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However, when I outlined the possibilities for reverses that the winter held for us, his manner indicated that he thought I took this too seriously. While both of us were aware that the Axis forces in Africa could not permanently withstand the pincer effect that General Sir Harold R. L. G. Alexander's forces and our own were developing, President Roosevelt's estimate of the final collapse was too sanguine by many weeks.

Under his insistence that I name a date I finally blurted out my most miraculous guess of the war. "May 15," I said.

Shortly thereafter I told Alexander of this and he, with a smile, said that in answer to the same question at the conference he had replied, "May 30."

I found that the president, in his consideration of current African problems, did not always distinguish clearly between the military occupation of enemy territory and the situation in which we found ourselves in North Africa.

President Reminded
Of Difference Existing

He constantly referred to plans and proposals affecting the local population, the French Army, and

family seized upon by the air forces only two days. The commander explained, with an air of pride, that he had prepared a map for his mine defense and would start next day to put out the mines.

Our experience in north Tunisia had been that the enemy was able to prepare a strong defensive position ready to resist counter-attack within two hours after his arrival on the spot.

I spent the remainder of an exhausting night conferring with commanders and noting the matters that I wanted to take up with General Fredendall. Our little inspecting party started back before dawn, but we were delayed at Sbeitla by an outbreak of sporadic firing ahead of us.

Went Through Town
Without Incidents

After a reconnaissance in force, in which my aide, Captain Lee, and Lieutenant Colonel Akers composed the assault wave, while I, with a 45 formed the mobile reserve, we remounted our cars and made our way through the town without incident. A short time later my driver fell asleep and we ended up in a shallow ditch, but with no casualties.

Upon arrival at corps headquarters I found that the German attack had already struck. It was too late to make changes in dispositions.

Realizations by nightfall that reinforcements in men and equipment would be needed quickly and urgently, I hastened back to headquarters to hurry them forward.

We scraped the barrel and then started back to the front. During the withdrawal the Americans fought a series of ineffective, though gallant, delaying actions on the way back toward Kasserine Pass, a spot clearly indicated as one to be strongly held. But there was a local lack of appreciation of exactly what was happening and the troops assigned were neither numerous enough nor skilful enough to hold that strong position.

The enemy armor pushed on through the hastily constructed defence in the pass.

Troops Rally Well
To Cover Tebessa

Finally, however, in spite of surprise and relatively large losses, our troops rallied in good fashion and fell back to cover the important centre of Tebessa and the routes leading northward from Kasserine toward Le Kef.

The enemy's advance, by the twenty-second, was completely stalled.

George Patton, who always liked to bring up historical precedent, remarked, "Well, Von Arnim should have read about Lee's attack at Ford Stedman."

There, outside Petersburg, the last desperate Confederate counter-attack was stopped and driven back in bloody retreat by strong Union reserves.

On the evening of the twenty-second I discussed the situation personally with General Fredendall and told him that the agency was no longer capable of offensive action.

Improving weather was expected here tomorrow, General Eisenhower outlines the plans which were made for this great undertaking. He also names the five pieces of equipment which helped most to win the war, and he describes how he won a bet of 40,000 centimes from Prime Minister Winston Churchill on the number of prisoners captured on Pantelleria.

Under our growing air superiority our naval forces also pushed forward their bases and operations and added to the enemy's difficulties.

The results were speedily decisive. On the left the American II Corps, with some detachments of French "Goumiers," advanced and captured Bizerte on May 7.

Just to the southward the British First Army, under General Anderson, carrying out the main effort, was in Tunis at approximately the same time that the II Corps reached Bizerte.

Some Fighting Continued
But Germans Caged Up

Some fighting continued until the twelfth but by the following day, except for a few stragglers in the mountains, the only living Germans left in Tunisia were safely within prison cages.

The number of prisoners during the last week of the campaign alone reached 240,000, of which approximately 125,000 were German. Included in these captures was all that was left of the Afrika

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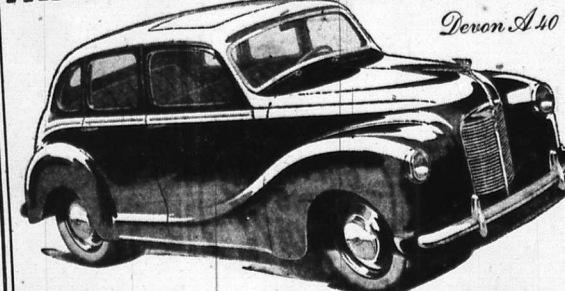
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Catholic Separate schools will be held here tomorrow, General Eisenhower outlines the plans which were made for this great undertaking. He also names the five pieces of equipment which helped most to win the war, and he describes how he won a bet of 40,000 centimes from Prime Minister Winston Churchill on the number of prisoners captured on Pantelleria.

AN ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON
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beginning at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon and continuing until 8:00 o'clock in the afternoon of the said day at the places appointed therefor.
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Windsor, Ontario.
November 16, 1948
C. V. WATERS,
City Clerk and
Returning Officer.

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