

May, 1943

~~Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOB D.R. 5800.9 (9/27/58)~~

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of OSD
letter, 5-3-72
By RHPR Date AUG 7 1972

~~Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DOB D.R. 5800.9 (9/27/58)
Date- AUG 7 1972
Signature: RHPR~~

~~SECRET~~

Form No. 10.
(5-10-43)

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION

WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

0700 May 13 to
0700 May 14.

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S.	Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British	" " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French	" " " " "	<u>242,100 (May 12)</u>

Estimated Total
Strength of

920,389 (May 12)
AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy
and Tunisia

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total
Strength

U. S.	92,000 (May 6)
British	238,651 (Apr 29)
French	<u>54,660 (May 2)</u>
	385,311 (May 6)

German

Italian

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DDO CR. 5200.9 (9/27/88)

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures
referred to were first reported.

Date- AUG 7 1972

Signature- *RH [Signature]*

~~SECRET~~

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 10/11	46 DB-7's, 36 B-25's, 48 A-20's attacked and bombed Korba bridge, Kalibia area, Menzel Timine and Haouaria landing grounds.	Bridge damaged, landing grounds well covered by bursts.	
May 10/11	Spitbombers attacked road bridge at Krafja and Soliman areas.	Hits scored.	
May 9/10	Bisleys attacked motor trucks and truck concentrations from Hammamet to Menzel Timine.	Fires and explosions observed.	

Axis:

May 12	At least seven enemy bombers were over Algiers during the night.	One ship sunk in the harbor by bombs.	5 Bombers destroyed, 1 by night fighters and 4 by anti-aircraft, 2 damaged by Beaufighters over Sardinia.
--------	--	---------------------------------------	---

2. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 11	3 Hudsons attacked a fully surfaced U Boat with depth charges, one of which was within twenty-five feet of the swirl of the submarine.	Submarine submerged.	
--------	--	----------------------	--

3. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 12	An enemy aircraft contacted a small merchant ship convoy 20 miles northeast of Oran.		
--------	--	--	--

May 12	An enemy bomber made a reconnaissance of Phillippeville, two enemy planes made a reconnaissance of the Spanish coast,		
--------	---	--	--

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

SECRET

SECRET

and one shadowed shipping between Bougie and Djidjelli.

b. 9th Air Force (8th Army)

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 12	54 Bostons, Baltimores and Mitchells attacked enemy positions south of Bou Ficha.	Ground troops report bombing was effective.
May 12	9 Bombers from the 12th Group dropped 18,000 lbs of bombs in the battle area.	
May 11	22 bombers of the 376th Group dropped 110,500 lbs of bombs on Catania harbor.	The bow of a tanker was hit.
May 11	Bombers from the 98th Group dropped 117,000 lbs of bombs and 52 boxes of incendiaries on Catania harbor.	Demolition of mole and 3 ships tied up to the mole. Whole dock in flames. Ammunition ship exploded. A tanker was set on fire and a burning ship was leaving the harbor.
May 11	Bombers of the 340th Group dropped 15,000 lbs of bombs on buildings on an unreported target.	Destroyed: 1 JU-88 1 MC-200, We lost one plane.
May 11	23,500 lbs of bombs were dropped on the suspected German headquarters in the Cap Bon area.	
May 11	The 79th Group dropped 22,460 lbs of bombs on motor transport, docks, jetties, buildings and on 4 guns of an ack ack battery.	

2. Fighters:

Allied:

May 11/12 (night)	Beaufighters over Cap Bon	destroyed 1 Heinkel 111. No other aircraft sighted.
-------------------	---------------------------	---

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(E) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 8, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

~~SECRET~~

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
1 Bomber	6 JU-88's
_____	1 MG-200
	1 HE-111
1	8

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

770	2007
-----	------

b. Sorties Flown:

1. North African Theater:

May 11 -- 108 B-17's, 36 B-25's, 54 B-26's, 48 A-20's, 56 Spitfires, American, 193 P-38's, 16 P-39's, 71 P-40's, 2 Photo Recon.
 RAF: 8 Hudsons, 3 Marauders, 36 Spitbombers, 27 Beaufighters, 212 Spitfires, 20 Hurricanes, 23 P-39's, 12 P-40's, 3 P-51's.
 Additional sorties for May 10 -- 36 B-25's, 48 A-20's, 62 Spitfires, 12 P-39's, 84 P-40's, RAF: 46 Bostons, 21 Hurribombers, 20 Spitbombers, 1 Walrus, 162 British Spitfires, 6 French Spitfires. May 11 -- 12 P-39's, Day May 12 -- 4 P-39's, RAF day May 11 - 16 Spitfires, 4 Hurricanes. Night 11/12 May -- 22 Wellingtons, 19 Beaufighters, and 12 Hudsons. Day May 12 -- 10 Hudsons, 2 Swordfish, 3 Marauders, 36 Spitfires and 1 Coastal Beaufighter.

c. European Theater:

1. Bomber:

Axis

May 12	a JU-88 was observed 5 miles south of Hofn.	Interception was not made.
--------	---	----------------------------

Allied:

May 12/13 (night)	494 RAF Bombers and 78 Pathfinders bombed Duisberg. Searchlights numerous and some enemy aircraft encountered over the target. The flak was not up to its usual standard.	35 planes missing.
-------------------	---	--------------------

2. Fighters:

Axis:

May 12	13 FW-190's made a low land	4 of 5 bombs	1 FW-190 destroyed,
--------	-----------------------------	--------------	---------------------

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (G)

OSD Letter, May 3, 1972

By NRP, NARS Rev. _____

AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

T

bombing and machine gun attack on Lowestaff.

dropped fell into the sea. One caused some property damage, killed four people and injured eight. by anti-aircraft.

May 12 (evening) 12 low flying enemy aircraft attacked Lowestaff. The same raiders dropped two bombs on Kessingland and caused damage and some casualties.

Widespread damage to property, including the gas works and hospital. 23 people killed and many injured.

3. Anti-shipping:

Allied

May 11 A plane attacked a submarine 325 miles South West of Kaldadarnes.

Some evidence of success.

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis

May 13 (Night) Enemy planes made following reconnaissance flights:
7 - Over the Channel
5 - Over the North Sea
1 - Suspected of sea mining
1 - JU 88 over Faroe Islands

May 12 6 - Off south coast of England

Allied

May 10 Russian photo reconnaissance of Alten Fiord showed 1 large ship presumed to be the Scharnhorst together with Datzon and 4 destroyers. The same day a large ship which may have been the Tirpitz was observed at Lang Fiord.

III. Naval Action:

Naval losses since May 1, 1943:

	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>
Merchant Vessels			28	56,000
Destroyers			4	
Motor Torpedoe Boats	3		1	
Siebel Ferries	1		7	
Others	1		9	

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD Instruction, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS

AUG 7 1972

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

IV. Ground Action:

General:

All resistance has ceased on the Cap Bon peninsula. Only small groups of prisoners remain to be collected.

General von Sponeck and the 90th Light Division finally gave in at 1500. Resistance was then confined to the 164th Division and some Italians. General Fesse is sending envoys to arrange terms of surrender for the remaining forces.

The total prisoners taken were 130,000 before the surrender on the southern front. It is estimated that there are 30,000 more to come in. Material so far accounted for includes 1200 guns of all types including 150, 88 mm and 200 tanks mostly German.

Among the prisoners taken are 19 Russians. Prisoners state that there are 34 Russians in Tunis and 30 in Ferryville. The Russians were employed as a labor platoon with an artillery battery.

8th Army:

All serious resistance has ceased on the 56th Division front. 1st Infantry Division mopping up some enemy still holding out.

Losses included in Summary:

8189	8470
8222	8472
8261	8476
8323	8509
8317	8599
8458	8689
8759	

DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (B)
 OSD letter, May 3, 1972
 By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

- 6 -
~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
 E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
 NLR 101
 By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

SECRET

Form No. 10.
(5-10-43)

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 12 to
0700 May 13.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S.	Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British	" " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French	" " " " "	*242,100 (May 12)
		920,389 (May 12)

Estimated Total
Strength of
50,000 (May 11)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy
and Tunisia

Unknown; none left
in Tunisia.

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total
Strength

U. S.	92,000 (May 6)
British	238,651 (Apr 29)
French	54,660 (May 2)
	<u>385,311 (May 6)</u>

German	
Italian	
	<u>50,000</u>

*Included in a report dated Apr 23 received by G-2.

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures
referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED
EO 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (E)
OHD Letter, May 3, 1972
By RHIP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
1. Bomber:			
<u>Axis:</u>			
May 11	12 JU-88's probably from Sardinia were active in the Djidjelli area.		2 JU-88's destroyed, 1 probably destroyed.
<u>Allied:</u>			
May 10	Borizzo attack additional information: 46 B-17's escorted by 47 P-38's dropped 6,092 20-lb fragmentation bombs on air-drome.	Starting many fires over field. 15-20 enemy aircraft encountered.	2 enemy aircraft destroyed, 2 probably destroyed, and 1 damaged. 1 B-17 blew up over target.
May 11	4 Spitbombers attacked motor trucks near Beni Otsmane.	Good results.	
May 11	26 Hurribombers attacked and bombed motor trucks 10 miles southwest of Zaouiet El Kgaiz and also at Zaouiet El Kgaiz. 8 bombs dropped in lensel Bou Zelfa.	Fires were started.	
May 11	180 B-17's, 54 B-26's, and 36 B-25's escorted by 137 P-38's dropped 435 tons of bombs on Marsala. Smoke from fires was visible from the Tunisian coast 90 miles away.	Hits scored on warehouses, docks, railroad yards, hangar and repair shops at the seaplane base and in the city.	Destroyed: 13 ME-109's, 2 MA-202's, Probably: 3 ME-109's, Damaged: 2 ME-109's. 1 P-38 is missing
May 11	Light and medium bombers carried out two attacks on gun positions south of St. Marie Du Zit.		
2. Fighter:			
<u>Allied:</u>			
May 11	21 P-40's dropped 21 500-lb bombs on Lamoura-Beni Khian road.	Area well covered.	

~~SECRET~~

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (F)

GHD Letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS

AUG 7 1972

SECRET

May 11	92 Spitfires in fighter sweeps over Cap Bon area attacked motor trucks.	Causing many fires.
May 11	20 P-40's attacked Pantellaria harbor.	Fires started on the docks.
May 10/11 (night)	Beaufighters and Hurricanes patrolled the north end of the Cap Bon peninsula.	1 JU-52 destroyed, 1 probably destroyed, 2 damaged.
May 11	Fighter bombers destroyed about 30 motor vehicles on the peninsula.	
May 11	Fighters flew sea sweeps and patrols over Cap Bon area.	1 JU-52 damaged.

3. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 11 Axis planes made reconnaissance flights:

- 1 - Between Oran and Algiers
- 1 - Between Bone and Bougie
- 1 - Over Tripoli.
- 1 - Over Sicilian Channel

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
1 B-17	2 JU-88
1 P-38	13 ME-109
	2 HA-202's
	1 JU-52
	2 enemy aircraft
2	20

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

769	1999
-----	------

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (D)
OSD Letter, May 3, 1972
By RHP, RAMP Date **AUG 7 1972**

b. Sorties Flown:

1. North African Theater:

May 10 -- 110 B-17's, 12 B-25's, 140 P-38's, 10 P-39's, 49 P-40's, 24 Wellingtons, 4 Spitbombers, 26 Hurribombers, 9 Hudsons, 2 Swordfish, 3 Marauders, 10 fighters, 163 Spitfires, 10 Hurricanes, French: 23 Spitfires. May 11 -- 116 A-20's, 60 B-17's, 84 B-25's, 55 B-26's, 136 American Spitfires, 48 P-39's, 96 P-40's,

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED]

166 P-38's, RAF: 321 Spitfires, 80 Hurribombers, 26 Spitbombers,
4 Hudsons, 9 Albacores, 29 Beaufighters.

c. European Theater:

1. Fighters:

Axis:

May 11	18 FW-190's dropped 13 High Explosive bombs on Yarmouth. Military headquarters and an ATS billet was hit and damaged considerably.	38 fatal military casualties including 36 women. 10 civilians killed, others injured.	Anti-aircraft shot down one enemy plane. P-47's destroyed one and damaged another.
--------	--	---	--

2. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 11/12 (night) 18 Enemy planes suspected of engaging in sea mining between Harwich and Flamborough Head. Six came over land and dropped incendiary bombs.

Allied:

May 11	Planes sighted two submarines northwest of Cape Finisterre. One submarine attacked.	Believed sunk; surface craft was seen picking up survivors.
May 11	One submarine attacked in Iceland area, another sighted.	Results unknown.

3. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 11 Enemy made following reconnaissance:
1 - Over Oxfordness
1 - Over the Atlantic off Brest
1 - Over the Straits.

DECLASSIFIED
EO 11652, Sec. 2(E) and 5(D) or (B)
OSD letter, May 2, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

IV. Naval Action:

May 11 -- Shipping sweeps were carried out along the coast. One enemy destroyer was blown up and another left in flames. Other ships were successfully attacked.

May 10 -- A motor torpedo boat mined in the Approaches to Bousse succeeded in reaching the harbor, but is a total loss.

SECRET

SECRET

May 11 -- Destroyers off the eastern shore of Cap Bon took 77 prisoners from small boats. The Italian vessel Aurana painted as a hospital ship, but not registered as such was taken to Sousse for investigation. Destroyers took 126 prisoners from Zembra Island, which is now clear.

Night 11/12 -- Motor torpedo boats established patrols off Pantelleria Island. A 500-ton schooner was sunk May 5 by one of our submarines.

The dockyard and all facilities at Ferryville are completely out of action. At Bizerte the canal entrance at present is effectively blocked.

Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:

	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>
Merchant vessels			26	53,000
Destroyers			4	
Motor torpedo boats	3		1	
Siebel Ferries			7	
Others			8	
	<u>3</u>		<u>46</u>	

V. Ground Action:

XIX Corps:

May 11 -- Opposition north and south of Zaghuan continued during the morning, but later in the day all enemy forces from north of Zaghuan to Secouf surrendered unconditionally.

General Mathinet, Commander of the Moroccan Division, accepted the unconditional surrender of the entire enemy forces opposing him on his front consisting of Pfeiffer Division, 10,000 strong and its equipment intact. Gran Division has pushed rapidly toward to a general line north of Zaghuan, taking 20,000 prisoners.

This affects principally the Italian Superga Division and a German battle group of the 21st Panzer Division.

General:

Enemy casualties and considerable **SECRET** prisoners are still coming in. The prisoner situation May 11 appears to American II Corps 37,998, of

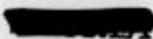
DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(b) and 2(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 8, 1978 AUG 1972

RHP, NARS/DAW

SECRET



which 33,498 are Germans; British V and IX Corps roughly 50,000; French XIX Corps at least 10,000; 8th Army about 350, all since May 6. Equipment taken by the Americans is estimated as sufficient to equip two divisions. Booty includes 1,000,000 rations.

Although veterans are evidently resisting to the last on the southern front, a general disintegration of the enemy positions has accelerated during the past 24 hours. Any enemy in the Cap Bon peninsula are now restricted to the central hills. The main group is rapidly shrinking as a result of the recent surrender in the Zaghouan area.

Enemy resistance is now south of Bou Fische and from Saouaf to the coast.

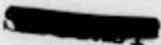
Dispositions on southern front apparently unchanged. The commander of the 90th Light Division refused invitation to surrender. He declared his intention to resist until his ammunition was exhausted. This state of affairs apparently reached by many units. Others reported now firing at random. Italians of 1st Army have been apparently inspired by the Germans to resist with equal stubbornness. Fires reported throughout night in the center of Cap Bon peninsula.

On the 12th the 26th Armored Brigade continued to advance and gained contact with the 8th Army south of Bou Fische. All gains have been firmly held. The 6th Armored Division is now located about three miles west of Hammamet. Many more prisoners have been taken, but the exact number is not yet known.

It is reported that all organized resistance except by isolated pockets of the enemy has ceased over the whole of the 13th Army Group front. General Von Arnim, commander of the Axis forces in Tunisia has been captured.

Messages included in Summary:

7570	7715	7894	7990
7632	7851	7938	7989
7696	7866	7958	8105



DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
 OSD letter, May 3, 1972
 RHP, NARA Date AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

APPENDIX

8th Air Force summary combat claims and losses for week ending
May 9, 1943:

<u>Victories:</u>	<u>A.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Destroyed	11	17	28
Probably destroyed	9	3	12
Damaged	2	15	17
Destroyed or damaged on ground			9
<u>Losses:</u>	1	74	75

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (D)

OSD Letter 3300, 1977

By RHP, NARS Doc

AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

SECRET

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 11 to
0700 May 12.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>828,289 (May 4)</u>

Estimated Total
Strength of
50,000 (May 11)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy
and Tunisia

Unknown; none left
in Tunisia.

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total
Strength

U. S.	92,000 (May 6)
British:	238,651 (Apr 29)
1st Army	
6th Army	
French:	54,660 (May 2)
	<u>385,311 (May 6)</u>

German
Italian
(May 11) 50,000

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures
referred to were first reported.

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/3/94

~~SECRET~~

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 9	Palermo raid (previously reported) additional information:		1 enemy aircraft destroyed, 7 damaged.
May 10	2 torpedo bombers attacked in the Cap Bon area after dark.		
May 10	6 JU-88's approached Djedjelli in the evening. Only one attacked.	No damage to shipping.	
May 9/10	24 Wellingtons dropped 24 tons of bombs on Palermo.	Bursts were seen near railway yard and dock.	
May 9/10	4,250 lbs of bombs were dropped on Milo airdrome.	Results not observed.	1 enemy plane destroyed. 1 of our planes is missing.
May 10	B-17's escorted by P-38's dropped 36 500-lb bombs and 5,646 20-lb bombs on Milo airdrome.	Target was well covered. 8 to 12 planes on ground set on fire. Explosions and large fires seen.	1 P-38 destroyed, 2 B-17's damaged by flak.
May 10	52 B-17's escorted by 48 P-38's and P-40's attacked Borizzo (Sicily)	Message incomplete; being serviced.	1 P-40 missing.

2. Fighters:

Axis:

May 10	1 ME-109 near Bougie		was destroyed.
--------	----------------------	--	----------------

Allied:

May 10	Attack on landing ground near Benzel Timime additional report. (previously reported)		1 enemy aircraft destroyed.
--------	--	--	-----------------------------

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
 OSD letter, May 3, 1972
 By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

3. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 9 Hudsons attacked a U-Boat with a depth charge. U-Boat submerged slowly.

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 10 Following reconnaissance missions were flown by enemy planes:
1 - near Gibraltar
1 - Oran area
2 - vicinity of Barcelona
1 - west of Sardinia
1 - northwest of Pantelleria
1 - Cap Bon

b. 9th Air Force (8th Army)

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 10	124 light and medium bombers attacked Pantelleria landing ground in the early morning.	Several fires started. Direct hits on buildings and gas dump.	
May 10	100 bombers attacked Pantelleria harbor.	Two fires started. Several near misses on ten landing craft.	
May 10	The 12th, 340th, 7th and 9th Groups dropped 138,680 lbs of bombs on Pantelleria landing ground.	Many hits and fires started. Two hits on barracks. The jetty, bridge and 5 motor transports were hit.	2 JU-52's, 1 ME-109, 1 FW-190 destroyed.
May 10	57th Group dropped 29,880 lbs of bombs on Cap Bon peninsula.	Two direct hits scored on motor transport. DECLASSIFIED	

EO 11652, Sec. 8(b) and 8(d) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

2. Fighters:

Allied:

May 9/10 Patrols covered Cap Bon. Small amounts of motor transports attacked. 1 FW 190 destroyed. No other enemy aircraft seen.

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied:</u>	<u>Axis</u>
1 P-38	3 enemy aircraft
1 P-40	2 ME-109
	2 JU-52's
	2 FW-190
-----	-----
2	9

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

767	1979
-----	------

c. European Theater:

1. Bomber:

Axis:

May 10 1 Heinkel 111 dropped bombs Slight damage
at Haywards Heath and Lewes. to houses.

2. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 10 2 enemy planes made a recon-
naissance off southeast coast
of England, 2 off south coast,
and 1 off the Atlantic off Brest.

IV. Naval Action:

Motor torpedo boats intercepted two small craft near Cap Bon and took 36 German prisoners.

A destroyer attacked small craft near Kelibia and sank a small fishing vessel taking 17 prisoners, including the Chief of Staff of the 5th Panzer Army. Three small coastal vessels with Germans attempting to escape were sunk in the Gulf of Tunis. Personnel were taken prisoner. No other attempts to escape by surface craft have been observed.

Italian hospital ships Virgilio and Aquila were intercepted and released after search revealed only wounded aboard.

-4-

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E) and 5(D) or (K)
OSD letter, May 8, 1962
By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

One destroyer engaged six E Boats in the vicinity of Zembra Island. After a lively engagement, the enemy retired northwards under cover of smoke. One E Boat was probably damaged.

Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:

	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>
Merchant Vessels			25	52,500
Destroyers			3	
Motor torpedo boats	2		1	
Siebel Ferries			7	
Others			8	
	—		—	
	2		44	

V. Ground Action:

II Corps

35,000 prisoners have been taken, 30,000 of which are German. Clearing of the battlefields continues.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(F) and 3(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

V Corps

The 1st British Infantry Division is concentrated in the Ain El Asker area.

IX Corps

The 6th Armored Division broke through the Axis forces at Grombalia and were within 7 miles of Hammamet, at 1800 hours on the 10th. Patrols of the Derby Yeomanry entered Habelul. The 10th Infantry Brigade is located in the Lenzel Bou Zelfa area and the 12th Brigade from the 4th Division are at Beni Khalled and are pushing north and east.

The 1st British Armored Division is at Grombalia. 6,600 prisoners have been counted so far today, and much abandoned equipment has been captured.

Hammamet and Habelul have been abandoned by the enemy. An unconfirmed report states that we have occupied Korba.

The Axis has been pushed back 20 miles northeast of Soliman. 10,000 prisoners have been taken during the last two days of fighting at the base of the Cap Bon Peninsula. The Centauro Division has surrendered and there is evidence that the

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

~~SECRET~~

that the enemy is destroying motor transport and other equipment.

Prisoners report that radio traffic is almost solely concerned with instructions for destroying papers and material. Hitler and Mussolini have sent a message of encouragement to all troops. Forces on the southern front are likely to remain in their present positions to the end.

Prisoners on all fronts by the end of the 10th of May totalled at least 60,000.

On the 11th the 26th Brigade continued to advance and met an anti-tank screen and some tanks on the road south of Bou Ficha. Further north some pockets of enemy resistance including some tanks remain to be cleared up in the hills west of Grombalia.

Patrols of the 10th Infantry Brigade have made a complete circuit of the Cap Bon Peninsula with little opposition and have met patrols of the 12th Brigade about a mile from Menzel Huen. The position in the center of the peninsula is still obscure. Many prisoners continue to be brought in, but counting of them has not yet been completed.

The 201st Guards Brigade is now under command of the 4th British Division.

XIX Corps

Little progress was made in the XIX Corps area during the day.

On the 11th slight progress was made in the center of the Corps front.

8th Army

167th Brigade failed to capture objective night of May 9/10, and is now back on its original line after suffering considerable casualties from machine gun and mortar fire. 1st P.F. Division captured 14 prisoners 15 miles west of Takrouna.

5th New Zealand Brigade captured 75 prisoners and 12 small guns from 164th Division southeast of Saouaf.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (B)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

-6-

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/23/94

~~SECRET~~

European Theater

Shells from a German battery on the French coast demolished a house at Dover and killed one person May 9.

Messages included in Summary:

6802	7167
6817	7230
6821	7236
6844	7309
6856	7361
7080	7362
7130	7363
7206	7369

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(C) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD Instr. 11573, 11572

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

-7-

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

~~SECRET~~

AFFENDIX

Northwest African Air Force summary combat claims and losses for the week of May 1 to May 7, inclusive:

<u>Victories:</u>	<u>U.S.A.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Destroyed	25	25	50
Probably destroyed	5	6	11
Damaged	10	15	25
Destroyed on ground	--	--	29

Losses:

To enemy aircraft	2	-	2
To anti-aircraft	4	1	5
To unknown cause	12	4	16
Missing	14	1	15
Damaged	3	3	6
Damaged by anti-aircraft	37	59	96
No losses on ground.			

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(1) and (2) or (3)

GSD letter, May 2, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG-7 1972

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

Form No. 10a

**EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 10 to
0700 May 11

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>828,289 (May 4)</u>

Estimated Total
Strength of
70,000 (May 9)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy
and Tunisia

German	725
Italian	635

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30) TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total
Strength

U. S.	92,000 (May 8)
British:	238,651 (Apr 29)
1st Army	
8th Army	
French	<u>54,660 (May 2)</u>
	385,311 (May 8)

German	
Italian	
(May 9)	<u>70,000</u>

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED
EO 11652, Sec. 8(C) and 8(D) or (2)
OSD letter, May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED] T

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Bomber:

Axis:

May 9	Approximately 25 enemy planes attacked shipping at Bone.	No casualties, fires started in town and in the hold of a ship.	
-------	--	---	--

Allied:

May 8	A-20's dropped 10 100-lb, 23 300-lb, 2250 20-lb bombs on motor trucks near Soliman and road network south of Hamman Lif.	Results unobserved.	4 A-20's damaged by flak.
May 8	A-20's in another mission dropped 20 300-lb, 10 100-lb 864 20-lb fragments on tank concentrations in Protville area.	Heavy yellow smoke observed among bomb pattern.	
May 8	Hurribombers and Spitbombers attacked enemy troops emplacements, motor trucks, landing grounds over Cap Bon Peninsula and Protville area.	Good results. A direct hit was made on bridge of an 8000 ton ship. 4 Siebel ferries, 1 barge and a motor launch were also shot up.	2 ME-109's destroyed on takeoff. 1 Hurr-bomber damaged by flak and another is missing.
May 8/9	Wellingtons dropped 25 tons of bombs on Villacide, 3 tons on Elmas and 4 tons on Decimomannu airdromes. One 4000-lb bomb was dropped on Monserrato airdrome.	All aircraft returned safely.	
May 9	Palermo raid (previously reported)		Destroyed: 12 ME-109's, 1 ME-110, 1 ME-210. One of our bombers crashed into the sea.

2. Fighter:

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (F)

OSD letter, May 2, 1972

RHP, KJ

AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

Allied:

May 8	14 Spitfires missions attacked Cap Bon and Tunis area. Straffed enemy emplacements, roads, motor trucks, tanks, and ships.	17 trucks destroyed and many damaged.	12 enemy aircraft destroyed, 8 damaged on ground.
-------	--	---------------------------------------	---

3. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 8	12 P-40's carrying bombs, es- by 12 P-40's dropped 4 500-lb bombs on 2 motor vessels head- ing northeast in the Gulf of Tunis. A small launch bombed off Rass St. Ali El Mekki.	Scored near misses.
May 8	French squadrons attacked a motor vessel off La Goulette.	Vessel damaged.

b. 9th Air Force (8th Army)

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 9	126 light and medium bombers attacked aircraft on Pantel- laria Island landing ground.	Fires started.
May 9	44 bombers from the 376th and 98th Group dropped 250,000 lbs of bombs, 48 boxes of in- cendiaries, and leaflets on the Messina ferry slip.	Direct hits on 1 Macchi 202 prob- locomotive round ably destroyed. houses, and two ferries in the ferry slip. Bursts were observed along the railway yard. A ship was left smoking in the slip.
May 9	Bombers from the 12th and 340th Group dropped 65,400 lbs of bombs on Pantellaria Island landing ground.	Runways hit and fires reported. Extent of damage unknown.
May 9	Fighter bombers on three missions dropped 45,700 lbs. of bombs on targets on Cap Bon and Zembra Island.	125 direct hits on boats, direct hits on bridges, and a near miss on a destroyer. 8 motor vehicles destroyed. Explosions and fires observed on landing ground.

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 2, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

May 9 In four bomber escort - fighter Direct hits scored
bomber missions, 39,680 lbs. on motor vehicles
of bombs were dropped on San- and the bridge and
Telleria Island landing ground. jetty.

2. Fighters:

Allied:

May 9 Fighter bombers patrolling Cap 30 vehicles destroyed
Bon Peninsula attacked three by bombing and
convoys of motor vehicles. strafing.

3. Transports:

Axis:

May 8/9 Beaufighters and Hurricanes 3 JU-52's destroyed
(night) attacked JU-52's attempting 4 damaged.
to land in the Cap Bon area.

May 9 9 JU-52's near Menzel Temime 3 JU-52's damaged.
were attacked.

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
1 Hurribomber	12 enemy aircraft
1 bomber	14 ME-109's
	1 ME-110
	1 ME-210
	3 JU-52's
<hr/>	<hr/>
2	31

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

765 1970*

*144 reported yesterday as wrecked near Tunis, subtracted from total.

b. Sorties Flown:

May 8 -- 18 B-25's, 33 B-26's, 121 P-38's, 68 P-40's, 4 P-4 (Photo reconnaissance), 77 A-20's, 6 P-39's, MAP: 155 Spitfires, 67 Hurribombers, 12 Spitbombers.

c. European Theater:

1. Anti-Shipping:

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(C) and 3(D) or (E)
ODD letter, May 2, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

~~SECRET~~

Allied:

May 9	A U.S. Navy Catalina based on Iceland attacked a submarine.	Results unknown.
May 9	An RAF Hudson from Iceland attacked a submarine.	No estimate of hits.
May 9	2 submarines attacked in Iceland area.	1 Submarine damaged.
May 9	2 submarines attacked northwest of Cape Finisterre and another sighted west southwest of Bishops Rocks.	
May 9	3 submarines sighted west of Portugal. One attacked by two planes.	Believed to have been damaged.

Reconnaissance:

May 9 Enemy aircraft made a reconnaissance of the following areas:
1 - Shetland Islands.
1 - East Faroe Islands.
1 - Southwest approaches of United Kingdom.

IV. Naval Action:

Night of May 8/9 -- An enemy ship off Rasc Ek Drek was destroyed by our motor torpedo boats and a barge carrying oil, men and ammunitions was sunk by a destroyer. One motor torpedo boat stranded off Kelibia had to be destroyed by our forces on May 9. Destroyers were relieved and redispensed closer to Gulf of Tunis. May 9 they successfully engaged a battery near Rasc Bourdas and bombarded Sidi Daoud. One of our destroyers received some damage but continued on patrol and returned to Malta. Our destroyers withdrew to seaward at dusk, and relief ships sailed from Bone and Malta to maintain patrols. Coastal craft have maintained continuously nightly patrols in the vicinity of Bizerte and Cap Bon Peninsula. There is practically no enemy shipping left on the coast, but there is some boating activity. The channel to Bizerte is now swept as far as Cape Blanc.

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:

	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Total Tonnage</u>
Merchant Vessels			25	52,500
Destroyers			3	
Motor torpedo boats	2		1	
Siebel Ferries			7	
Others			4	
	<u>2</u>		<u>40</u>	

V. Ground Action:

II Corps

All enemy resistance in the north ceased during the morning of May 9. The Germans negotiated an unconditional surrender, including an agreement to cease the destruction of material. The booty is considerable. Twelve thousand prisoners have already been counted by the Americans, of which only about four hundred are Italians. It is estimated that about an equal number are awaiting capture and evacuation. The negotiations were conducted by Major General Fritz Krause, Artillery Commander of the Afrika Korps. Other prisoners included Major General Von Vaerst, former commander of the 15th Panzer Division and possibly temporary commander of the 5th Panzer Army, Major General Willibald Borowietz, commander 15th Panzer Division, Major General Curt Bagesenge, commander of the Luftwaffe at Bizerte, Major General George Kauffer, Luftwaffe flak division, and Lieut. General Karl Bulovius, commander Menteufel Division.

V Corps:

There has been no further report on the situation at Tunis, but the whole area is under control. Enemy resistance continued during the morning south of Hammam Lif. Creteville has been abandoned and much enemy equipment left behind. Total prisoners in all areas now total 50,000, with many still uncounted. The 7th Armored Division is concentrating in the area north of Tunis. The 4th Indian Division is concentrating in the Ain El Anker area.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(E) and 2(D) of (B)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

IX Corps:

The 1st British Armored Division made slow progress and captured Creteville. Leading elements of the 2nd Brigade pushed forward about four miles, mopping up north and south on their axis of advance. The 1st Guards Brigade attacked and occupied the high ground south of Hamman Lif during the night of May 8/9. Anti-tank guns held up the advance of the 26th Armored Brigade during the morning. Artillery support was brought up and the 26th broke through. Soliman was captured at 1400 hours May 10 and Grombalia at 1700 hours. The advance continues to the south and east. Elements of the 2nd Armored Brigade southeast of Creteville have sent patrols to the southwest to link up with the XIX Corps. A total of 5,000 prisoners were taken on the 10th of May, including 600 from the German Goering Grenadier Regiment.

Remnants of the 10th and 21st Panzer Divisions oppose the advance south east of Hamman Lif, but resistance on the 1st and 6th Armored Division front appears to be disintegrating.

XIX Corps

Active artillery fire prevented further advance in the XIX Corps area. Patrols found heavy resistance at Sid Arara. Forward elements of the 1st Infantry Division reached Taf El Blindah, but were held up by enemy fire from high ground ahead.

Pockets of enemy resistance are still holding out in Zaghuan. An enemy counterattack was beaten off.

Bled El Yella is still strongly held by the enemy.

8th Army

On the 9th the 6th New Zealand Brigade relieved the 169th Brigade. The 169th Brigade was placed in reserve ready to be moved northward the morning of the 10th. There are no indications of a general withdrawal. The 90th Light Division is offering stubborn resistance south of Bou Ficha. It is estimated

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(2) and 5(D) or (E)
GSD Notice, May 3, 1972

RHP, NAME Date AUG 7 1972

S

there remain about 70,000 troops to be mopped up.

The difficulty of supply for the enemy should result shortly in collapse of organized resistance.

General: Enemy capabilities on the Cap Bon Peninsula

1. Axis might withdraw 65,000 troops and five to seven days' supply there.
2. The peninsula will be extremely hazardous to supply by air, ship, lighter, Siebel ferry or submarine, due to nearly complete Allied control of the sea and air.
3. The enemy has suffered great losses in transport aircraft by day and is unlikely to attempt to operate except by night now. At a maximum effort the enemy might dispatch up to 250 tons for two or three nights. There are four airfields which might be used for night landings. The effort would fall after that, apart from losses in aircraft which should be heavy. Some 30 to 40 tons per night could be dropped by air by JU-88's. Supplies also could be dropped from transport aircraft if landings were to dangerous. 150 tons per day for the first week with a drop to 75 tons subsequently might be obtained. It is unlikely that this figure will be achieved due to losses which should be heavy.

4. Therefore apart from supplies possibly transferred from Tunis to the Peninsula, it is estimated the enemy might get in sufficient supplies to last one further week. No large scale evacuation is believed to be possible. Troop withdrawal could be carried out by E Boats, submarines, and aircraft and possibly lighters and Siebel ferries. At the most, some 10,000 might leave, but by no means all arrive at their destination.

Losses included in Summary:

6209	6370	6431	6616	6689
6229	6390	6580	6635	6744
6337	6419	6593	6643	

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARA Date AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Form No. 10.

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 9 to
0700 May 10

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>828,289 (May 4)</u>

Estimated Total
Strength of
128,400 (May 8)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy
and Tunisia

German	725
Italian	635

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30) TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total
Strength

* U. S.	92,000 (May 8)
British:	238,651 (Apr 29)
1st Army	
9th Army	
French	54,660 (May 2)
	<u>385,311 (May 8)</u>

German	
Italian	
	<u>(May 8) 128,400</u>

*Includes 3rd Infantry Division

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(D) and 6(D) or (E)

OGD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARA Date AUG 7 1972

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures
referred to were first reported.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Bombers:

Allied:

General:

Enemy air activity on May 8 was of defensive nature and on low scale with the main effort concentrated over the Gulf of Tunis and the Cap Bon Peninsula. Most enemy aircraft apparently operated from the peninsula although some, with long range tanks, appeared to come from Pantellaris and Sicily. Generally, enemy fighters evaded combat.

May 6/7 (night)	Wellingtons bombed Trapani area.		1 Wellington destroyed.
May 7	F-40's carrying bombs attacked the Quays and docks at Tunis Harbor.	Several small merchant vessels strafed, 1 yacht sunk, 2 tugs set on fire.	1 P-40 destroyed
May 9	The heaviest concentrated bombing effort to date was directed against the docks, industrial, and commercial areas of Palermo. Planes in the attack were 134 B-17's, 90 medium bombers, and 178 P-38's. 40 aircraft returned early. Approximately 1,000,000 lbs of bombs were dropped in an area of one square mile.	Many fires and explosions, smoke rose above 15,000 feet and completely obscured the target area. An accurate estimate of the damage has not yet been made. Fighter opposition very light. Anti-aircraft fire was the heaviest yet encountered.	1 B-17 shot down, 5 B-26's are unreported, but it is believed some may be refueling at advanced bases. All fighters returned.
May 8	Heavy concentrated attacks were made on the Pantelleria airdrome.	At least one 1000-lb bomb exploded in the opening of the underground hangar. Numerous hits on administration buildings, fuel storage, and aircraft on the airdrome.	

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(b) and (c) or (E)

OSD 10/1/94

AUG 7 1972

By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

May 9 A preliminary survey of the wreckage in the El Aouana air-drome area at Tunis shows: 6 ME-323's, 5 HS-129's, 1 ME-210, 1 PW-190, 1 FE-156, 30 JU-52's, and approximately 100 miscellaneous aircraft.

May 8 B-25's with a P-40 escort bombed the railroad and high-ways near Korbu. Good results.

May 8 P-40's bombed the docks near Thenara. Direct hits and near misses scored. 1 P-40 missing.

May 8 19 medium and light bombers missions were carried out by A-20's, P-40's, DB 7's, and B-25's on enemy troop and motor transports. Fighter bombers attacked the few remaining enemy landing grounds. Heavy damage inflicted. Several aircraft on the ground destroyed or damaged. Destroyed on ground: 3 JU-52's, 1 ME-109, 1 P-40 destroyed by flak.

2. Fighter:

Allied:

May 7 Many fighter sweeps were flown over the battle area. Destroyed: 5 Spitfires, 1 P-40/

May 6/7 (night) Beaufighters patrolled Sicilian Channel. 1 SM-79 destroyed.

May 9 Air craft were over enemy bridge-head all day without sighting any enemy aircraft. Fighters and fighter and medium bombers followed up night harrassing attacks on the enemy by strafing and bombing motor transports on roads in support of mopping up operations and our attacks southeast of Tunis. Successful attacks were made on enemy landing grounds and small shipping off shore.

3. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 7 Enemy bombers probably from Sicily attacked destroyers northeast of Bizerte. Attacks were unsuccessful.

DECLASSIFIED

EO 11652, Paragraphs 1 and 5(D) or (E)

ON 10/13/82

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

Allied:

May 8	B-26's flew shipping sweeps.	Low clouds prevented attacks.
May 8	P-40's carrying bombs flew shipping sweeps.	1 small motor launch strafed. Near misses on one motor vessel.
May 8	B-26's escorted by P-38's bombed a small motor vessel.	Vessel believed to have sunk. Near misses scored on a tanker.
May 8	2 other B-26 forces with a P-38 escort flew shipping sweeps.	Targets sighted.
May 7	Medium, light, and fighter bombers made continuous attacks on enemy concentrations and shipping in the Tunis area. Much damage caused.	1 destroyer left on fire. Numerous small ships sunk or damaged.

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 7 2 enemy bombers made a reconnaissance of the Algerian coast. In the afternoon the Balearic Islands were patrolled and in the evening an aircraft shadowed allied destroyers near Bizerte.

b. 9th Air Force:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 7	13 Wellingtons dropped 2,000-lb, 56 500-lb and 540 4-lb incendiary bombs in Trapani, Marsala, Marettimo, and Favignana areas.	These were diversionary attacks for Malte mine laying missions. 1 aircraft lost.
May 7	17 P-40's carrying bombs dropped 3 500-lb bombs on Korbeus.	

2. Fighters:

Allied:

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(D) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 2, 1972
AUG 7 1972
By RHP, NARS Date

May 7/8 Bœaufighters and Hurribombers
(night) damaged 1 JU-88 and 2 JU-52's
 in the Cape Bon area.

3. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 8	Shipping off Cape Bon was attacked. Baltimores in a later attack claimed another Vessel damaged.	1 medium motor vessel reported sunk. Two damaged.	Destroyed: 6 ME-109's, 1 Macchi 202; 1 P-40 missing
May 8	Fighters and fighter bombers attacked shipping in the Gulf of Tunis and Cape Bon area. 49,500 lbs of bombs were dropped.	Near misses on shipping. A 5000-ton merchant vessel was left listing and on fire.	Destroyed: 5 ME-109's, 1 ME-109 probably destroyed.

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
1 Wellington	1 Macchi 202
5 P-40's	6 ME-323's
5 Spitfires	5 HS-129's
1 B-17	1 ME-210
	1 FW-190
	1 YE-156
	33 JU-52's
	100 Miscellaneous
	12 ME-109's
	1 SE-79
	1 unidentified
-----	-----
12	162
Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:	
763	2083

c. European Theater:

1 Bomber:

Axis:

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(b) and (c) or (E)
OSD dated May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

May 8 6 to 8 JU-88's raided the outskirts of London.

Damage and casualties light.

2 enemy planes destroyed, 1 damaged.

May 7/8 (night) 7 enemy planes raided Southampton, Salisbury, and Middle Wallop

3 enemy planes destroyed, another believed crashed in sea.

2. Fighters:

Allied:

May 7 100 P-47's made an uneventful high altitude sweep over a section of occupied Holland and France.

Several enemy fighters were sighted, but disappeared into a cloud before contact could be made. All P-47's returned safely.

3. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 7 Seven FN-200's based on Bordeaux, operated west of Fort Mugal.

Sighted a convoy.

Allied:

May 7 1 enemy submarine sighted 250 miles southwest of Iceland.

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 8 2 enemy planes made a coastal reconnaissance and three made a reconnaissance of the straits.

Allied:

May 7 2 F 5 A's flew a mission to photograph Dieppe and Antwerp

Dieppe mission was successful. Antwerp mission abandoned due to adverse weather conditions.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 5(D) or (E)

ODD Letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

IV. Naval Action:

The Greek ship Tekonikas was torpedoed and sunk by a submarine 410 miles west by south of Cape Finisterre.

Night May 6/7 destroyers from Malta patrolled south of Larettino. Others from Bone operated further west and shot down one enemy aircraft and damaged one.

Motor torpedo boats from Bone and Sousse operated in the vicinity of Tunis and Cape Bon.

Night May 7/8 -- All available craft sailed from Bone and Sousse to establish night patrols between Bizerte and Kelibia. Destroyers from Malta patrolled off Kelibia, while others from Malta and Bone operated off Larettino. One ship was damaged when attacked by an enemy plane.

May 8 -- Two groups of destroyers from Bone were west of Larettino and on patrol in the Gulf of Hammamet during daylight. Night patrol positions from north of Cape Bon to east of Kelibia were established in cooperation with destroyers from Malta. Kelibia was bombarded in the evening and again early in the morning of the 9th. Two small merchant vessels were sunk off Cape Bon.

Several wrecks were reported in Avant Fort Bizerte, but the entrance to Goulet Du Iac was not blocked.

Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:

DECLASSIFIED
EO 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 8, 1972
AUG 7 1972

	Allied	Total tonnage	Axis	Total tonnage
Merchant Vessels			24	51,500
Destroyers			3	
Motor torpedo boats	1		1	
Siebel Ferries			7	
Others			3	
	1		38	

V. Ground Action: II Corps

The 34th Division continued to advance and reached Djodida and is now swinging north.

Elements of the 1st Armored Division (US) are about 5 miles west of Utique. Other elements are clearing out resistance southeast of Bizerte.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED]

The 15th and 30th Combat Teams of the 3rd Division will pass through the 1st Armored Division the night of May 9/10 and complete mopping up to the east.

High casualties have been inflicted on the enemy and much equipment has been captured. Over 4000 prisoners have been taken since the start of operations. The enemy is disorganized and is believed incapable of prolonged resistance.

Enemy troops in the Protville pocket are reported as surrendering unconditionally the morning of the 9th. During the recent fighting the 1st Battalion Panzer Grenadier Regiment attempted a traditional German fake surrender.

Transport shortage necessitates the retirement of bodies of enemy troops on foot. Large quantities of material has been abandoned.

The German General Klausner unconditionally surrendered to the 1st Armored Division all German forces in the area between Lac De Bizerte and Porto Farina. Firing in the peninsula east of Bizerte ceased at 1100. Elements surrendered include the 10th and 15th Panzer Divisions, two regiments of artillery and other elements not known at this time. It is impossible to estimate the number of prisoners and booty captured, but it is believed the total will run into the thousands with large amounts of material and equipment. Mopping up continues in other areas. Much captured equipment and many stragglers are being picked up.

Troops in the Protville Pocket include remnants of the Von Manteuffel (Formerly Von Broich) 15th Panzer and 334th Divisions, 504th Heavy Battalion, and miscellaneous Marsch and ack ack battalions.

There has been no report concerning enemy forces cut off north of Garaet Achkel.

The 7th (Br.) Armored Division and the 1st (U.S.) Armored Division are now in contact.

V Corps:

The 7th Armored Division came under the command of the V Corps and struck north from Tunis and cleared the area south of the Medjerda River, taking large numbers of prisoners.

DECLASSIFIED
EO 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (F)
OSD Letter, May 8, 1972
By RHIP, 30481 GAW

AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

The 78th Division moved up to occupy Tunis which is entirely in our hands, all fighting having ceased the morning of the 8th.

The 1st Br. Infantry Division occupied Tebourba and Djedida and cleared the area south of the Medjerda up to Dj Amar where contact is being made with the 7th Armored Division.

IX Corps:

East of Tunis the 6th Armored Division was engaged all day in the area of Hammam Lif where the enemy rear guard was fighting hard to prevent our forces from cutting their line of retreat into the Cape Bon peninsula.

The 1st British Armored Division moved northeast without opposition from their position north of Bir Leherga and by the afternoon of the 8th were in contact with elements of the 6th Armored Division in the Creteville area where confused fighting took place.

The 4th Division with the 201st Guards Brigade concentrated in the area south of Tunis.

The 10th Panzer Division is in the Creteville area. The location of the 21st Panzer and Hermann Goering Divisions are unknown. **REDACTED** E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(F) and 3(D) or (E)

XIX Corps:

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

AUG 7 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

On the morning of May 8 the enemy held fire in front of the Algiers Division. After more fighting took place the enemy was pushed back. The Laroc Division advanced steadily to a general line south east and north west of Si Medine. The Oran Division made a considerable advance and reached the line Depienne-Bir Rihane. The Le Coulteux Armored Regiment met heavy opposition but pushed forward strongly and has now occupied Zaghuan with the infantry following up rapidly.

There is a slow general retirement east of Zaghuan.

8th Army:

On the 8th Army front there still appears to be no sign of an enemy withdrawal. The 56th Division advanced the evening of May 8, secured some low hills and captured some Italians.

SECRET

The 5th New Zealand Brigade on the left of the 8th Army Sector advanced against slight opposition and captured some German prisoners.

General:

There have been 20,000 prisoners captured since the general offensive May 6. There are many others still surrendering and large groups are not yet counted.

The enemy situation has deteriorated in all sectors. There are considerable indications of a shortage of fuel and ammunition. Stubborn rearguard fighting in the Harman Lif area is intended to prevent penetration which would jeopardize withdrawal of the southern forces to Cape Bon. The enemy's remaining mobile elements are not considered adequate to cover any appreciable retirement into the peninsula. Anticipate that organized resistance on any scale must shortly collapse.

Lessons included in report:

5536	5871
5544	5895
5640	5918
5739	5937
5743	5943
5757	5978
5778	6084
5800	6087
5818	6114
5837	6126

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(1) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD Letter, May 2, 1972

By REIP, NAME Date **AUG 7 1972**

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

Form No. 10a

**EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 7 to
0700 May 8.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>828,289 (May 4)</u>

Estimated Total Strength of
157,700 (May 5)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy and Tunisia

German	725
Italian	635

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30)

TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total Strength

U. S. 77,008 (May 2)

German 113,400

British: 238,651 (Apr 29)

Italian 44,300

1st Army

(May 5) 157,700

8th Army

French 54,660 (May 2)

370,319 (May 2)

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 3(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED]

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Bomber:

Axis:

- May 6 Enemy air activity on a large scale was defensive.
- May 6 6 FW-190's attacked Medjex El Bab while other raids were made
 - a. Pont Du Fahs area,
 - b. West of Tunis, and
 - c. On Southern front.

Allied:

- May 6 The heaviest scale of air effort ever put out in Africa was made in support of 1st Army operations. From the first, light, medium bombers attacked enemy targets continuously throughout the day. The day's bombing operations were believed to have been the most successful despite heavy flak and much smoke.
- May 6 Total of 2748 sorties of all types were flown, of which over 2000 were in direct support of ground troops. Total of 1,275,340 lbs of bombs were dropped, 2/3 of which were in direct support of the battle. During past month, approximately 12,000 wounded have been evacuated by air from front to rear areas.
- May 5 12 Hurrifbombers and 12 Spit-bombers escorted by 12 Spit-fires bombed the landing ground near Protville.
- May 4/5 (night) 28 Wellingtons bombed roads at Bir Meherga. 3 fires were started.
- May 4/5 17 Bisleys bombed motor transport on roads between Tebourba and Cheylus and later machine gunned woods in which motor transport took refuge.
- May 6 Escorted B-17's attacked Marsala Harbour. Docks well covered with hits. Near misses on 6 Siebel ferries Direct hits on 1 merchant vessal, which probably sunk; 1 P-38 missing

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

ON 14 Apr 1972

AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED] 101

Another merchant vessel was left burning. Hits were scored on 2 medium merchant vessels at center of north docks.

May 6 Trapani Harbour attacked by B-17's.

2. Fighters:

Axis:

May 6 Defensive patrols were flown over Tunis-Protville area.

Enemy formations were usually small throughout day of May 6 and no serious attempt was made to interfere with our offensive flights.

May 6 Usual patrols were flown over Gulf of Tunis and Cape Bon area.

May 6 Some patrols operated from Pantellerie.

Allied:

May 5 Spitfires

probably destroyed 1 enemy plane and damaged 5. 3 Spitfires were damaged.

May 6 Beaufighters flew defensive patrols and intruder missions over Sardinia and Marettimo Island.

Intercepted enemy aircraft.

1 enemy aircraft destroyed and 1 JU-52 probably. 1 Beaufighter damaged.

3. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 5 P-40's made a direct hit on one large vessel and sank one small vessel in the Gulf of Tunis.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 1(b) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD Index, May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

May 5 Kittyhawks sank one small ship

1 enemy aircraft destroyed, 3 damaged.

May 6 Fighter bombers attacked shipping.

Sunk: 3 Siebel Ferries, 4 small boats.

May 6 Bombers attacked convoy 20 miles west of Marettimo Island headed towards Sicily.

Sunk 3 Siebel Ferries. Many near misses on another vessel in convoy.

[REDACTED] WT

May 6	Another anti-shipping mission swept coast from Cape Bon westward.	Bombed 2 beached ships at Cape Zebib, scoring 3 direct hits and several misses.	Escort destroyed 1 ME-109. 3 P-38's missing but 1 pilot safe.
May 6	Escorted B-25's attacked part of Favignana (island off western tip of Sicily)	Near misses on 2 merchant vessels in harbour and hits among docks and western section of town.	1 P-38' missing
May 6	Escorted B-25's attacked convoy just west of Marettimo Island heading west.	1 Siebel Ferry blown up and near misses on others. Escort strafed airdrome between Metline and Ras El Djebel (Zebib)	1 JU-87 and 1 ME-109 destroyed on ground. 2 P-38's lost.

4. Reconnaissance:

Allied:

May 6 Marauders flew armed reconnaissance to approaches to Naples.

b. 9th Air Force:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 6	Light and medium RAF bombers attacked Furna and St. Cyprien with 90 and 108 aircraft respectively.	22 fires counted after 2nd attack.	
May 6	Fighter bombers attacked motor transport on roads to Tunis and Zaghouna.	Direct hits scored.	
May 6	Bombers of 12th Group in 27 sorties dropped 91,000 lbs of bombs on targets in battle area.	Fires reported.	
May 6	Bombers of 340 Group dropped 64,400 lbs of bombs on enemy ground installations in battle area.	Hits observed in undisclosed town. Fires started.	1 B-25 shot down, 1 lost with crew saved.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(G) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARA Date

AUG 7 1972

2. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 6	Anti-shipping sweep in Gulf of Tunis was made. Two destroyers were attacked. Interception by enemy aircraft. 94 sorties were flown and 60,000 lbs of bombs were dropped.	1 destroyer blown up and sunk; the other set on fire.	1 ME-109 destroyed, 1 damaged. 1 B-25 and 1 A-20 (Baltimore) lost in total of 838 sorties.
May 6	In 27 sorties by 376th Group in single bombing mission, 25 bombers dropped 129,000 lbs of bombs on Reggio Di Calabria harbor.	Direct hits on 2 merchant vessels. Fires and explosions in harbors and merchant vessels	1 Macchi 202 destroyed and 1 probably.
May 6	In total of 30 sorties in single bombing mission, 26 bombers of the 98th Group dropped 117,000 lbs of bombs and incendiaries on target shipping in Reggio Di Calabria harbor.	Direct hits reported on large ships, resulting in large explosion and flames. 1 merchant vessel destroyed and 1 damaged.	Crew of 1 bomber crash-landed in water but were picked up

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>	
7 P-38's	2 enemy aircraft	
3 B-25's	*25 enemy aircraft	
1 Baltimore	3 ME-109's	
1 Bomber	1 JU-87	
*1 P-38	1 Macchi 202	*Reported yesterday, but not included in losses.
<u>*3 P-40's</u>		
16	32	

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

Allied: 748

Axis: 1916

EO 11652, Sec. 5(1) and 5(2) or (E)

OSD Letter, May 8, 1972

b. Sorties Flown:

1. North African Theater:

By RHP, NARA Doc. **AUG 7 1972**

84 B-17's, 42 B-25's, 30 B-26's, 35 A-20's, 93 P-38's, 26 P-39's, 60 P-40's, 2 P-51's, 113 American Spitfires, 6 P-38 F 4's, 17 Bisleys, 23 Bostons, 12 Hurribombers, 235 British Spitfires, 12 Spitbombers, 12 French Spitfires.

[REDACTED]

Losses: 1 P-38 destroyed, 2 P-38's, 1 P-40 missing, 15 B-17's, 12 DB 7's, 2 A-20's, 7 B-25's, 3 Spitfires damaged.

Victories: 6 SE-22's, 2 ME-109's, 1 MA-200 destroyed; 1 ME-109 probably destroyed, 8 ME-109's, 1 FW-190 damaged.

c. European Theater:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 7 Final claim on Antwerp bombing: 10 enemy fighters destroyed, 2 damaged.

2. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 6 RAF planes based at Baskin, Iceland, attacked 5 enemy submarines in vicinity of base. Results unknown.

May 6 U.S. Navy Catalina based on Iceland attacked 2 submarines and sighted 1.

May 6 U.S. Army plane enroute to Iceland sighted 1 submarine.

3. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 6 Routine coastal reconnaissance off south England by 2 enemy aircraft, 1 off southwest approaches and 1 north.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(b) and 2(c) of (B)
OSD [unclear]

IV. Naval Action:

RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

The USS Andres picked up 31 survivors from the USAT Heita, a convoy straggler. Ship was foundering and sank May 4.

Greek ship Adelfotis was torpedoed May 1.

Our destroyers patrolled Sicilian Channel and were off Marettimo on night of May 5/6.

On same night motor torpedo boats from ~~[REDACTED]~~ operated in the Sicilian Channel. Other motor torpedo boats patrolled in Gulf of Tunis while boats from Sousse operated north of Cape Bon.

[REDACTED]

Enemy light naval craft off Sussex coast were engaged by British coast artillery during night of May 5/6.

Following ships in UK bound convoy have been sunk:

British North Britain	British Wentworth
British Harperly	British Bristol City
British Director	U.S. West Maximus

In same convoy British ships Harbury and Soluis were torpedoed and abandoned as not being salvable; also, U.S. ship West Madaket was attacked with unknown results.

Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:

	<u>Allies</u>	<u>Total Tonnage</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Total Tonnage</u>
Merchant Vessels			20	45,500
Destroyers			2	
Motor torpedo boats	1			
Siebel Ferries			7	
Others			3	
	<u>1</u>		<u>32</u>	

V. Ground Action:

II Corps:

Advance elements of the French reached Zoukar.

The 9th Division forward elements reached Ae Chegaga-Dover Cheniti.

Elements of the II Corps captured Ferryville on morning of May 7.

Advance on Bizerte continues and reconnaissance elements are now in the outskirts of the city.

V Corps:

Positions at Dj Bou Aoukuz have been consolidated. By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

The 138th Infantry Brigade has relieved the 5th Indian Brigade in vicinity of Voie.

By 100 hours on May 6 the assault of the 4th British Infantry and 4th Indian Divisions had been successful with the 12th Infantry Brigade, covered by the 10th Infantry Brigade, on the high ground at Bof Zioun. Borej Trendj was occupied and

[REDACTED]

the 7th Indian Brigade established themselves on the high ground at Bd. El Ykoudi with the 5th Indian Brigade near Bdj Zioum. The armour then passed through the Infantry units as previously reported with the 6th Armored Division meeting increasing enemy resistance and engaging enemy armour near B. El Bey. After inflicting considerable loss, the 26 Armored Brigade forced the enemy to withdraw to the southeast. While the 201st Guards Brigade moved up to cover the exposed flank, the 26th Armored Brigade pushed east to the south of the main Tunis road. Furna was cleared.

By 1800 hours the 201st Guards Brigade moved up to relieve the 26th Armored Brigade. The 22nd Armored Brigade passed Furna and advanced rapidly to the east. Some enemy opposition was overrun.

By 1800 hours the 22nd Armored Brigade reached Foundouk El Khala after having occupied Massicault at 1500 hours. The 131st Infantry Brigade moved forward to relieve the 22nd Armored Brigade.

This is more detailed information than was previously reported, concerning the same action:

Enemy forces believed opposing V Corps include the following:

Barenthin Regiment.	756 Mtn. I.R.
755 I.R.	15th Panzer Division
754 I.R.	5th Tank Regiment
	8th Tank Regiment
	504th Heavy Battalion (Tank)

Total runners in sector estimated at 35.

At 3 P.M. on May 7 troops of the 1st Army were reported in the outskirts of Tunis. Severe fighting occurred and many prisoners have been taken.

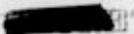
Enemy abandoned Furna and Massicault with apparent intention of forming on the general line south of Tebourba and St. Cyrrien. **DECLASSIFIED**

VIA Corps:

OSD Index, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NAME Date **AUG 7 1972**

Artillery support was given Comne Division advancing on left of 2nd New Zealand Division. Patrols of the Comne Division reached vicinity of Saouaf.



Prisoners taken in action southeast of Pont Du Fahs were from 961 Infantry Regiment. (999th Division)

8th Army

On May 6 the 2nd New Zealand Division advanced to As El Hamra, encountering opposition and extensive minefields which delayed daylight movement. Further advance to high ground southeast of Saouaf was being made during night of May 6/7

Enemy positions facing the 56th Division were heavily shelled.

Tank Strength and Dispositions:

Massicault Area	20
Furna Area	25
Dj Bou Aoukaz Area	35
Oudnak	20
8th Tank Regiment	20
	<hr/>
	120 Total runners.

Troop Movements:

7th Regimental Combat Team rerouted from Constantine area arrived at Hardinaou.

Miscellaneous:

Cable from Bern states that two complete infantry divisions, anti-aircraft detachments of about 7,000 men, 200 fighters, and 150 Stukas have arrived in Sicily.

Messages included in Summary:

3772	4521
4046	4588
4262	4549
4309	4490
4407	4619
4336	4527
4114	4610
4359	4705
4319	4732
4428	4800
4523	
4475	Eyes Only: 4402 and 4506

DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 202 and 5(D) or (F)
 OSD letter, May 3, 1972
 By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972



Form No. 10.

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 8 to
0700 May 9.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>828,289 (May 4)</u>

Estimated Total Strength of	
	157,700 (May 5)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy and Tunisia

German	725
Italian	635

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30) TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total Strength

U. S.	77,008 (May 2)
British:	238,651 (Apr 29)
1st Army	
5th Army	
French	54,660 (May 2)
	<u>370,319 (May 2)</u>

German	113,400
Italian	<u>44,300</u>
(May 5)	157,700

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 1(c) and 1(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
1. Bomber:			
May 7	General:		
	Enemy movement on roads in rear areas attacked throughout hours of darkness on night of May 6/7. Following up the 1st Army breakthrough, light and medium and fighter bombers maintained continuous pressure against the enemy withdrawing on roads in the Tunis area. Enemy opposition was negligible. Our attacks on enemy motor transport, concentrations, and landing grounds were carried at low level and with considerable success. Throughout the day continuous fighter sweeps made over forward areas. Attacks against small shipping in Gulf of Tunis were most successful.		
May 7	Escorted bombers attacked naval base, magazine, railroad yards and oil storage.	Many hits leaving target area in flames.	1 ME-109 destroyed 1 probably, and 1 damaged. 1 P-38 missing.
May 5/6	Bisleys and French Leo's bombed El Acouina, La Sebala, and Ariana airdromes.	All targets well covered.	
May 6	Light and medium bombers attacked motor transport, troop concentrations, and gun positions over the battle area and especially in the Djedeida-St. Cyprien-Massicault areas.	Much damage, many fires and explosions.	1 Baltimore and 1 Mitchell missing, 7 A-20's and 11 DB 7's damaged.
May 6	Hurribombers and Spitbombers attacked St. Cyprien and La Goulette Harbour.	Hits and near misses on 2 destroyers, 1 destroyer exploded and other left on fire.	1 ME-109 destroyed 1 probably, 3 Hurribombers damaged.
2. Fighter:			
Allied:	Many fighter sweeps flown during day in support of ground troops attacking enemy positions.		
3. Anti-Shipping:			
Allied:			
May 7	Escorted P-40's carried out shipping sweep.	Near misses scored on beached vessel near Cape Portoss.	2 JU-52's destroyed, 1 damaged. 1 ME-109 destroyed in air.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. (b)(3) and (b)(7) or (C)

OSD letter, May 4, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

Landing ground
near Protville
straffed.

May 7 2nd identical mission carried out against a medium naval vessel near Cape Zebib. Naval vessel left burning. Near misses on small boats and barges near by.

4. Transports:

Axis:

May 5/6 40 JU-52's to Tunisia from Sardinia during night. No report of transport during daylight.

b. 9th Air Force:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 7 Bombers of 12th Group in a single mission dropped 27,000 lbs of bombs on Helibia.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(b) and (c) or (E)
OSD Date: Mar 2, 1972
AUG 7 1972
By RUM, DAVID [REDACTED]

2. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 7 In 4 missions totalling 140 sorties, fighters of 57th Group dropped 62,640 lbs of bombs on targets in the Gulf of Tunis. 1 motor boat set on fire. Direct hit on E Boat. Torpedo boat cap-sized. Near misses on Siebel ferry.

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
1 P-38	3 ME-109's
1 Baltimore	2 JU-52's
1 Mitchell	
<hr/>	<hr/>
3	5

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

751	1921
-----	------

[REDACTED]

b. Sorties Flown:

1. North African Theater:

49 heavy bombers, 156 medium bombers, 141 light bombers, 614 day fighters, 3 photo reconnaissance. RAF: 217 light bombers, 331 day fighters. French: 7 light bombers, 24 day fighters.

Losses: May 6 -- 1 Leo, 4 P-39's, 1 Spitfire destroyed; 1 Mitchell 1 Baltimore, 5 P-38's missing, 3 A-20's, 13 DB 7's, 1 Spitfire, 3 Hurribombers, 4 B-17's, 3 P-38's damaged.

Victories: 20 ME-109's, 2 FW-190's, 1 MC-202 destroyed. 5 ME-109's 1 GW-190 probably destroyed, 8 ME-109's, 3 FW-190's damaged.

c. European Theater:

1. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 7 Unidentified plane plotted on a course east 125 miles northeast of Skalar. No interception made.

IV. Naval Action:

Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:

	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Total tonnage</u>
Merchant Vessels			20	45,500
Destroyers			3	
Motor torpedo boats	1		1	
Siebel Ferries			7	
Others			3	
	1		34	

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(C) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

V. Ground Action:

II Corps:

DECLASSIFIED
By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

During the morning of May 7, the enemy continued to resist weakly while his efforts north of Garzet Achkel was an attempt to deny to us the road to Bizerte.

The II U.S. Corps advanced eastward. The 34th U.S. Infantry Division captured the high ground west of Ghouira, four miles northwest of Yebourba. The 1st Armored Division cleared D' Achkel and advanced northwest, taking Ferryville and entered the outskirts of Bizerte at 1815 hours May 7. Infantry units are

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED]

now moving forward to the town.

Reconnaissance elements of the 894th Tank Destroyer Battalion entered Bizerte at 1615 hours May 7 and were followed rapidly by the remainder of the battalion.

The 81st Reconnaissance Battalion reached Ain Rhelal.

The 1st Infantry Division remained in position and still was in contact with the enemy east of Oued Tine. The 15th Regimental Combat Team of the 3rd Infantry Division was ordered to move during the night of May 7/8 to an assembly area in rear of the 1st Division to relieve a regimental combat team of that division.

Many prisoners of war were taken in small groups at isolated localities. There were 492 taken in the vicinity of Ferryville.

Forces at Bizerte were still receiving fire and some enemy resistance was encountered east and southeast of Mateur.

34th Division is now located in area near Chouigui with patrols at Sidi Grib and Les Romaria in contact with the V Corps.

1st U.S. Infantry Division reports no contact on high ground at Dj Senhidj. Combat Command "B" moving east reached El Merdja at 1115 hours on May 8.

V Corps:

Sidi Abdullah and the area east of Peters Corner was cleared by the 11th Infantry Brigade. Ksar Tyr has also been cleared. Two battalions of the 1st Division supported by tanks and a reconnaissance regiment have advanced towards Tebourba. The town was evacuated during the morning of May 7; also St. Cyprien and La Morachia. Enemy resistance beyond these points was local and disorganized.

The enemy was surprised at the Le Bardo entrance to Tunis. Confused street fighting was reported in the city. Large numbers of enemy troops were surrendering on May 7; other groups of enemy were reported moving south, presumably towards the Cape Bon Peninsula.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

AUG 7 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

[REDACTED]

IX Corps:

In the center, the hammer blow delivered by the IX Corps was on a 3000-yard front, with the most powerful air support which apparently took the enemy by surprise. Our 2 armored divisions made rapid progress through disorganized enemy resistance, and after severe fighting in the approaches to the town, Tunis was entered at 1540 hours May 7. Infantry followed up, but exact degree of penetration is not yet known owing to confused fighting.

6th Armored Division concentrated at Mirra preparatory to advancing south-east down coast road.

At 1540 hours May 7 armored cars of 1st Derby Yeo. and 11 Hussars entered Tunis closely followed by tanks of 22nd Armored Brigade. The advance by the 6th and 7th Armored Divisions from their midday position south and north of the main road at St. Cyprien was made through disorganized and local enemy resistance. At Le Bardo, the entrance to Tunis, the enemy seemed unaware of the nearness of our troops. Large numbers of enemy are giving themselves up. Others had been ordered to go south. Inhabitants state 30 ships filled with Germans left Tunis harbour May 7. One battalion from the 131st Brigade have moved up to Tunis to assist the 22nd Armored Brigade in mopping up. The remainder of the 131st Brigade is in the area of Dj Ael Erima. 1st British Armored Division has reached line about 9 miles south of St. Cyprien after being held up by mines and continues to fight an engagement with 31 enemy tanks. Total number of prisoners of war is not yet available.

South of the main breakthrough to Tunis approximately 40 tanks in groups were engaged in the Delah area.

Foreware elements of the 2nd Armored Brigade reached Ain El Anker, sending out patrols to east and southeast.

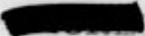
Headquarters of the 6th Armored Division is now located at Arret De La Madeneine.

[REDACTED] E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (2)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972



Headquarters of the 26th Armored Brigade is at Hammam Lif, with elements moving southeast of town.

1st Guards Brigade located near Abreuvoir is moving southeast.

Elements of 7th Armored Division are clearing up ^{La} Marsa Peninsula with patrols in La Goulette.

Another force is southwest of Protville and is moving northwest.

4th Division is moving to Sidi Yired.

1 Brigade of 1st British Infantry Division is moving north opposite the Djedeida-Lateur Road and have reached area at Chaouat.

XIX Corps:

The XIX Corps met strong opposition north of the Saouaf-Pont Du Fahs road, but succeeded in occupying Pont Du Fahs May 7, which had been evacuated.

Enemy broke off engagements and made a general withdrawal to the vicinity of Bir Mcherga.

After taking Pont Du Fahs, corps troops reached Dj Chacaga and elements are advancing northeast from Pont Du Fahs.

Patrols report no enemy contacted in vicinity of Ston de bir Mcherga and Mechta.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (E)

OPD Letter, May 3, 1972

AUG 7 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

8th Army:

German patrols were engaged south of Saouaf, but withdrew. An Italian platoon advanced but was attacked and captured nearly intact. Patrols captured 18 Germans.

Two brigades from the 1st French Division relieved two brigades on the 51st Infantry Division sector during the night of May 6/7.

General:

The enemy forces are now split into three pockets. The main group is in the area Hammam ^{Lif} Depienne-Sou Ficha. The enemy is determined to hold the southern flank in order to maintain a firm flank during the withdrawal to the Cape Bon

[REDACTED]

Peninsula, but the retirement on the southwestern front and the threat from the north is likely to precipitate a withdrawal of all forces in the south.

The second group is in the Lac De Bizerte-Djedeida-Protville area and possibly consists of 20,000 men with 30 to 40 tanks.

There is another small group west of Bizerte which is unlikely to offer prolonged resistance.

Enemy supply difficulties are already evident. With communications in area Chaylus-Zaghwan-Bou Ficha running mainly north and south, it will make withdrawal from the southwest front extremely difficult.

Orders apparently given to destroy motor transport immobilized by lack of fuel.

No sign of a general evacuation yet, but consider efforts will be made to get troops away as opportunities occur. Movement of large forces into the peninsula is only possible while the enemy controls the coast road through Hamman Lif.

Approximately 15,000 prisoners have been taken by the II Corps and 1st Army.

Inhabitants of Tunis report 30 German laden ships left for Sidi Daoud or northwards.

Troop Movements:

30th Regimental Combat Team rerouted from the Constantine area arrived at Ghardimaou.

Lessons included in Summary:

4836	5135
4867	5137
4889	5192
4965	5277
4967	5352
5000	5374
5012	5450
5112	
5130	

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (B)
OED dated May 2, 1972
RHP, NARA Date **AUG 7 1972**

Form No. 10.

SECRET
EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 6 to
0700 May 7.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>828,289 (May 4)</u>

Estimated Total Strength of	157,700 (May 5)
-----------------------------	-----------------

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,281 (May 6)

In Sicily, Italy and Tunisia

German	725
Italian	635

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30) TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total Strength

U. S.	77,008 (May 2)
British:	238,651 (Apr 29)
1st Army	
8th Army	
French	<u>54,660 (May 2)</u>
	370,319 (May 2)

German	113,400
Italian	<u>44,300</u>
(May 5)	157,700

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures referred to were first reported.

RECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 2(D) or (2)
OED letter, May 8, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
1. Bomber:			
<u>Axis:</u>			
May 6	1 enemy bomber dropped bombs near Enfidaville at 0300 Z.		
May 5	6 or more enemy bombers were reported near Djidjelli at dusk.		
May 5	Fighter bombers carried out 5 attacks against our ground forces. In afternoon a few Italian fighter bombers attacked near Djebibina.		
<u>Allied:</u>			
May 5	General:		
	Night harassing attacks undertaken in the battle area and against movement on roads. Light bombers attacked main ground feature prior to advance of land forces. Fighters patrolled forward areas and maintained anti-shipping sweeps, finding few targets.		
May 4	12 Hurribombers bombed motor transports about 10 miles south east of Mateur.	Black smoke was seen.	
May 4	12 Hurribombers escorted by 12 Spitfires bombed gun positions southeast of Zaghuan.		
May 4	12 Spitbombers bombed motor trucks east and southeast of Massicault.		
May 5	B-17's attacked Tunis harbor.	Many large fires started in town.	15 aircraft damaged by flak.
May 5	B-17's bombed La Coulette harbor.	Hits and near misses on large merchant vessel and several small boats along north dock area followed	

DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 8(D) and 8(D) or (E)
 OSD letter, May 2, 1972
 by RHP, NARS Doc. AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED] BT

by explosions and fires. Other bursts in barracks, oil storage, and loading areas. Small fires started near power house. Aerial photo shows high degree of destruction.

- May 5 B-26's attacked landing ground at Galeset El Andeess in north Tunis. B-25's escorted by P-40's attacked landing ground east of Protville. 25 aircraft destroyed or damaged on ground, 3 P-40's missing.
- May 5 DB 7's and B-25's escorted by A-20's attacked Dj Bou Aoukaz. 12 DB 7's, 2 A-20's, and 7 B-25's damaged by flak.

2. Fighters:

Axis:

May 5 Interception patrols were flown frequently, especially near Tunis and Cape Bon areas.

Allied:

- May 5 French Spitfires flew a sweep without incident. 1 JU-88 damaged.
- May 4/5 A beaufighter on offensive patrol engaged 1 JU-88.

3. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 4/5 Off Cape Serrat 8 fighters and 7 bombers attacked a group of our motor torpedo boats and motor gun boats starting a sweep from Bone. (additional information to May 4 report) Slight damage sustained by our coastal craft, 1 returned to Tobarka. 1 enemy aircraft destroyed, 1 probably and 2 damaged.

DECLASSIFIED

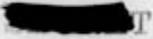
EO 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By: RHP, NARS DOW. **AUG 7 1972**
3 enemy planes destroyed.

Allied:

- May 4 36 P-40's on a shipping sweep encountered 15 enemy aircraft.
- May 5 6 B-25's attacked enemy shipping. One small ship was sunk, one damaged, one left in flames.



May 5	B-25's escorted by P-38's flew sweep over Sicilian Straits, encountering strong fighter defensive patrol, including 6 SM-82's.	Destroyed: 6 SM-82's, 2 ME-109's, 1 MA-200, Damaged: 1 ME-109. Our losses included 1 P-38 destroyed and 1 damaged.
May 5	B-17's and P-38's escort flew a sweep over Sicilian Channel and North Sicily.	1 large merchant vessel hit and sunk.
May 5	B-26's with P-38 escort flew a sweep over the Sicilian Straits	3 direct hits scored on a merchant vessel off shore east of Cape Zebit.
May 5	Light and medium bombers attacked critical points in battle area.	6 barges hit, several fires started, and 1 large explosion at Marsala. Large fires started at Trapani. Siesel ferries hit. 3 ferries and 4 small boats sunk on shipping sweep. 1 merchant vessel exploded and disappeared and near misses were scored on another vessel in the Sicilian Straits.

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 5 1 enemy bomber on reconnaissance was reported between Bone and Algiers, with another performing a weather flight west from Sardinia, but well north of the African coast during the morning.

May 5 Enemy midday reconnaissance was performed over the forward areas and of Kairouan. Planes escorted by ME-109's.

Allied:

May 4 P-39 on reconnaissance of Tunisian coast encountered ME-109. 1 P-39 destroyed.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (2)
OSD letter, May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

5. Transports:

Axis:

May 4 No transports flights to Tunisia reported.

b. 9th Air Force:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

- May 5 Light bombers attacked rail-road trucks unloading in vicinity of Menzel Temime. 1 fire started.
- May 5 Motor transport and jetties bombed in Cape Bon area. Fires started. 2 ME-109's destroyed, and 2 damaged. Interception by defensive patrols.
- May 4/5 57th Group dropped 45,500 lbs of bombs on Kelibia docks and warehouse. 2 fires observed 1 small boat and jetty on fire after direct hits.
- May 4/5 79th Group dropped 36,000 lbs of bombs on Mabetin Harbour installations. Interception by enemy defensive patrol. Targets included 1 ME-109 damaged. road, bridge and shore installations in area. Near misses and 2 direct hits reported on ship.

2. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

May 5 Fighter bombers attacked shipping. 2 direct hits scored on 2 merchant vessels which were reported to have burst into flames.

DECLASSIFIED

EO 11652, Sec. 303 and 304 or (B)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NAME Date:

AUG 7 1972

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

Allied

2 P-39's

2

Axis

4 ME-109's
6 SN-52's
1 MA-200
4 enemy aircraft

15

[REDACTED] T

Accumulated aircraft reported lost since Nov 8, 1942:

Allied: 732

Axis: 1884

b. Sorties Flown:

1. North African Theater:

May 3 -- RAF: 10 Hurricanes. May 4 -- 15 B-25's, 1 P-38, 59 P-39's, 4 P-51's, 65 American Spitfires, 5 Beaufighters, 36 Hurribombers, 24 Spitbombers, 10 Hudsons, 3 Marauders, 225 British Spitfires, 10 Mustangs, 3 Hurribombers, 12 French Spitfires.

c. U.S.A. Losses for Week ending May 4:

Enemy aircraft destroyed 2 Spitfires and 6 P-38's; flak destroyed 1 B-17, 1 B-25, and 3 B-26's, damaged 12 B-25's and 11 A-20's; losses to cause unknown are, destroyed 1 B-25, 1 A-20.

(c) European Theater:

1. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

- May 5 An RAF Hudson based on Iceland attacked a submarine 50 miles southeast of Hofn.
- May 5 Sunderland sighted a submarine 85 miles northwest of Cape Ortegal.

2. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

- May 4 1 KG-40 based on Trondheim was active over northern waters, and 4 from Bordeaux were active west of Portugal. Probably sighted a convoy of landing craft.
- May 5 Unidentified plane plotted on southeast course 25 miles east of Skalar, Iceland. Interception not made.
- May 5 8 enemy aircraft on reconnaissance over eastern end of channel, 5 off east coast of England and 1 over southwest approaches.

DECLASSIFIED

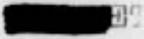
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(C) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

by RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

Allied:

- May 4 3 F 5 A's penetrated enemy occupied coast to photograph Pecamp, Rouen, Dieppe, Le Havre, Caen, Cherbourg. All assigned areas successfully photographed at altitudes from 25 to 28,000 feet. No enemy fighters or anti-aircraft encountered.



IV. Naval Action:

On night of May 4/5, 3 destroyers from Malta operated in the Sicilian Channel and afterwards proceeded to Bone.

2 other destroyers patrolled off Marittimo on same date.

Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:	Allies	Total Tonnage	Axis	Total tonnage
Merchant Vessels			12	29,000
Destroyers			1	
Motor Torpedo Boats	1			
Others			3	
	1		16	

V. Ground Action:

DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 5(D) or (E)
 OGD Issue, May 3, 1972
 RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

II Corps:

1st Armored Division has now completely mopped up Dj Achkel and has captured the high ground at Dj Messefatine, capturing over 300 prisoners.

1st Infantry Division encountered heavy resistance along east bank of Oued Tine.

Forward elements of the 34th Division reached Dj Henda Zeid and are continuing the advance although slowed up by heavy machine gun and mortar fire.

The 9th Division is advancing along its front.

1st and 34th Infantry Divisions were regrouping on May 5.

Several counterattacks against the 34th Division were repelled.

V Corps:

After an intense aerial bombardment the 1st Division attacked the Bou feature at 1700 hours on May 5. Attack included concentrated artillery support. 3rd Infantry Brigade secured all objectives by nightfall. No enemy counterattack developed.

Dj Bou Aoukaz was captured by the 1st Division.

Enemy motor transport north of the Bou feature were successfully engaged by bombers and artillery.

Patrols of the 78th Division found enemy occupying vicinity of Btr El Ouata and Argout es Schiri.

~~SECRET~~

IX Corps

The 7th Armored Division was about 2 miles southwest of Massicault and still moving east by 1500 hours on May 6.

The 6th Armored Division during same period was 1 mile west of the Massicault Tebourba road and is continuing the advance.

Considerable enemy movement so through Tebourba is being shelled by our artillery.

Armored attack of 6th and 7th Armored Divisions was preceded by 4th Indian Division on left and 4th Division on right crossing line at 0300 hours. After meeting minor opposition, all initial objectives were captured. The 6th and 7th Armored Divisions then launched their attacks through the Infantry. With the 6th Armored Division on the left and the 7th on the right, and in the face of stiffening resistance, the attack was pressed as noted above.

Enemy suffered heavy casualties and many prisoners have been taken.

1st Armored Division Sector:

2nd Armored Brigade engaged 5 enemy tanks in vicinity of Hemchir. The tanks later withdrew to the northeast.

Concentration of the IX Corps is now completed with Corps Headquarters now at Dj Bou Mou.

XIX Corps

Enemy has heavily mined area west and south of Pont Du Pahs during past few nights. Enemy Infantry is noticeably thin on the ground of the Corps sector, but are holding well-sited positions.

Attack on May 6 by Corps directed towards Zaghoun is progressing, though it is meeting with stiff resistance.

8th Army

2nd New Zealand Division located strong enemy positions in vicinity of Dj Farch.

Patrols penetrating into area withdrew as ~~SECRET~~ observation posts command the

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(B) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD Letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, ~~SECRET~~

AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

whole area, which is extensively mined.

The 5th Infantry Brigade is now on a general line south and southwest of Dj Farch.

A patrol from the L Force killed 10 and captured 3 enemy south of Dj Farch. The prisoners identified the 433rd Panzer Gren. Regiment. (164th Light Infantry Division)

In the area of the 56th Division there was increased enemy artillery activity during the day of May 5. The plan is to carry out feint attacks with artillery support on night of May 5/6.

Troop Movements:

The 77th Field Artillery Regiment departed for the Constantine area.

15th Regimental Combat Team was rerouted from the Constantine area and arrived at Ghardimou.

Messages included in Summary:

2461	3768
3068	3836
3408	3844
3494	3853
3538	3872
3543	3936
3559	3972
3661	4059
3669	4074
3701	4115
3715	
3722	
3727	
3743	
3745	

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(E) and 5(D) or (2)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

Form No. 10.

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 5 to
0700 May 6.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	*334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>828,289 (May 4)</u>

Estimated Total Strength of
157,800 (May 4)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,022 (May 1)

In Sicily, Italy and Tunisia
German 725
Italian 635

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30) TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total Strength

U. S.	77,008 (May 2)
British:	238,651 (Apr 29)
1st Army	
8th Army	
French	54,660 (May 2)
	<u>370,319 (May 2)</u>

German	113,400
Italian	<u>44,400</u>
(May 4)	157,800

*Includes British 8th Army

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(2) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED] BT

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Bomber:

Axis:

- May 4 Large formation of fighter bombers flew usual defensive patrols in the Gulf of Tunis-Cape Bon area.
- May 4 Enemy airactivity on a larger scale and a greater number of offensive sorties were flown, especially in the Lateur area, where our ground forces were attacked.

2. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

- May 4 Fighter bombers attacked Allied motor gun boats off Tabarka.
- May 4/5 3 enemy aircraft searched triangle Sicily-Tunisia-Sardinia for Allied Naval forces; also flight south from Sicily almost to Tripolitanian coast.

3. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

- May 4 4 enemy aircraft reported on reconnaissance during day. 3 flew west of Algiers, 2 of which were reported off Oran. Remaining aircraft covered area south from Sardinia west towards Philippeville and Bougie.

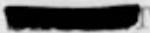
4. Transports:

Axis:

- May 2/3 40 JU52's made a night crossing to Tunisia. A few ME-323's were reported arriving in Tunis during early morning.

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED
 E.O. 11652, Sec. 9(E) and 5(D) or (B)
 OSD letter, May 3, 1972
 By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972



May 3 Small formation of ME-323's were reported crossing to Tunis in late afternoon. (This is the first time transports have been reported on day flights to Tunis since April 22, when the large formation was shot down.

May 3/4 30-40 JU-52's and a few ME-323's again operated over the Sicilian channel.

b. 9th Air Force (8th Army)

1. Bomber:

Allied:

<p>May 4 Heavy concentrations of light and medium bombers of the Western Desert Air Force attacked land targets in the Zechouan area. 6 fighter bombers missions dispatched, but all returned with their bombs.</p>	<p>Unfavorable weather hampered efforts.</p>
---	--

2. Fighters:

Allied:

<p>May 4 Fighters and fighter bombers continued sweeps and shipping reconnaissance through the day. Targets were few and poor.</p>	<p>Unfavorable weather hampered efforts.</p>
--	--

a. Score:

Planes shot down since last report:

None

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

Allied: 730	Axis: 1969
-------------	------------

b. Sorties Flown:

1. North African Theater:

55 B-17's, 39 B-25's, 29 B-26's, 2 P-38's F4, 96 P-38's, 13 P-39's, 44 P-40's, 2 P-51's, 100 American Spitfires. RAF: 8 Spitbombers, 230 Spitfires, 19 Hurribombers, 13 Beaufighters, 1 Walrus, 3 Hudsons,

EO 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (E)

~~SECRET~~

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

[REDACTED] BT

c. European Theater:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

<p>May 1 Final results of encounters with enemy fighters during bomber raid against St. Nazaire</p>	<p>18 enemy planes destroyed, 6 probably destroyed, 8 damaged.</p>
<p>May 4/5 608 RAF bombers dispatched over Dortmund.</p>	<p>6 enemy aircraft over North Norfolk with returning bombers. Later 3 other enemy aircraft flew over same area. Minor incidents in East Anglia include several small fires started.</p>
<p>May 4 65 B-17's dropped 162 1/2-ton bombs (HE) on Ford and General Motors plants at Antwerp. 69 P-47's provided withdrawal support for main attack.</p>	<p>Fighter opposition mediocre, slight anti-aircraft encountered. All bombers returned safely. Both plants heavily attacked.</p>
<p>11 B-24's and 19 B-17's executed a diversionary sweep escorted by 49 P-47's in Abbeville area. (This is 1st occasion when P-47's have provided support for bombers)</p>	<p>Bombing results good. 1 P-47 lost <u>not</u> due to enemy action. Pilot bailed out 55 miles out to sea. Spitfires claim: 1 destroyed, 1 probable, and 3 damaged. P-47's claim: 1 destroyed. 3 Spitfires lost.</p>

2. Fighters:

Allied:

<p>May 3 122 P-47's made an uneventful high altitude sweep of the Walcheren Island area.</p>	<p>No enemy fighters or anti-aircraft fire were encountered.</p>
--	--

3. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

Catalina from Iceland attacked enemy submarine at 1600 hours. [REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
OED letter, May 2, 1972
By RHP, NAME Date **AUG 7 1972**

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

- May 4 2 JU88's observed over Seydisfjordur at 15,000 feet. Later 1 unidentified aircraft observed over Eskafjordur on eastern course at very high altitude. No interception or bombing.
- May 4 4 enemy aircraft on reconnaissance off east coast of England, 2 off south coast, 2 in Shetland area and 1 off east coast of Scotland.
- May 3 Photo reconnaissance showed Prinz Eugen and Emden underway in Gulf of Danzig. The Gneisenau, Schlesien and Schleswig-Holstein are at Gdynia as was previously reported for latter ship.
- May 4 9 Bordeaux based FW-200's and a few heavy fighters operated in the sea lanes. All shipping in that area believed sighted, but no attacks.
- May 4 2 FW-200's operated from Trondheim

IV. Naval Action:

2 merchant vessels and 1 destroyer were sighted off Bass El Kikh.

1 7000-ton merchant vessel and 1 destroyer was sunk by H.M. destroyer.

Information from survivors indicates merchant vessel was carrying a cargo of bombs and land mines from Naples to Tunis.

Norwegian ship Schebell was attacked by a submarine south of Greenland on April 21 and the Swedish ship was overdue at Belfast on April 10. As of May 5, both ships are considered lost.

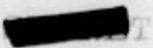
Naval Score:

Sinkings since last report:

Allied

Axis

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (M)
OSD Letter, May 8, 1972
by RHP, NAME DATE AUG 7 1972



1 merchant vessel -- 7000 ton
1 destroyer

—	—
0	2
Naval Losses since May 1, 1943:	
1	4

V. Ground Action

II Corps

May 5 D' Afrique Corps was counterattacked in vicinity of Das St. Aneur but repulsed the attack.

The 47th Infantry concentrated in the area near Mou Coutre.

The 60th Infantry concentrated in vicinity of St. Salah Bou Kabrine.

The 39th Infantry concentrated in the vicinity of Stou De Djalta.

The 1st Armored Division established contact with the enemy 6 miles south-east of Mateur with no identifications reported.

The 1st U.S. Infantry Division concentrated in a new sector from Gue to As Zenim.

The 34th Division, less 168th Infantry, concentrated in the vicinity of Dj Si Neftah.

Patrols of 168th Infantry reached Eddekhila at 1100 hours with no contact.

North of Garsat Achkez the enemy still holds Djebel Cheniti, but has been cleared from the lake and the road as far as the road junction at Douar Farouey.

Small enemy forces are still believed to be in the Djebel Achkeul area.

Mateur was bombed and shelled during the day. The enemy is on the high ground about three miles east and northeast of the town. Considerable enemy movement was reported in the pass west of Chouigi.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (E)

OSD Inset, May 8, 1972

AUG 7 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

V Corps:

May 5 -- 1st Division inflicted tank losses on enemy confirmed as 2 Mark VI's, 9 Lark IV's, 1 Mark III, which were subsequently destroyed by sappers. Two other tanks and one tracked vehicle claimed subsequently.

~~SECRET~~

Station De Borij Tourn reported clear of enemy by 46th Division.

IX Corps:

The British 1st Armored Division engaged enemy forces in the area Edj Ben Naur with artillery to assist the advance of the XIX Corps.

XIX Corps:

May 3/4 -- Enemy resistance stiffened with considerable increase of artillery activity. Little progress since morning of May 4.

100 prisoners of war taken in the Dj Khelifa area.

8th Army:

Night May 3/4 the 4th Light Armored Brigade patrolled towards Saouaf, encountered minefields south of the village and suffered a few casualties. During the day the 2nd New Zealand Division moved to concentration area at Djelidina.

Identifications:

1. Infantry of the 15th Panzer Division are still in the line in the Saouf-coast sector.
2. 164th Light Division is still on Dj Garci.
3. 90th Light Division is probably still responsible for the sector north-west of Takrouns-coast.
4. Irkens group believed to include the following:
 - 8th Tank Regiment (Had 9 runners on April 28)
 - 1st Battery 43rd Flak Regiment.
 - 1st Battery 6th Flak Regiment.
 - 2nd Battalion 47th Infantry Regiment.
 - Infantry from 21st Panzer Division
 - 504th Tank Battalion
 - 20 - 88 mm guns.

~~SECRET~~

E.O. 11652, Dec. 22, 1959 (D) or (S)

OSD Letter, May 2, 1972

-7- RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

5. Hq. 15th Panzer Division remained unchanged in the Batria area early in week but was identified May 3 on plain north of Zaghuan.

6. It is believed that Infantry and Artillery elements are concentrating in area where armour of Division is operating.

7. Hq. 21st Panzer Division was located north of Font Du Fahs in vicinity of Si Hamid on May 2. Elements of Division are believed to be both in Font Du Fahs and Ain El Asker areas.

8. Hq. 10th Panzer Division is probably in the vicinity of Chetlus.

9. Hq. Army Group believed to be in vicinity of Gue.

10. 1st Superga Division is still not identified, but may be in reserve in Font Du Fahs area, where some Italian were believed moved through Kairouan after evacuation of the Grand Dorsale.

11. Manteuffel Division and attached units believed to be in northern sector from coast.

12. Elements of 334th Division believed to be north of Medjerda.

General:

1. Situation in Bizerte-Mateur areas is still fluid.

2. Strengthening of forces in the Tunis plain continues where the enemy is maintaining offensive, defensive tactics.

3. It is possible that this reinforcement may continue at the expense of the southern front in the area south of Medjerda since it is vital for the enemy to block the approaches to Tunis.

4. Enemy situation has deteriorated considerably in extreme north during week. Expulsion from Mateur on May 3 represents deep inroad into the enemy defense line.

5. Although bulk enemy forces undoubtedly withdrawn behind Oued Tine some troops probably cut off and remain to be mopped up.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Dec. 31, 62 and (ND) or (S)
OSD letter, May 2, 1972
AUG
By RHP. NARS Date

[REDACTED]

6. Some enemy infantry are known to be withdrawing south and intention may be to hold line of hills east of Oued Tine. This probably only delaying position since forces available insufficient without weakening other parts of front.

7. The main bulk of German armoured forces are in sector Medjerda-Sebkret El Kourzia where enemy probably appreciates the main thrust.

9. Consider enemy will exert utmost effort in defense open country west and southwest of Tunis.

10. It is possible that further formations from 8th Army front may be moved to this area as additional support.

11. When forced to withdraw from present positions, the enemy may attempt defense of outer perimeter of Tunis since this port is vital for his supplies. Perimeter consists of system weapon pits and presents no formidable obstacle to our armour.

12. Strong opposition is still likely in the Pont Du Fahs-Enfidaville sector. With Tunis and Bizerte lost, supply problem of any troops withdrawing into Cape Bon Peninsula becomes very difficult and sustained heavy fighting would seem to be out of the question.

13. No authenticated figures on number of German tanks blown up or captured since beginning of operations on April 21. Claims of 116 for period from April 21 to April 30 believed excessive. Estimated strength is 118, of which 65 are probable runners. Italian tank strength is still estimated at totalling 35, with 15 runners.

VII. Messages included in Summary:

2797	3009	3204	3329
2916	3016	3247	3403
2915	3090	3300	
2987	3119	3314	

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 3(D) or (E)
GSD Letter, Mar 8, 1972
By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

APPENDIX

Summary combat claims and losses for week ending May 2 -- London:

<u>Enemy Aircraft</u>	<u>U.S.A.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Destroyed	18	11	29
Probably destroyed	6	2	8
Damaged	8	6	14
None destroyed or damaged on ground			

Losses

To enemy aircraft	2	0	2
To enemy anti-aircraft	3	0	3
To unknown cause	4	71	75
Operational losses	0	6	6
No losses on ground			

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(f) and (d) or (e)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARA Date AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

Form No. 10.

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 4 to
0700 May 5.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	*334,617 (May 4)
French " " " " "	<u>150,000 (Jan 4)</u>
	828,289 (May 4)

Estimated Total Strength of
157,800 (May 4)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,022 (May 1)

In Sicily, Italy
and Tunisia

German	725
Italian	<u>635</u>

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30) TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total Strength

U. S.	77,008 (May 2)
British:	
1st Army	138,651 (Apr 29)
8th Army	100,000 (Mar 27)
French	<u>54,660 (May 2)</u>
	370,319 (May 2)

German	113,400
Italian	<u>44,400</u>
(May 4)	157,800

*Includes British 8th Army

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, 20 Apr 1972

By RHP, NAME Date

AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 3	Fighter bombers bombed jetties at Menzel Timine.	Large fire started.	
May 3	18 B-25's escorted by 24 F-40's dropped 72 100-lb bombs from 3500 feet on the Protville-Mabtouha landing grounds.		12 aircraft in southwest corner of landing ground well covered with bursts. Direct hits on 4 enemy aircraft were observed.

2. Fighters:

Axis:

May 3	6 ME-109's attacked troops at Goubellat.
May 3	Normal patrol in Tunis-Tebourba areas by small patrols.

Allied:

May 2	Beaufighters flew their usual patrols.	1 Beaufighter caught fire but crew bailed out safely.
-------	--	---

3. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 2/3	At dusk enemy aircraft attacked 6 destroyers that were making a sweep south of Marittimo.	1 enemy aircraft shot down by destroyers.
---------	---	---

Allied:

May 3	Enemy bombers on reconnaissance off the Algerian coast; another off Balearics. Activity at night centered on Allied shipping north and west of Bizerte.
-------	---

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (F)
OSD letter, May 3, 1972
By RHP, NARS G-4, AUG 7 1972

SECRET

May 3 Extremely bad weather conditions developing rapidly and with intensity dispersed 9th Bomb Group returning from shipping sweep in Bizerte Harbour.

14 planes arrived safely at own or adjacent bases. 1 plane landed in sea; 1 crashed and burned; 8 force-landed in friendly territory, but extent of damage is not yet known. 3 planes unaccounted for. Known lost: 1 full crew, 4 men of another crew.

May 3 B-25's, B-26's, and P-38's lightening bombers with escort carried out sea sweeps during day. No results due to lack of targets and poor visibility.

May 3 B-17's bombed Bizerte shipping.

4. Reconnaissance:

Allied:

May 2 Spitfires, P-39's and Mustangs flew reconnaissance, artillery and photo missions throughout the day.

May 2 B-26's and Beaufighters flew reconnaissance missions north of Bone. 1 JU-88 destroyed.

May 3 Many tactical reconnaissance missions flown.

May 3 Hudsons and Hurricanes carried out routine patrols on convoy escort and defense.

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied:</u>	<u>Axis</u>
2	2

Accumulated reported aircraft lost from Nov 8, 1942:

730	1869
-----	------

c. European Theater:

1. Bombers:

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Dec. 22, 1951 and 5(D) or (E)
GPO Edition: May 9, 1973
By RMP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

~~SECRET~~

Allied:

May 3	12 Ventura bombers (B-24's) with 3 squadrons of Spitfires as escort, 2 squadrons as rear cover were dispatched over Amsterdam.	Bombers and escort attacked by 50-60 enemy fighters on reaching the Dutch coast near IJmuiden. Support and rear cover were not engaged.	10 Venturas missing 1 returned early due to technical trouble 1 Spitfire lost. 3 FW-190's destroyed, 2 probably, and 2 damaged.
	As a diversion, 6 Bostons with 8 Mustangs as escort attacked IJmuiden.	Bostons attacked by many FW-190's and ME-109's. Escort attacked by few ME-109's.	1 Boston missing, 1 FW-190 damaged.
	2nd diversion was carried out by 9 squadrons of P-47's and 6 squadrons of Spitfires.	Small number of enemy aircraft encountered.	2 small enemy aircraft destroyed by Spitfires.

3. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 2	Aircraft reported an enemy submarine 240 miles southwest of Bishop's Rock.	
May 2	Planes attacked submarines 160 miles west, northwest of Vango, 215 miles southwest of Bishop's Rock, and 174 miles northwest of Cape Ortegal.	Some evidence of success observed in the Cape Ortegal attack.

4. Reconnaissance:

Allied:

May 2	1 enemy plane made a reconnaissance of the area 120 miles east of St. Abbs Head, Scotland, 2 off the south coast of England and 1 off the Atlantic at Brest.
May 3	Photo reconnaissance showed cruiser Hurnberg in company with 2 Sperrbrechers, an auxiliary and 2 destroyers in the Langelsulf Belt, 44 miles northeast of Kiel.
Apr 26	Prinz Eugen, Bndyn and Schleswig-Kolstein reported at Gdynia by photo reconnaissance. SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(2) and 5(3) or (4)

OSD Letter, May 9, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

-4-

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

May 2 Sunderland attacked 2 surfaced enemy submarines 78 miles northwest of Cape Ortegai. 1st submarine engaged plane. 2nd attack sub sunk leaving survivors in water.

IV. Naval Action:

a. European Theater:

British ship Fort Victor torpedoed April 30 has sunk.

b. North African Theater:

During night of May 1/2 destroyers operated off Marittimo in the Sicilian Channel.

Two groups of motor torpedo boats made sweeps in western Gulf of Tunis, during which one motor torpedo boat was mined and sank.

Also on night of May 2/3 two separate groups of motor torpedo boats carried out sweeps in the Bizerte roads and off Cape Bon.

A submarine reports sinking a 450-ton schooner at anchor off Solanto Point in Northern Sicily on April 27.

In an attack on a 6000-ton enemy merchant vessel on the same day a loud explosion was heard.

Naval losses since last report:

Allies:

1 motor torpedo boat

1

Naval losses since May 1, 1943:

1

Axis:

1 merchant vessel -- 3000 tons

1 merchant vessel -- 450 tons

2

2

CLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 208 (1) & (2) or (3)

OSD letter, May 2, 1972

By RHP, NARS Div. AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

-5-

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

V. Ground Action: II Corps

Forward elements reached:

18th Infantry -- Dj Zemit and Mteb St. Feradj.

26th Infantry -- St. Abd El Racet and Ae Zemit

39th Infantry -- Initially met with no resistance and is now assembling
in the area near B. Bellah.

47th Infantry -- Is now concentrating in the area near St. Rhonem.

60th Infantry -- 2 miles southeast of Dj Hazemat.

Combat Command "B" -- Concentrating in the Mateur area.

C.F.A. -- Forward elements reached area south of Mon Centre.

After Mateur was evacuated and our units continued pressing forward they reported that no enemy were contacted south of Garaet Achkel near Dj Berna.

To the south of Mateur enemy forces withdrew east of Ae Zemit.

About 200 prisoners of war were being mopped up near Dj Saidane.

No information as to the enemy's present dispositions, but it is probable that his main body of troops has withdrawn beyond Qued Tine where delaying action is possible.

V Corps

The 46th Reconnaissance Regiment has returned to the command of the 46th Division.

Eastern slope of Dj Boulahboudjeb is reported clear of the enemy.

IX Corps

Concentration of the IX Corps continues.

XIX Corps

Artillery exchanges continued.

8th Army

There was very little activity on the 8th Army front May 3. Shelling decreased slightly except on the 4th ~~SECRET~~ Brigade front.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 1.4 and 1.5 (D) or (S)

OSD Letter 5027

By RHP, NARA

AUG 7 1972

SECRET

The 1st Fighting French Division is moving to Spikha area.

General

- 1. Orders issued for movement of units to the area of the 1st Army.
 - 7th Armored Division
 - 4th Indian Division
 - 201st Guards Brigade

Movement began late on April 30.

2. Seriously depleted by casualties and exhausted by protracted front line fighting, enemy infantry in the northern sector has now given way and the situation around Mateur is very fluid at the present time. An acute shortage in personnel is demonstrated by the use of the 900 Engineer Battalion and medical corps as Infantry.

3. It is not clear where the enemy expects to make a stand but part of his forces fell back southeast of Mateur and probably intend to hold the line of hills covering approaches to Tunis.

4. In the far north the enemy is likely to attempt to hold Bizerte from the heights north of Garaet Achkel and the strong natural defense line: Garaet Achkel -- Lac De Bizerte -- coast.

5. The gap at Ferryville is a weak line, but the enemy has prepared defenses in this area that may delay our penetration temporarily. However, there is insufficient evidence concerning the likely fate of Bizerte.

6. Reinforcement of the sector Medjerda -- Sebket El Koursia indicates an enemy intention to employ the maximum effort to stem our advance over the plain to Tunis. When forced to fall back by superior forces he may fight an armored battle over the open plain until the outer perimeter of the Tunis defenses are reached. A temporary stall is then possible on the line: Medjerda -- trench system running south to Sebket Sekrousi -- Oued Millane.

EO 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (E)

OSD Letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

7. To the south there are reliable indications that Cape Bon may be held and that the last stand of the Afrika Korps may be fought in the mountains of this peninsula.

Artillery Action:

European Theater:

Night May 1/2 the enemy coastal artillery fired three rounds at Dover, 2 at Folkstone, and 1 at Deal in reply to British Coast Artillery fire on an enemy convoy.

Some houses were damaged and there were a few slight casualties.

Miscellaneous:

A Bern dispatch states that heavy bombers and fifty fighters left southern Germany for airdromes near Lyon and Marseilles.

Messages included in Summary:

1768	2360
1872	2361
1880	2407
2095	2459
2120	2510
2220	2545
2221	2576
2276	2625
2282	2627

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. (D) and (E) or (F)

OSD Inter. Sec. 1.4

[REDACTED] RHP, NARS Div.

AUG 7 1972


APPENDIX

COMPOSITION OF COMBAT TROOPS IN NORTH AFRICA

5th Army (US)

1 (BR) Airborne Div
1 Para Bde
2 Para Bde
1 Glider Pilot Regt

I (US) Armd Corps

Hq 2 (US) Armd Div
66 Armd Regt
67 Armd Regt
41 Armd Inf Regt

VI (US) Corps

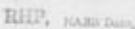
Hq 36 Inf Div
141 RCT
142 RCT
143 RCT

CM-IN-2095, May 4

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (2)

OSD Release Reg. 6, 1977

By: , NARA Date: AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

18th Army Group

3 (US) Div
7 RCT
15 RCT
30th RCT

1st Army

Hq 1 Armd Div
2 Armd Bde
7 Motor Bde
139 Inf Bde

V (Br) Corps

Hq 1 (Br) Inf Div
2 Inf Bde
3 Inf Bde
24 Guards Bde
25 Tank Bde

Hq 46 (Br) Inf Div
128 Inf Bde
138 Inf Bde

Hq 78 (Br) Inf Div
11 Inf Bde
36 Inf Bde
38 Inf Bde

IX (Br) Corps

201 (Guards Bde
Hq 6 Armd Div
26 Armd Bde
1 (Guard) Bde

Hq 7 Armd Div
22 Armd Bde
131 Inf Bde

Hq 4 (Ind) Inf Div
5 (Ind) Inf Bde
7 (Ind) Inf Bde

Hq 4 (Br) Inf Div
10 Inf Bde
18 Inf Bde
21 Tank Bde

II (US) Corps

Hq 1 (US) Inf Div
16 RCT
18 RCT
26 RCT
6 Armd Inf Regt

Hq 34 (US) Inf Div
133 RCT
135 RCT
168 RCT

Hq 9 (US) Inf Div
39 RCT
47 RCT
60 RCT

Hq 1 (US) Armored Div
13 Armd Regt

Corps Franc D' Afrique (attached)

XIX (Fr) Corps

1 Gp De Tabour
2 Gp De Tabour

Div Gran

1 REI
2 RTA
6 Terasse Reak
6 RTA
15 RTS

Div Maroc

29 RTA
7 RTM
3 REI
315 RTS

1st Div Alger

1 RTA
9 RTA
3 RTA

Le Coulteaux Armd Force

8th Army

X (Br) Corps

23 Armd Bde
Hq 2 (NZ) Div
5 (NZ) Inf Bde
6 (NZ) Inf Bde
8 Armd Bde

Hq 56 Inf Div
167 Inf Bde
169 Inf Bde

Hq 51 (I) Inf Div
152 Inf Bde
153 Inf Bde
154 Inf Bde

DECLASSIFIED

EO 11652, Sec. 2(d) and 3(d) or (2)

ORD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

[REDACTED]

APPENDIX

a. Comparison of Strength:

<u>Strength</u>	<u>Inf. Bn.</u>		<u>Art. Pieces</u>		<u>Tanks Serv.</u>	
	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>	<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
8th Army	24	29	362	240	220	15
XIX Corps	29	12	131	104	113	Unknown
IX Corps	28	Unknown	312	Unknown	362	Unknown
V Corps	25	16	445	100	248	65
II Corps	52	16	309	40	226	Unknown

b. Casualties:

	<u>Killed</u>		<u>Wounded</u>		<u>Missing</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Off.</u>	<u>Oth.</u>	<u>Off.</u>	<u>Oth.</u>	<u>Off.</u>	<u>Oth.</u>	<u>Off.</u>	<u>Oth.</u>
8th Army	17	182	47	602	6	64	70	848
1st Army less XIX Corps & II Corps ending week 30 Apr	63	657	174	2556	42	1379	279	4592

c. Prisoners:

	<u>Germans</u>	<u>Italians</u>	<u>French</u>	<u>Unclass.</u>
8th Army	128	398		
1st Army less IX Corps	1433	4	45	778
II Corps, 9 days ending 29 Apr	290	27		

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 7(D) or (E)

OSD Index File # 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

Form No. 10a

EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 3 to
0700 May 4.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	234,617 (Mar 30)
French " " " " "	150,000 (Jan 4)
	<u>728,289</u>

Estimated Total Strength of
158,800 (May 3)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,022 (May 1)

In Sicily, Italy and Tunisia
German 725
Italian 635

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

(Mar 30) TOTAL 1,360

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total Strength

U. S.	77,008 (May 2)
British:	
1st Army	138,651 (Apr 29)
8th Army	100,000 (Mar 27)
French:	
	<u>54,660 (May 2)</u>
	370,319 (May 2)

German	113,300
Italian	<u>45,000</u>
(May 3)	158,300

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (F)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

II. Air:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
1. Bomber:			
<u>Allied:</u>			
May 1	20 Bostons dropped 42 250-lb and 304 40-lb bombs from 7000 feet on enemy positions near Si Abdullah.	Target well covered.	
Apr 30	12 B-25's escorted by 12 Spitfires dropped 96 250-lb bombs from 8500 feet on troop concentrations at Nadour.	Area well covered. One large fire observed.	1 B-25 belly landed at base.
Apr 30	18 B-25's bombed junction of main Tunis-Medjez El Bab road.		1 B-25 shot down by accurate intense flak. 1 B-25 damaged by flak.
Apr 30	24 P-40's bombed infantry and artillery near Lateur, later bombed near Bier Meherga.		
Apr 30	Ksar Tyr bombed by following groups of planes: 1. 12 Bostons escorted by 6 Spitfires dropped 24 250-lb bombs and 192 40-lb bombs. 2. 12 B-25's escorted by 12 Spitfires. 3. 5 Bostons escorted by 6 Spitfires.		
Apr 30	Furna concentrations bombed by following groups of planes: 1. 12 Bostons escorted by 6 Spitfires. 2. 12 B-25's escorted by 6 Spitfires.		
Apr 30	9 Hurribombers escorted by 6 Spitfires bombed installations near Halouani, Dj Bou Aoukaz, and Furna.		
Apr 29	15 Wellingtons bombed Sidi Ahmed airdrome and vicinity.	1 large fire observed.	1 Wellington missing 2 crashlanded at home airdrome.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (2)
OSD dated May 3, 1972
By RHP, NAME Date AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

- Apr 29 12 A-20's dropped 32 300-lb, 69 100-lb, and 42 200-lb bombs from 8000 feet on Mateur defenses.
- Apr 29 Derfour attacked by following groups:
 - 1. 12 B-25's dropped 96 250-lb bombs from 9000 feet.
 - 2. 11 A-20's dropped 20 300-lb bombs and 50 100-lb bombs.
 Two large fires seen.
- May 2 Enemy tanks west of Massicault bombed by 12 A-20's. Concentration of 1 enemy aircraft tanks well covered by bursts, 4 explosions observed. shutdown.

May 2 18 Hurribombers escorted by 23 Spitfires bombed enemy concentrations 3 miles west of Tebourba. Fires started. Bombs fell in target area.

Axis:

- May 2 3 enemy aircraft probably on a bombing mission approached Bone. No attack reported.
- May 2 Enemy air activity on a very low scale.

2. Fighters:

Axis:

- May 2 Small defensive patrols of between 4 to 6 ME-109's and FW-190's operated throughout day in Tunis-Tebourba-Beja-Zayhouan area.
- May 2 Few Italian patrols over Tunis and off Pantelleria.

Allied:

- May 1 Spitfires made sorties over Medjer El Bab, Tunis, Sidi Neir, and Beja area. 1 ME-111 destroyed, 1 ME-109 damaged.
- Apr 29/30 Patrols intercepted enemy aircraft travelling northeast 30 miles south of Sardinia. 5 JU-52's destroyed, 4 of which exploded in air while 5th crashed into sea. 1 Bomfighter damaged.

FORM 8
EO 11652, Sec. 2(b) and 2(d) or (E)
OED Issue, May 8, 1972

~~SECRET~~

By RHP, JAH: Gw. AUG 7 1972

3. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 1 12 HE-111's and JU88's from Sicily bombed a convoy 40 miles north of Bizerte. Destroyed: 2 JU-88's, 2 HE-111's, 1 other aircraft destroyed by anti-aircraft fire.

Allied:

May 2 Strategic air force flew 15 shipping sweeps. Weather prevented sightings. 1 P-38 crashed on the take off. 2 B-26's missing.

Apr 30 14 B-26's escorted by 16 P-38's dropped 83 500-lb bombs from 7800 feet on a 150/200 foot ship. Direct hits scored on bow and stern.

Apr 30 2 P-38's dropped bombs on small merchant vessels 40 miles northeast of Bizerte. 1 near miss-- no apparent damage.

Apr 30 18 B-25's dropped 60 500-lb bombs from 8000 feet on a light cruiser near Cape Bon. Formation attacked by enemy escort planes. Direct hits scored midship and on stern. Ship left burning and apparently sinking. 1 B-25 destroyed by light flak. 1 enemy aircraft destroyed.

May 2 36 P-40's made shipping sweep. 1 3000-ton merchant vessel sunk; destroyed; another left burning. 1 enemy aircraft destroyed; 1 Spitfire crash landed.

May 2 12 Spitbombers escorted by 24 Spitfires scored near misses on beached destroyer in Gulf of Tunis

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 2 Enemy bomber on reconnaissance shot down off Cape Serrat.

May 2 JU-88 from Sardinia made a reconnaissance of Coast Between Oran and Algiers. In afternoon reconnaissance activity apparently centered over sea east and northeast of Serr

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. (b) (7) and (D) or (S)

OSD letter, May 1962

by RHP, NARS Date

AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

May 2 On either reconnaissance or anti-shipping missions at dusk and later, aircraft were reported north of Bizerte. No attacks reported.

May 2 Usual patrols in Balearics during day.

May 2 12 Spitfires on shipping reconnaissance in Gulf of Tunis intercepted 23 enemy aircraft. 8 enemy aircraft destroyed, 5 damaged.

Allied:

May 1 2 P-51's made a reconnaissance of road northeast of Font Du Fahs. 1 P-51 destroyed by flak.

May 2 Reconnaissance planes observed several naval vessels north of Bone.

May 2 1 P-38 on weather reconnaissance P-38 is missing.

5. Transports:

Axis:

May 1 40-50 JU-52's reported between Sicily and Tunisia.

Score:

Planes shot down since last report:

Allied:

1 P-51
2 B-25's

3

Axis:

13 enemy aircraft
5 JU52's
3 He-111's
2 JU-88's
1 He-109

24

Accumulated reported aircraft lost from Nov 8, 1942:

728

1867 E.O. 11652: (S) (M) (GD) or (R)

Declassify on: May 8, 1972

Sorties Flown:

By RHP, NARS Date **AUG 7 1972**

May 1 -- 36 B-26's, 8 P-38's, 62 P-38's, 4 P-39's, 64 American Spitfires, 2 P-51's, RAF: 21 Bostons, 12 Spitbombers, 9 Hudsons, 3 Marauders, 1 Swordfish, 140 British Spitfires, 2 Hurribombers, 14 Beaufighters. Apr 30 -- 12 B-25's, 36 B-26's, 6 B-25's, 1 P-38 P-4, 69 P-38's, 20 P-39's, 92 P-40's, 74 Spitfires, 46 Wellingtons, May 2 -- 12 A-20's, 4 P-38's, 12 P-38's, 36 P-40's, 96 American Spitfires, 4 P-38 f A's, RAF: 18 Hurribombers, 14 British Spitfires, 2 Mustangs, 6 Hurricanes, 10 Beaufighters, 2 Marauders, 2 P-39's, 78 Spitfires, 8 Hurricanes 5 Beaufighters.

~~SECRET~~

c. European Theater:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 3 Additional information on St. Mezaire bombing: 57 tons of bombs dropped. Formation was attacked by 15-20 fighters over Brest Peninsula. 70 crew men missing from lost planes. 3 others missing after bailing out of 1 plane that ultimately returned safely. Of returning crews, 2 men were killed, 5 seriously wounded, and 13 slightly wounded.

2 B-17's damaged in landing, 18 fighters destroyed, 8 probably and 4 damaged.

2. Fighters:

Allied:

Apr 29 9 Squadrons of P-47's made 3 sweeps over Pas de Calais and Holland. 3 squadrons encountered enemy fighters. 1 P-47 shot down, 1 missing.

V. Ground Action:

II Corps:

The 4th Tabour Group (French) has come under command of the II Corps.

The 47th Infantry inflicted casualties on enemy south of Bald Hill while the 60th Infantry captured 12 Germans. The 9th Division Artillery fired harrassing fire during night of May 1/2.

The 894th Tank Destroyer Battalion moved to vicinity of Dj Nihala.

Reconnaissance units of 1st Armored Division entered Mateur at 1100 hours and continued to advance northeast and northwest.

9th Division is now in control of road junctions 10 miles west of Sidi Ahmed and 2 miles east of Jefna. 200 German prisoners already taken by 9th Division.

Reconnaissance units of 1st Infantry Division are now 3 miles west of Eddekhila.

[REDACTED]

Units of the 18th Infantry have reached a point 4 1/2 miles west of Eddekhila, while elements of the 126th Infantry are at Dj El Arkhmas. The advance continues and little resistance has been encountered so far.

V Corps:

Active patrolling continued on the 4th Division front on May 2.

40 Tanks and 100 motor transports were located in the vicinity of Dj El Asoud by reconnaissance. The tanks were engaged by bombers while the motor transport were taken under artillery fire.

The 46th Division less 1 Brigade relieved the 78th Division May 2.

4th Division passed from under command of V Corps to command of IX Corps.

1st Division is disposed as follows: 2nd Brigade in area southwest of Dj El Asoud, 3rd Brigade in reserve are near Grich El Oued. There is no change in disposition of 24th Guards Brigade.

There was considerable enemy activity on 7th Motorized Division front near Sidi Abdullah, which brought engagement by our artillery.

46th Division is disposed as follows: 126th Brigade in area near Heidous, 138th Brigade is in reserve area southwest of Heidous.

IX Corps:

About 40 tanks and 100 motor transport were located in Dj El Asoud area by our reconnaissance troops.

XIX Corps:

The XIX Corps has been reorganized into 3 divisions as follows:

Right -- Algerian Division under Conne.

Center -- Moroccan Division under Mathinet.

Left -- Fran Division under Boisseau.

In addition to the above there is a force under Le Culteux in army reserve.

On May 2 an enemy attack in vicinity of Hir El Kerba was repulsed.

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(C) and (D) or (2)

OSD letter, May 2, 1962

By RHP, NARS date _____

AUG

[REDACTED]

A patrol from 7th RM captured 100 prisoners 4 miles west of Dret Ben Saidane on May 2.

8th Army:

Main headquarters of the 8th Army was located 3 miles south of Halk El Mansel on May 2.

General:

1. Enemy situation generally unchanged, but forces are believed very weak in the north, where period of sustained fighting will have reduced strength considerably. Possible withdrawal may be accelerated in this area. Remainder front no changes with enemy undertaking regrouping during present lull.

Troop Movements:

15th Regimental Combat Team (3rd Infantry Division) arrived in Constantine area from Gren.

VII. Messages included in Summary:

- 1540
- 1544
- 1567
- 1581
- 1766
- 1795
- 1845
- 1852
- 1819
- 1895
- 1954
- 1973
- 2010
- 2038
- 2081

CLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(b) and 5(D) or (E)

GSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1977

[REDACTED]

Form No. 10.

SECRET
EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

0700 May 2 to
0700 May 3, 1943.

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

AXIS

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	234,617 (Mar 30)
French " " " " "	<u>150,000 (Jan 4)</u>

Estimated Total Strength of	158,100 (May 2)
--------------------------------	-----------------

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,022 (May 1)

In Sicily, Italy and Tunisia	German 725
	Italian 635
(Mar 30)	<u>TOTAL 1,360</u>

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

Estimated Total Strength

U. S.	77,008 (May 2)
British	138,651 (Apr 29)
1st Army - - -	100,000 (Mar 27)
5th Army - - -	54,660 (Apr 28)
French - - -	
	<u>370,319 (May 2)</u>

Estimated Total
Strength

German	113,100
Italian	45,000
(May 2)	<u>158,100</u>

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures
referred to were first reported.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 6(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NAJIS Date AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
------	---------------------------	--------	--------

1. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

May 1	Several JU-88's and 2 torpedo bombers operated from Sicily against shipping.		
-------	--	--	--

b. 9th Air Force (8th Army):

1. Bomber:

Allied:

May 1	Destroyer attacked by RAF on April 30 beached. Later information: attacked again.	Several near misses claimed.	
	RAF bombers attacked buildings and jetties at Kelibia and Sidi Daoud.	Considerable damage inflicted.	1 ME-109 damaged out of 4 encountered.
	10 bombers of 98th Group reached Reggio Di Calabria Harbor, 30 bombers of 376th Group failed due to weather.	Objective obscured by clouds forcing return.	1 aircraft broke up in air and crashed into sea; 1 plane unreported.
	38 fighters of 57th Group in 3 missions dropped 23,500 lbs of bombs on shipping and shore installations.		

c. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
1 Bomber	0

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

725	1843
-----	------

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(c) and 2(d) of (b)
OSD Section 5, 1977
RHP, NARS Dept. **AUG 7 1977**

III. Air Action, European Theater:

1. Bomber:

Axis:

May 1 No enemy action over UK on this date.

Allied:

May 1 54 B-17's attacked submarine pens at St. Nazaire during daylight. Aerial bombing on B-17's 1 bomber damaged and lost formation. 7 B-17's failed to return. Antiaircraft moderate over target.

20 B-24's with Spitfire escort flew diversion for main effort by flying along coast of Brest Peninsula. Anti-aircraft intense over Brest.

2. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

May 1 Reconnaissance by 1 aircraft off south coast, 1 over North Sea 140 miles east of Farne Islands, and 1 east of Orkneys.

Apr 30 8 Bordeaux based FW-200's operated over Atlantic west of Bay of Biscay from early morning to early afternoon. HMS Adventure engaged by 1 which was driven off.

Unidentified aircraft plotted 150 miles north-northeast of Salar, Iceland.

Allied:

May 1 Photo reconnaissance showed light cruiser Murnberg together with 2 destroyers and 2 torpedo boats headed in southwest course south of Sogne Fjord.

7 Beaufighters missing of 18 torpedo planes escorted by 40 dispatched against this force.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~

IV. Naval Actions:

British ship Vick bound from Buenos Aires was torpedoed 525 miles southwest of Cape Clear, Ireland, on April 30. Another ship was sent to render assistance.

V. Ground Action:

a. II Corps:

On May 1st 641 prisoners of war passed through the 9th Division Camp; only 66 of these were German.

Patrols of 6 Tabor have advanced as far as Tella after forcing withdrawal east of enemy force.

Heavy machine gun and mortar fire was encountered near Kef En Nsour.

There has been a general stiffening of enemy resistance north of the Jefna road and in vicinity of Dj. Chaouaf. Indication that enemy intends to hold in strength the range of hills running west of Garaet Achkel and pivoting on Dj. El Ajred which covers the Jefna road.

Dj. El Ajred is reported occupied by the enemy.

b. V Corps:

Headquarters 78th Division is now 3 miles northwest of Goubellat.

Determined counterattacks north and south of the Madjerda valley in which enemy has used 504th Tank Battalion in support of infantry indicates that there is appreciation of importance of defending this vital approach to the Tebourba-Tunis plain.

South of the Medjerda River there was little interference, however, with the improvement of our forward positions in the areas around Dj. Bou Aoukaz and Sidi Medienne.

EXEMPTED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2.4 (1) (C) or (D)

OSD letter, May 2, 1972

RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

-4-

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED]

Area north of Sidi Abdullah is held by the enemy.

11th Infantry Brigade relieved the 12th Infantry Brigade in area around Peter Corner on May 1.

c. IX Corps:

The 1st British Armored Division with the 139th Infantry Brigade under command of the sector previously held by the IX Corps which reverts to Armored Reserve.

Headquarters 46th Division is now 2 miles west of Medjez El Bab with 138th Infantry Brigade in same area. Balance of division is moving to same area.

In this sector enemy is less aggressive than in V Corps Sector. However, skillful use of anti-tank screens indicates that a very stubborn defense will be maintained to ward off our armor from the open country southeast of Tunis.

d. XIX Corps:

The enemy took a position north of the Saouf road on May 1 but a successful counterattack retook the position and a subsequent enemy counterattack was repulsed.

e. 8th Army:

A small local counterattack on the 169th Brigade was repulsed.

On May 1 the sector was otherwise quiet except for artillery activity on both sides.

169th Infantry Brigade relieved the 201st Guards Brigade in the coastal sector.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 3(D) or (C)

[REDACTED] OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

-5-

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

[REDACTED]

f. General:

Enemy is regrouping forces on main battleground between Medjerda River and Pont Du Fahs.

g. Troop Movements:

3d U. S. Infantry Division, consisting of the 7th, 15th, and 30th Regimental Combat Teams departed from Oran for the Constantine area.

VI. Messages included in Summary:

CM-IN- 974
1014
1070
1084
1152
1189
1214
1265
1363
1387
1425
1435

[REDACTED]
DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/2/94

Form No. 10.

~~SECRET~~
EUROPEAN-NORTH AFRICAN THEATER
OPERATIONS DIVISION
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

0700 May 1 to
0700 May 2.

Daily Allied Strength Report.
(All messages paraphrased)

STRENGTH IN NORTH AFRICA

ALLIED

U. S. Strength Landed or in Port	343,672 (Apr 17)
British " " " " "	234,617 (Mar 30)
French " " " " "	<u>150,000 (Jan 4)</u>

AXIS

Estimated Total
Strength of
157,700 (Apr 29)

AIR STRENGTH

U. S. and British 2,022 (May 1)

In Sicily, Italy
and Tunisia
German 725
Italian 635

(Mar TOTAL 1,360
30)

STRENGTH IN TUNISIA

Estimated Total Strength

Estimated Total
Strength

U. S. 77,843 (Apr 21)

German 112,700

British:

Italian 45,000

1st Army 138,651 (Apr 29)

(Apr 29) 157,700

8th Army 100,000 (May 27)

French 54,660 (Apr 28)

371,154 (Apr 29)

NOTE: Date in paren is date that figures
referred to were first reported.

RECEIVED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (B)

ODD letter, May 3, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1972

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

SECRET

II. Air Action:

a. North African Theater:

DATE	NO. OF PLANES AND MISSION	RESULT	LOSSES
1. Bomber:			
<u>Allied:</u>			
Apr 29	3 P-38's bombed a railroad bridge at Cagliari dropping 1 500 lb. bomb and 12 100 lb. bombs.	Results unobserved.	
	Weather prevented completion of bombing attack on Bizerte by 28 B-17's.	90,000 leaflets were dropped.	
	12 B-26's dropped 216 100 lb. bombs on a motor vessel previously reported beached east of Bizerte.	Hits and near misses scored on stern of the ship.	
Night Apr 28-29	19 Wellingtons dropped 3 4,000 lb. bombs, 73 500 lb bombs and 432 40 lb bombs and 1,080 incendiary bombs on El Aouina Airdrome.	Airdrome well covered, bombs burst among hangars; a burning ship 10 miles from Zembra Island was hit and blown up.	
Apr 28	17 B-26's escorted by 22 P-40's dropped 100 100 lb. bombs and 570 20 lb fragmentation bombs on the Mabtouha landing ground.	Target was well covered.	
2. Anti-Shipping:			
<u>Allied:</u>			
Apr 29	12 P-38's bombed 2 Siebel Ferries and 3 small vessels. The formation was attacked by enemy aircraft.	1 direct hit on a Siebel Ferry and a near miss on another	1 ME-109 destroyed, 1 ME-109 and 1 MC-202 damaged.
	15 B-25's escorted by 22 P-38's on a shipping sweep intercepted 13 enemy aircraft.		3 enemy destroyed, 2 P-38's "
	19 P-38's on a shipping sweep were attached by enemy planes.		5 enemy destroyed, 4 P-38's destroyed by the enemy and 1 by unknown cause.

DECLASSIFIED
 EO 11652, Sec. 5(e) and 5(d) or (f)
 OSD Letter, May 3, 1972
 by RHP, [redacted]

SECRET

AUG 7 1972 -2-

DECLASSIFIED
 E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
 NLR 101
 By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

[REDACTED]

Apr 29	36 P-40's dropped 12 500 lb bombs on 2 small motor vessels southeast of Hammamet.	Both vessels hit and left burning.	
Apr 28.	18 B-26's escorted by 24 P-40's attacked a vessel dropping 288 100 lb bombs.	Results unobserved.	3 B-26's crash landed due to flak.
Apr 27	11 B-25's dropped 48 100 lb and 56 300 lb bombs on 5 vessels in the harbor on the south side of Zembra Island.	Bombs fell among buildings on shore.	

3. Transports:

Axis:

Night 40 to 50 JU-52's landed at Apr 28-29 Tunis and Bizerte.

b. 9th Air Force (8th Army):

1. Bomber:

Allied:

Apr 30	21 bombers of the 376th Group dropped 122,000 lbs of bombs on the Messina Ferry slip.	Large explosions and fires noted.	2 ME-109's damaged, 1 B-24 shot down.
--------	---	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------

2. Anti-Shipping:

Allied:

Apr 30	RAF fighter bombers claim sunk:	4 vessels including 1 destroyer. Damaged 1 destroyer and 1 motor vessel set on fire.	7 fighters destroyed 10 damaged; 5 of our pilots are missing.
	144 fighters from the 57th Group flew 3 fighter bomber missions and dropped 43,000 lbs of bombs.	1 ship sunk, 1 vessel heavily damaged, 2 additional boats damaged.	1 ME-109 destroyed, and 1 probably destroyed.
	144 fighters of the 79th Group flew 3 fighter bomber missions dropping 40,000 lbs of bombs.	1 destroyer and 1 ferry-boat sunk, 1 destroyer damaged.	4 ME-109's destroyed and 1 probably destroyed; 3 ME-109's damaged. We lost 3 aircraft.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(c) and 3(d) or (B)

OSD letter, May 5, 1972

By RHP, NARS DIV.

AUG 7 1972

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

a. Score:

Planes destroyed since last report:

<u>Allied</u>	<u>Axis</u>
7 P-38's	6 ME-109's
3 B-26's	14 Unidentified
1 B-24	
8 Fighters	20
19	

Accumulated reported aircraft lost since Nov 8, 1942:

724	1843
-----	------

b. Sorties Flown:

1. North African Theater:

Apr 29 - 28 B-17's, 21 B-26's, 12 B-26's, 84 P-38's, 41 P-39's, 108 P-40's, 108 American Spitfires, 4 P-38 F4's.
RAF: 19 Wellingtons, 9 Hurribombers, 14 Hudsons, 4 Marauders, 1 Swordfish, 288 British Spitfires, 45 Hurricanes, 16 Beaufighters.
Apr 28 - RAF: 24 Bostons, 13 Beaufighters, 12 Hurricanes, 2 British Spitfires USAAF, 12 B-25's, 35 B-26's, 34 A-20's, 28 P-38's, 6 P-39's, 46 P-40's.
Apr 27 - USA: 11 B-25's.

c. European Theater:

1. Bomber:

Allied:

Night	305 RAF bombers were sent	No details.	12 missing.
Apr 30	against Essen.		
May 1			

2. Fighters:

Allied:

Apr 27 13 P-39's lead by 9 B-17's were dispatched from Fortreath Cornwall to Port Iyautey. 1 aircraft turned back one hour out. No information as to pilot or aircraft. 1 left the formation and

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 2(b) (4) (D) or (E)
ORR letter 10-10-1971

by RHP, NARA on AUG 7 1972

-4-

~~SECRET~~

landed at Lisbon. 3 left the formation opposite Cape Vincent and it is reported from Gibraltar that they landed on the West coast of Portugal one mile northwest of Lagos.

3. Anti-Shipping:

Axis:

Apr 29 10 FW-200's based on Bordeaux operated in the Bay of Biscay, Allied convoys were shadowed. No attacks.

Allied:

Apr 30 A RAF plane based on the UK attacked a sub in the Iceland Area. Results unknown.

A surfaced submarine was attacked by depth charges 145 miles north of Vaagar Faroe Islands. During the 1st attack sub fired on plane. 2d attack saw sub leaving about 40 men in the water.

Wellington attacked sub 155 miles northwest of Cape Finisterre. Results unknown.

4. Reconnaissance:

Axis:

Apr 30 7 enemy planes made the reconnaissance off the south coast of England, 1 off the east coast and 2 in the Shetland Area.

III. Naval Action:

The U.S. Ship McKeesport in a convoy bound from the UK to New York was torpedoed and sank 225 miles east by north of Cape Farwell the 29th of April.

The Hipper last located at Wilhelmshaven 5th of April is reported to have passed through the canal April 7.

~~SECRET~~

EO 11652, Sec. 1.4 and (D) or (B)
OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 1972

[REDACTED]

April 28th. Motor torpedo boats from Sousse operating in daylight off Cap Bou sank a 3,000 ton merchant vessel and damaged 2 minesweepers and 1 R boat. Motor torpedo boats were attacked by shore batteries and aircraft. One motor torpedo boat sustained damage and had to be sunk by our own forces. 1 enemy fighter was shot down and 2 damaged.

Night, April 29/30. Two destroyers carried out a sweep to Marittimo and sank a 2,000 ton merchant vessel off the south coast of Sicily. Same night motor torpedo boats from Bone operated off the Gulf of Tunis and American motor torpedo boats in the approaches to Bizerte. Motor torpedo boats from Sousse were active off Cap Bon Peninsula.

In spite of fact that major portion of enemy air effort has been concentrated to cover shipping, on April 29 and 30 1 light cruiser, 2 destroyers, 6 merchant vessels, 3 Seibel ferries, 4 E boats, 1 F boat and several smaller vessels were sunk or severely damaged. Of above shipping, 2 destroyers, 2 merchant vessels, 1 Seibel ferry, 2 E boats, and 1 F boat definitely sunk. Light cruiser hit in bow, amidships, and on stern, and left burning.

This summary includes ships previously reported in individual reports of air action.

IV. Ground Action:

a. The 12th Brigade was forced to withdraw to the area of Peter's Corner after bitter fighting which resulted in heavy losses to both sides.

In the 1st Division area all enemy attacks were held.

At least 12 enemy tanks were destroyed on the V Corps front during the 29th and 30th of April.

b. 8th Army: On April 30 a further attack by our troops in the night re-

[REDACTED] E.O. 11652, Sec. 8(D) and 5(D) or (2)

OSD Letter, [REDACTED] AUG 7 1977

[REDACTED] RHP, NARA Date

-6-

~~SECRET~~

gained all the ground lost through enemy infiltration on the 29th.

c. General:

It is reported that the 8th Tank Regiment of the 15th Panzer Division had nine tanks operational on the 28th of April. The 1st Battery of the 43d Anti-aircraft Regiment has moved with the 8th Tank Regiment and is now under the command of the 10th Panzer Division.

Tanks on the 1st Army front April 30 did not exceed 30 in both Dj El Ascud and Sidi Abdullah Area.

Again on high scale enemy air activity was largely devoted to protecting shipping in the Gulf of Tunis - Cape Bon area. With only 1 report of enemy fighters engaging our, in general the enemy is apparently unwilling to attack. Small formations were observed in the Medjez El Bab - Ksar Tyr area with several alarm patrols from Pantellaria. Enemy fighter formations occasionally mixed with FW-190's, ME-109's and ME-202's were operating together. On southern front there was no enemy activity reported.

d. Troop Movements:

62d CA Regiment (less 2d and 3d Battalions) arrived at Algiers from Telergma.

VI. Messages included in Summary.

CM-IN-336	704
432	783
439	804
445	814
496	860
505	874
574	
593	
612	
645	

~~SECRET~~

EO 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 8, 1972

By RHP, NARS Date AUG 7 1974

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

~~SECRET~~

ANNEX TO SITUATION REPORT

Bern Reports * Movement of Aircraft:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type Plane</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
13-15 April	100 Fighters	Bavaria	Southern Italy
	40 Dive Bombers	"	" "
	60 Transports	"	" "
	50 Heavy Bombers	"	" "
13-15 April	20 Dive Bombers	Germany	Genoa
	30 Transports	"	"
	30 Fighters (?)	"	"
19-20 April	70 Transports	Stuttgart and Munich	Southern Italy
	30 Transports	"	Southern France

* Message not complete, being serviced.

CM-IN-306.

Roosevelt Library
DECLASSIFIED
DDO DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/50)

Date- AUG 7 1972

~~Signature:~~ *REHRS*

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94