

GUINEA GOLD

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In the Field Monday, November 30, 1942.

NOT FOR SALE

GREAT NEW RUSSIAN THRUST NEAR RJEV SMASHES FOUR NAZI DIVISIONS

WAR SUMMARY

RUSSIA—Another Red Army offensive opens. About 250,000 Germans encircled near Stalingrad.

TUNISIA—Germans fight delaying action. Allies 15 miles from Tunis. Axis ships sunk.

NEW GUINEA—Two more enemy destroyers sunk. Airmen hammer Lae, Buna, and Gona.

FRANCE—Petain dissolves Navy; Army and Air Force.

INDIAN OCEAN—Allies occupy Reunion Island.

A great new Russian offensive on the central front is announced from Moscow. The Russians have smashed through the German defences in four places on the 170 mile line between Velikiluki and Rjev and have penetrated from eight to 20 miles. They have captured 300 populated places and cut through important strategic lines. Three German infantry divisions and one tank division have been smashed and 10,000 enemy troops have been killed.

In southern Russia Marshal Timoshenko's forces have closed the gap between the arms of the pincers driving from north and south, and 250,000 Axis troops are now completely encircled.

PETAINE DISSOLVES NAVY ARMY AND AIR FORCE

It was reported from Vichy yesterday that Marshal Petain had signed an official decree dissolving the French Army, Navy, and Air Force. It was then estimated that 60,000 Germans and 30,000 Italians were stationed along the French Mediterranean Coast.

Further reports regarding the scuttling of the French fleet state:

A French submarine which escaped from Toulon has arrived in Barcelona. It has been given the customary 24 hours to leave or be interned.

Allied Headquarters in North Africa reported on Saturday that units of the British Navy in the Mediterranean were attempting to locate some French destroyers which were believed to have run the gauntlet out of Toulon.

An official French Admiralty statement broadcast on Saturday declared that the French Navy had "kept up its tradition" by scuttling its ships. It had complied with the standing order that France had signed in its armistice with the Germans.

The United States Navy Secretary (Col. Knox) has received a report that French warships fired at each other point blank in order to blast holes below the waterline, believing that the Germans would be able to raise the ships if the sea-cocks only were opened.

PROUD OF "PUDGE"

Mrs. Anne Masters Brewster Halsey, 83, mother of Admiral Halsey, knits wristlets for the Red Cross with grim satisfaction, proud that her son, "Pudge," had directed American naval forces to victory in the Solomons.

RUSSIAN forces have made contact at Cherskya, 30 miles south-west of Stalingrad.

Von Hertz's trapped armies must now swing around in a desperate effort to break out of the wedge, or hang on in the hope of a counter drive coming from the Rostov area. At present, there is no sign of early relief.

Russian troops in Stalingrad, now being reinforced from the north as well as across the Volga, are hitting out hard. On Saturday they made further gains in the factory area, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

In the central Caucasus, south-east of Nalchik, the Russians on Saturday cleared out an important German stronghold north-east of the Black Sea port of Tuapse.

Forde Announces Special Army Fare For Christmas

The Minister for Army (Mr. Forde) said yesterday that arrangements were being made to provide Christmas fare and entertainment for Australian troops in New Guinea, Darwin, and camps and garrisons throughout Australia.

A per capita allowance of 1s. additional to the normal ration scale had been approved to provide extra messing on Christmas Day, and Commanding Officers could make a further increase from regimental funds, he said.

Christmas fare would be bought from army canteens.

Christmas cakes and puddings, dried fruits, chocolates and other foods were in special hampers which the Australian Comforts Fund was forwarding to troops in advanced operational areas. Amenities' officers would co-operate with Commanding Officers of units in organising social gatherings, sports meetings, film shows, and concerts.

MADAME CHIANG KAI SHEK IN U.S.

Madame Chiang Kai Shek has arrived in the United States and has gone into hospital for treatment of an injury received five years ago when a car in which she was travelling overturned while under fire from the Japanese.

In five years Madame Chiang Kai Shek has not allowed her injury to interfere with what she regarded as the course of her duty. On her recovery she will be the guest of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt at the Whitehouse.

AMERICAN ITEMS—

NEWS FLASHES FROM HOME

Must Wear Gloves

Daniel Mahoney, an expert pickpocket, in addition to receiving a sentence of 15 to 30 months in Sing Sing, must wear gloves for a year when he finishes his sentence. The judge added: "The police will gladly buy him gloves if he lacks money for them."

Sidney Fox Dead

The film actress, Sidney Fox, 31, was found dead in bed at her Hollywood home by her husband, John H. Beahan, theatrical agent. Beahan said that she had been in ill-health for some time. Sidney Fox appeared in the film "Strictly Dishonourable" several years ago.

Will Rogers II

Will Rogers, soldier son of the late humorist, stood as a Democrat and unseated the Republican member for California's 16th district, without having made a single appearance in his district.

Stand By Singer

Marian Anderson, eminent negro contralto, will not sing at Constitution Hall unless demands made upon the Daughters of the American Revolution are withdrawn. She accepted an invitation to sing at a patriotic concert provided there was no segregation of whites and negroes.

Plastic Coin

The United States will soon have a new bit of currency—a 2½ cent. piece, made from plastic. It will be roughly equivalent to the English threepence.

Sammy Angott Retires

The retirement of Sammy Angott, world's lightweight champion boxer, is announced. Sam is taking over a defence plant.

GRATEFUL TO UNCLE SAM

OFFICIALS of the Army Air Corps Training Command School at Chanutefield, Illinois, were amazed when they questioned Private Mathias Branter as to why he had not claimed his army pay.

Branter explained that the army clothed and fed him. He didn't smoke or drink, so what good was the money, he asked. At an officer's suggestion, Branter purchased war bonds with his accumulated pay, and allotted almost his entire future pay to the purchase of war bonds.

PATTY JOINS UP

Budge Patty, the National junior tennis champion, is fulfilling a motion picture engagement at Hollywood. When this is done, he will become a coastguard.

NEWS FROM ALL STATES

QUEENSLAND

Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services, Ltd., which hold half the shares in Quantas Empire Airways, Ltd., reports a profit for the year ended June 30 of £17,561 compared with £17,431 for the previous year.

For having refused to take the oath Ellis Edward Roland Milgate, Oxley Road, Sherwood, was sentenced to six months' gaol by Mr. A. E. Aitkin, S.M. Milgate said it was against his religious beliefs to take the oath.

Francesco Armanelli, soldier, was committed for trial at the next criminal sittings of the Supreme Court by Mr. S. Wilson, S.M., on a charge of having stolen parts of a dismantled aeroplane, valued 7/-, from a railway waggon.

Service by women on juries is to be on a voluntary basis, according to the Attorney-General (Mr. Gledson). So far, he said, 32 women had volunteered in Queensland.

Conferring of power on local authorities to raise rates to 1/6 in the £, instead of 1/- was announced in Parliament by the Works Minister (Mr. Bruce).

Mr. John O'Sullivan, a former sergeant of police, who died recently was sworn in as a constable in July, 1890, and rose to the rank of sergeant in December, 1915. He had been stationed at Brisbane, Roma, Warwick, Leyburn, Ipswich, Bardon, Hamilton, Hughenden and South Brisbane.

TASMANIA

Tribute to the public service rendered by the Lord Mayor (Mr. Soundy, M.H.A.), was paid at a dinner given in celebration of his recent birthday anniversary by aldermen at Highfield Hotel. The Governor (Sir Earnest Clark) was present.

The Deputy Director of War Organisation of Industry (Mr. McKinley, M.H.A.) directed a warning to tailors that they must conform strictly to the regulations in the clothing order. Recent inspections in Hobart and Launceston, he said, had shown in some instances that the order was being treated in a liberal manner, and it was likely that prosecutions would follow.

Important additions to the rolling stocks of Tasmania are expected for 1943. The Commissioner of Transport (Mr. Wilson) announced that advice had been received from England that the Diesel bogies had been complete and shipment was expected at anytime. They would be launched in Sydney where the bogies would be completed.

VICTORIA

Harold Henry Secomb, found guilty of having embezzled £600 of a clients money, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment in Melbourne. His name was ordered to be struck off the roll of solicitors.

Valuable crops of potatoes, beans, and peas have been destroyed in East Gippsland because of the flooding of the main streams. Some families in low lying portions of Sale have had to leave their homes. Nearly two inches fell in seven days.

Mr. Richard Turnbull, who has been a member of the Victoria Racing Club for 43 years, has been elected chairman in succession to the late Sir Alan Currie.

Major T. C. Manifold who is on duty "somewhere in the north" has been elected vice-chairman.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Allen Doone Cullenane (28), married, of Kenny-street, Bassendean, died in a private hospital at Belmont from injuries received on November 17 whilst engaged as a crane driver at Bassendean. The police report states that he is believed to have come into contact with a live electric wire.

Capt. Patrick Lloyd Brinkley, son of Mr. J. R. L. Brinkley and the late Mrs. Brinkley, of Perth, has died of wounds received in action in New Guinea. He was 26 years of age. He was educated at Woodbridge and the Guildford Grammar School. He joined the A.I.F. on the outbreak of war, saw service in England and took part in the Libyan and Syrian campaign and returned to Australia this year. Capt. Brinkley was a good all-round athlete. He represented the State at Rugby and in 1938 was a member of an Australian team that toured Ceylon.

"I have always felt that Western Australia was 100 per cent. British-Australian, and the large audiences I have had here have been very stimulating to me." This statement was made by Mr. R. G. Menzies, M.H.R., summarising his visit to the West.

A special course in physical education under the supervision of the Director of Physical Education at the Melbourne University (Dr. F. Duras) will be held in this State during January. The State Organiser for national fitness, (Mr. H. Giese) said that the course would be held at St. George's College from January 7 to 17 as part of the adult education summer school programme.

George Charles Arthur Dacey (29), who escaped from the Pardelup Prison Farm on March 26 last, was sentenced to an additional 4 months' imprisonment by Mr. W. J. Wallwork, S.M., in the Perth Police Court. The accused pleaded guilty to a charge that because of his escape he was deemed to be an incorrigible rogue and vagabond.

When he escaped Dacey was serving a sentence of 2 years' imprisonment for breaking and entering.

SPUDS FOR TEACHER

A SIGN of the times in Australia was provided when Miss Margaret Genge, of Sydney, retired after 50 years of teaching.

On her last day at the Infant's School, Mascot, nearly all pupils brought farewell gifts. Many brought flowers, but some arrived with a more practical and, certainly, equally acceptable gift—bags of potatoes!

NEW SOUTH WALES

For having snatched a woman's handbag in William street, Sydney, Ah Song, 32, a Chinese laborer, was sentenced in Central Police Court to three months' jail.

When a sentry challenged a soldier returning to a New South Wales camp recently, the soldier allegedly said, "It's the King." The sentry's rifle discharged accidentally, according to police, and the man was shot in the chest. He was taken to hospital. His condition later was satisfactory.

Working with waste paper and paste, the Red Cross Papier Mache Auxiliary has turned out 50,000 articles of hospital equipment since it started operations 2½ years ago.

Seventy tool-makers started a sit-down strike at a Sydney war factory to express their dissatisfaction with the ventilation. They came to work at the usual time, but declined to start. Negotiations are in progress.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Three policemen crawled along a dusty secret passage under a floor to find two 13-year-old boys who escaped from the Magill reformatory near Adelaide. Penalties amounting to £23 were imposed on the fathers who had denied that the escapees were in the place. To drag the boys out, the constables had to smash part of the floor with an axe.

"We in Australia are not doing half enough to win the war. There is a great deal more that all of us can do, and we should make every effort to do it," said the Premier (Mr. Playford) addressing members of the Liberal and Country League.

The public's response to the opening of a smallpox vaccination clinic in Adelaide street, six weeks ago had been most disappointing, said the City Medical Officer of Health (Dr. H. K. Fry). The charge was 1/- a head but so far only 860 people had been vaccinated, most of them women.

Before Mr. C. J. Coventry, S.M., in the Murray Bridge Police Court Hurtle Hermann Kleeman, Leo Percy Gillies, Wallace Walter Coad, and Reinhold Edwin Liebelt were charged with refusing to take the oath. All pleaded guilty and were sentenced to three months' imprisonment. The defendants' applications as conscientious objectors were previously refused.

"Appalling Conditions In Benghazi"

V SIGN BRINGS DEATH TO ALLIED PRISONERS

Kaiser's 101st Ship

HENRY J. Kaiser, the U.S. West Coast shipbuilder, has reached the 1,000,000 tons mark with the construction of Liberty ships in his yards this year.

His 101st ship has been completed. Kaiser's is the first shipbuilding enterprise to complete 100 Liberty ships for the United Nations. All have been delivered to the U.S. Maritime Commission.

N.S.W. SUPPORTS MILITIA PLAN

The proposal by the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) to extend the area of service for Australian militiamen beyond the Commonwealth and its Territories but within the S.W. Pacific area, received further support on Friday night when the central executive of the N.S.W. Branch of the Labour party approved the proposal by 23 votes to 13.

Mr. Curtin motored from Canberra to be present at the executive meeting. The N.S.W. decision is likely to influence party conferences in other States.

LESSON IN VALUE OF SEA POWER

"Our combined fleets are giving the world a new lesson in the meaning of sea power," Admiral Stark, Commander of the United States Navy in Europe told a luncheon of the American Society.

Admiral Stark added that it had been a slow, discouraging business establishing sufficient control to use our powers, but the free world was now rejoicing at the first signs of our success.

"We may hope for more signs, as masters of the sea can choose their time and place of attack, and finally take the initiative from the masters of the land," he declared.

"Shine On Harvest Moon"

WOMEN and children are working by moonlight in N.S.W. rural areas to gather this year's harvest, but owing to labor shortage, the harvest is already three or four weeks behind schedule.

At Wagga, men, women and children from the town are working on farms from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. In some cases, work continues till 11 p.m.

Thirty R.A.A.F. men gave up last week-end leave to help with the urgent work of bringing in the hay harvest in one N.S.W. country district.

STORIES of the "Black Hole of Benghazi," where men lived in appalling conditions, and how guards killed prisoners for giving the victory sign, have been disclosed by a Roman Catholic padre, Father Donnell, and R.A.M.C. Captain Allan, who were released when Allied troops entered the city.

DID THEY OVER EAT?

Many U.S. troops will remember Melbourne's Thanksgiving celebrations. During the dinner, 50 Americans and guests became ill. Twelve soldiers and two young women are in hospital undergoing treatment for poisoning, the cause of which has not yet been ascertained. Doctors said the poisoning was only moderately severe. The range of food was wide and it was impossible to indicate what caused the poisoning.

SPECIAL PRIVILEGE FOR CRANBORNE

THE Prime Minister's Office announces that the new Lord Privy Seal (Lord Cranborne) is to have special access to the War Cabinet so that he may be in the best position to fulfil his duties as Leader in the House of Lords.

Lord Cranborne succeeds Sir Stafford Cripps, who is now Minister for Aircraft Production.

"SOME of the Italians who met us going to Benghazi derisively tried to humiliate us," said Capt. Allan. "When the Germans came over to inspect the prison cages the British either covered their faces or gave the victory sign. The guards opened fire on them, killing several.

"When we arrived at Benghazi conditions were even worse. The prisoners were herded in insufferably crowded pens without food and practically without water.

"Four doctors were allowed to remain with the prisoners. They worked from dawn to dusk but were forced to turn away long queues of prisoners awaiting treatment.

"Eventually the senior medical officer persuaded the Italians to give us an old lazarette and some tents for a hospital. Still, sickness grew, and the beds increased from 200 to 380 when the Germans left."

Allan himself suffered from diphtheria, and he remained in the camp caring for contagious cases, who, however, were only a handful. With him were 12 Italian nuns, who remained to nurse the patients.

Padre Donnell, one of three chaplains captured at Tobruk, says that individually the Italians are friendly, but they took advantage of the malnutrition of the prisoners by extortionately selling foodstuffs, taking 3/- for a tin of marmalade and £10 for 50 English cigarettes.

The Italians expected to spend the money in Cairo

Bishop Condemns Slander

Pointed and timely was the rebuke handed by the Bishop of Toowoomba (Dr. Roper) to certain loose-thinking people who specialise in malicious gossip about Service personnel.

Addressing cadets at Toowoomba Christian Brothers' College, Dr. Roper said:—

"It always fills me with disgust when I find some people taking it for granted that a soldier must be an immoral man, or that 99 per cent. of them are expected to be immoral and issued with certain devices that can only be used for immoral purposes. We must defend our country against corruption as well as against evil forms of government."

MAJOR SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Boxing Tourney On Saturday

There will be an international flavor about the boxing contests to be held at the Konedobu Stadium on Saturday evening, November 5, starting at 8 p.m.

Australian and American boxers, drawn from the Army and the Air Forces, will compete. There are also prospects of one or two Navy lads taking part.

The main contest will be of 10 rounds. There will be a few six-rounders while less experienced boxers will try their skill in the preliminaries.

Entries for these events will be received until starting time on Saturday evening. They must be lodged with L.A.C. Smith, honorary secretary of the A.N.G.A.S.S.A., under whose auspices the competitions are to be conducted.

The great American horse, Whirlaway, is to retire to the stud at the end of 1943.

NAVY 14, ARMY 0

U.S. Football Upset

Surprise of the American football U.S. games yesterday, was at Baltimore where Navy, 14, defeated Army, 0. Army were 3 to 1 on favorites, but were outclassed by a stronger, more rugged side.

Other results included the tie between Michigan State and Oregon State, 7 each.

BETTING DECISION

The V.R.C. Committee has decided that all wagers made at any time over the five horses eliminated from the final acceptance list of the Caulfield Cup, were null and void.

An indication of the money available for promising horses in Melbourne was provided last week when Millais fetched 1,400 gns. at auction. His Stablemate, Judith Louise, who has raced only four times and has not won a race, brought half that price.

Service Bouts In Sydney

Tentative plans for a big inter-State boxing series have been arranged by sports officials of the Army. It is proposed to stage the contests between New South Wales and Victoria at the Sports Ground in January, 1943.

Negotiations are proceeding to secure Leichhardt Stadium for December 11 to stage elimination bouts for several divisions.

Boxers already suggested are:— Heavyweight division: Herb Narvo, Max Raynor. Light-heavyweight: Pte. Trott, an Army "discovery"; Air-Mechanic; Clare. Middleweight: Ron McLaughlin, Gill Allen, Joe Delaney, Bill Krause, Hugie Lang, another "discovery."

Welterweight: Bill Fadden, Alf Weymark, Billy de Belin. Lightweight: Vic Patrick. Featherweight: Don Casey, Dally Moran. Bantamweight: L. Feign. Flyweight: Teddy Lawler, A. Peterson.

German Delaying Action Near Tunis

ALLIED LEADERS IN DRAMATIC MEETING

IN Tunisia, Allied forces have repulsed an enemy counter-attack at a point 15 miles west of Tunis. Ten enemy tanks were destroyed. A Headquarters communique says the enemy generally is on the defensive in Tunisia, and is attempting to delay our progress by blowing up bridges, roads and railway lines.

AIR activity has been hampered by bad weather and muddy airfields. Allied nightfighters shot down four enemy planes over Algiers on Friday night.

The British 8th Army is now reported to be probing the outer line of the defensive thrown up by Rommel's Afrika Korps.

The British Navy has sunk nine more enemy supply ships which were attempting to get across from Italy to Tripolitania or Tunisia.

An Italian destroyer was also sunk and three others were damaged.

The R.A.F. made another raid on Italy on Saturday night but no details have been yet made available.

Secret Rendezvous

AT a two days conference in North-West Africa recently, the leaders of the Allied drives East and West across North Africa made their first direct contact.

The British Air Commander-in-Chief, Middle East, (Air Chief Marshall Tedder) together with the American Commanders, Major-General Louis Brereton and Brigadier-General Kimberley, flew in a Flying Fortress over enemy territory to a rendezvous with General Eisenhower.

BLIND MEN DO PRECISION JOB

SIXTEEN blind men at a S.N.S.W. Munitions Plant have achieved such high production figures that the factory manager is seeking more blind workers.

The men are employed checking component parts of gauges.

The management hopes that several blind women will be able to start similar work within the next few days.

The Industrial Officer of the plant says that blind men are equal to workers with full sight in certain kinds of work.

They are not distracted from their work and work hard all day without stopping. Night shift does not seem laborious to them as it does to some other workers.

LOST.—One crash kit. Dimensions: 18ins. x 8ins. x 8ins.; basket type, covered with green canvas and bearing red cross markings. Contains drugs, forceps, tourniquets, scissors and dressings. Finder please communicate with Editor, "Guinea Gold."

RANDOLPH CHURCHILL IN NORTH AFRICA

It has just been revealed that Major Randolph Churchill, eldest son of the Prime Minister, is serving in North Africa with a commando unit.

Major Churchill, who is 31 years of age has represented Preston in the House of Commons since 1940.

Sister Kenny Helps Darlan's Son

MAYOR Marvin Kline, of Minneapolis, has written to President Roosevelt offering facilities at the local General Hospital, with Sister Kenny treatment, for the son of Admiral Darlan, who is in Algiers Hospital with infantile paralysis.

It is suggested that a transport plane should bring young Darlan to the United States.

Sister Kenny supports the idea.

TWO MORE DESTROYERS SUNK

AIR FORCE ACTIVE OVER ENEMY COAST POSITIONS

Two Japanese destroyers are believed to have been sunk following an attack by Flying Fortresses on a convoy of four enemy ships off Tolokiwn Island (west of New Britain) yesterday.

U.S. AIR CHIEF MISSING

The War Department has announced that the U.S. Chief of Air Staff in the European theatre of operations (Brig.-General A. S. A. Duncan) has been missing for eight days.

A plane in which he was travelling disappeared off the north coast of France while he was en route from England to North Africa.

Women For Railways

The Women's Employment Board has given permission to the Victorian Railways Dept. to employ additional female labour to augment the staff of women porters and ticket checkers.

Women may also be employed in electric workshops, section tarpaulin shops, smithy, turners, coppersmiths, upholstery, paint and electroplating shops, and driving industrial trucks.

THE two remaining destroyers fled to the north. To-day's communique from General MacArthur's headquarters states that the ships were attempting to reinforce the Buna area.

Successful pilots in the operation were Captain Marshall Nelson, of Illinois, and Captain Benton Daniels, of Oklahoma. Members of Nelson's crew saw two bombs score direct hits. Portion of the side of a destroyer was blown out and a large fire broke out immediately. An attempt to beach the vessel failed.

Captain Daniels scored a direct hit and two very near misses on either side of the second destroyer.

The Fortress formation dropped more than 10 tons of bombs during the attack.

Other activity in New Guinea is summarised in the following sections of the communique:—

"We maintained pressure in the Buna-Gona area by intensive patrolling, harassing artillery and mortar fire, and intermittent bombing and strafing attacks by our Air Force.

"Formations of our attack and fighter planes surprised Lae airdrome at dusk and dawn, machine-gunning and bombing from low altitude in the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire.

"Five enemy fighters in dispersal bays were destroyed by strafing, and direct hits were scored with bombs on two other planes.

In addition, bomb clusters burst in the midst of a group of eight aircraft, probably destroying or damaging all."

Attention Americans

While there is no security objection to the mailing of copies of "Guinea Gold" to Australia, American censorship rules **EXPRESSLY FORBID** troops to mail copies to the United States.

Play The Game, Pal!

Production difficulties limit supplies of "Guinea Gold" to one per ten men.

Troops who pocket copies with a view, possibly, to posting them home, are robbing their mates of the chance to keep abreast of the news.

Send yesterday's issue home by all means, but let to-day's go the rounds.

Play the game, Pal!

Takes A Drunk To Cure A Drunk

The eighth anniversary of "Alcoholics Anonymous" in Park Avenue was a brilliant success.

The society was formed when a specialist told a notorious drunkard that there was no hope of his cure—whereupon the drunkard determined to cure himself.

He succeeded and persuaded others to follow his example, based on the formula that one ex-drunkard can cure another after all other methods fail.

The society's membership is now 9,000.

REPORTS OF GERMAN REVOLT IN NORWAY

NORWEGIAN Telegraph Agency reports that German officers and men have been seen in chains on German ships going south from Norway. The agency says that this bears out statements that mutinies have taken place among German occupation troops in Norway.

GERMAN firing squads at Narvik who refused to shoot German mutineers are reported to have been lined up with the convicted men, but a second firing squad also refused to shoot. All the troops were sent south.

The Swedish newspaper, Goteborgs-Posten, says that Hitler is withdrawing from Norway some of

his specially-trained regiments.

There has been a considerable regrouping by German forces in the last fortnight.

The newspaper says that part of the German navy, including large warships, has left for Germany. Large numbers of bombers also have left, probably for the Mediterranean.