples in broad daylight yesterday, and Italy admitted that they had dropped many bombs.

In attacking Naples, the big bombers struck at the chief reinforcement base for Tunisia, further hampering the Axis forces there awaiting an all-out Allied assault.

Many Canadians
(Canadian Press advices said many Canadian airmen took part in the Lorient raid and they reported fires visible 100 miles away started at that chief U-boat base. An RCAF communique said the Canadian force was the

Please Turn to Page Three
See "War in Air"

Canada Takes Control of War Supplies

By Canadian Press

OTTAWA, Feb. 8.—Finance Minister Hon. J. L. Halsey announced today in the House of Commons that Canada is setting up a five-man war supplies allocation board which will transfer supplies directly to Allied countries, on a credit basis where necessary.

He said the government will ask Parliament for a grant of \$1,000,000,000 to finance operations of the board, but he gave no indication how long that \$1,000,000,000 is expected to last.

At the same time Mr. Halsey announced that under a "mutual aid bill" to be introduced shortly in the House, Canada will take over all United Kingdom interests in war plants and equipment in Canada, valued at about \$200,000,000.

Canada thus will obtain "complete ownership and control" of all plants and equipment provided under joint Canada-United Kingdom capital assistance program administered by the Canadian Munitions Department.

The War Supplies Allocation Board, formed in the Throne Speech opening Parliament, will be made up of five Cabinet ministers.

It will transfer to other countries among the United Nations supplies made in Canada, over and above the Dominion's own requirements. The distribution will be made according to the strategic requirements of the general pool of

CITY FLIER CHATS WITH AIR MINISTER



Wing Cmdr. Roy F. Begg of Vancouver is seen explaining the work of an RCAF army co-operation squadron to Hon. C. G. Power, minister of defense for air. The picture was taken during a recent visit of the minister to Britain. Begg commands a squadron of the RCAF's first army co-operation wing. (Additional details on page 20)

Russian Drive Near Climax

Reds Reported in Streets of Rostov

By M. S. HANDLER
Special to The Vancouver Sun
Copyright, 1943, by British United Press

MOSCOW, Feb. 8.—Red troops hammered at the German lines at the Don river mouth today, the rich prize Rostov within sight and almost within grasp. Russian heavy artillery is maintaining a ceaseless drumfire on the great city.

(Radio Ankara said today that Russian troops had entered Rostov and that street fighting was taking place inside the city.)

COMMANDS WING

They have formed a 35-mile front on the south bank of the river from a point southeast of Rostov to the Taganrog Gulf of the Sea of Azov on the west. Rostov is a few hundred yards away, on the north bank of the Don, and Russian big guns are moving up to open on the city which has been the German Gateway to the Caucasus but now a Russian Gateway into the Donets Basin.

DON CROSSING
There were indications that the Russians might have crossed the Don at a point west of Rostov. There the river splits into several mouths which empty into the Sea of Azov along a 22-mile stretch, at a point 25 miles west of Rostov.

The midnight Russian communique reported that south of Rostov, as the front is described, the Russians crossed a "water barrier" and captured three villages.

(A report of street fighting in Rostov came from Stockholm but was unconfirmed.)

The Germans made a desperate attempt by counter-attack.

Please Turn to Page Three
See "Russia"

Hoover Advocates Delay in 'Knockout'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8. (AP)—Herbert Hoover said today "the size of the army must be modified—at least for the immediate period" of 1943, and the armed forces should supply some of 1,000,000 additional workers he said the United States needs in farming and metal and oil industries.

Hoover envisaged at least three more years of war but observed: "Time runs in our favor. We do not therefore need to try to do everything all at once." The knockout blow to Germany can be delivered more certainly in

Bracken Urged To Seek Seat

Special to The Vancouver Sun

OTTAWA, Feb. 8.—Pressure is being exerted on John Bracken to undertake immediate plans to enter the House of Commons rather than wait for an interval, it is learned here.

Much of the pressure comes from the parliamentary group of Conservatives, numbering 39, all of whom are understood to have taken on the label of Progressive-Conservative. But pressure outside the House group is also reported.

Mr. Bracken himself was in Montreal last week, and it is

BULLETIN

LONDON, Feb. 8.—Aneta News Agency said today the German-controlled Netherlands radio announced that Lt. Gen. Hendrik A. Seyffardt, commander of the Dutch Nazi Legion, had been shot and killed.