

Before Caucasus Soviets ^{Jan 6 1943} **NEAR MATE**

EDGES, ROADS FT IN RUINS

lok, Nalchik and Other
nportant Towns Re-
gained by Reds

RE PROVINCE TAKEN

Y HENRY C. CASSIDY

cow—(AP)—The German Ar-
as reported in full retreat
Caucasus today, blowing up
s and mining roads in a
rate effort to check the surg-
advance of Russian forces
g hard at its heels.

l Star, organ of the Soviet
said Russian forces, which
ly had stormed and won the
tant towns of Mozdok, Nal-
Prokhladnenski, Kotlyarev-
and Malskoye, continued
sweeping advance along a
front, winning back a large
er of additional towns.

entire province of North
a, lying between Ordzhonik-
and Nalchik, had been won
under the red banner by
t forces operating along the
bank of the Terek River,
other Russian troops rolled
Germans back to the North,
Star asserted.

Rostov is Threatened
the north, along the lower
the Russians were reported
ng forward after overrunning
important Nazi bridgehead
of Tsimlyansk and thus
ng a second spearhead within
miles of Rostov, whose fall
t doom the entire German
in the Caucasus.

e first spearhead was thrust
er southwest of Kamensk to
int about 100 miles northwest
e great Don mouth port of
ov.

euters, British news agency,
ated in London that more
a half-million of Adolf Hit-
finest troops were in full re-
in the Caucasus and the
le Don.)

ed Star said the main line of
nan fortifications at the east-
end of the Caucasus front was
tered Monday when the Rus-
s stormed the approaches to
chik and occupied the city af-

Slain Marshfield Soldier Gets Posthumous Medal



Sgt. Reuben J. Steger

Sgt. Reuben Steger's Brav- ery Earns Distinguished Service Cross

Allied Headquarters in Australia
—(AP)—Taking command of his
company when all commissioned
officers were killed or wounded,
First Sergt. Reuben J. (Mose) Ste-
ger of Marshfield, Wis., performed
so valiantly before he was killed in
the drive of Buna, New Guinea,
that he was awarded posthumously
today a Distinguished Service
Cross by Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Sergeant Steger was one of three
infantrymen killed in action near
Buna to be honored by posthumous
Distinguished Service Cross awards.

The other two were Sergt. Boyd
Lincoln, Hershey, Mich., and Pvt.
Harold Garber, a machine gunner
from La Follette, Tenn.

The citation said Steger last
Nov. 21 led an attack on strong
enemy positions, several times ad-
vanced into fire-swept zones to
bring wounded men to safety, and
inspired his men to press the at-
tack in which he was killed. The
medal will be presented to his
mother, Mrs. J. M. Steger, 913
North avenue, Marshfield, Wis.

Steger was one of four Marshfield
men killed in the New Guinea bat-
tle area, where one Marshfield sol-
dier has been reported missing and
a number have been wounded in
action. He was a member of the
National Guard Company here for
four years before being inducted
into the U. S. Army in October,
1940.

The last letter his parents re-
ceived from him arrived here a
week after his death. Word of his
death, however, was not received
here until Dec. 17.

DARLAN AGREEMENT STILL HOLDS GOOD

Political Complications Fol- lowing Admiral's Death Discounted

Algiers, Algeria—(AP)—An au-
thoritative source said today that

British Troops Attack in 15 Miles West of Tur- isian Point

YANK ARMY IS FOR

BY WES GALLAGHER
Allied Headquarters in
Africa—(AP)—Allied forces
captured Djebel Azzag and
points in the vicinity as p
attacks in which British
have driven the enemy from
tegie hills 15 miles west of M
Allied headquarters announc
day.

The newly won positions
not immediately located as
communique did not d
them.

"Our forces are moppi
isolated machine gun post
have repulsed a counter-att
against one of our newly won
tions," the communique ad

Mateur is 20 miles south
the Tunisian naval base of I

The attack was suppor
RAF planes and an RAF
man announced that durin
terday four Nazi fighters
dive-bomber were shot do
the loss of one British plan

Flying Fortresses raiding
amy port of Sfax were said
scored hits on or near a
and to have left the power
in flames. American bomb
so attacked a Nazi airdro
Kairouan, about 36 miles
west of the East Coast of S

No Report on Romme

(United States and Britis
munique in Cairo disclose
Sousse itself also was hit. A
merican communique said
heavy bombers made the re
unloaded all their bombs
the target." The British,
ently referring to the sa
tacks, said hits were sco
docks and buildings.

There still was nothing
port from the pursuit of A
Rommel in Libya and the
munique said there were no
tant air operations yester
the Libyan front.)

Meanwhile, Lt. Gen. M
Clark, the American offic
made a daring landing on t
tile shore of North Africa
submarine for a secret r
with French officers bef
Allied occupation, has been
in command of the newly ac
U. S. Fifth Army, now pr
with its British and Frencl
to drive Axis forces from T
Destroy Nazi Tanks

SURFACE UNITS STRIKE MUNDA

Task Force of U. S. Fleet Bombards Jap Port, Drives Off Planes

Washington—(AP)—The Navy
reported today that a United
States task force of surface units
had "successfully bombarded" the
Japanese airfield at Munda, New
Georgia Island in the Solomons.

Munda is 180 miles northwest
of Guadalcanal. The Japanese
have been attempting for weeks
to establish a strong air base
there, presumably for operations
against American troops on Guad-
alcanal.

A communique said the task
force was attacked by Japanese
bombers but these were driven off
by four "Wildcats" (Grumman
planes) which shot down four of
the enemy and probably destroyed
two others.

Strike in Darkness
The text of the communique,