

## SFAX HIT HARD

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### MORE RAIDS ON NAPLES AND SICILY

From Our Own Correspondent

CAIRO, APRIL 8

With the Axis forces hastily withdrawing into Sfax, the R.A.F. and allied air forces have been extremely busy, and as now air forces from both sides of the North African front are finding joint targets, the battering which the retreating enemy is receiving is very great.

Western Desert Wellingtons were out in force on Tuesday night when they concentrated their attack on the town of Sfax, scoring a series of hits on railway sidings, store and repair depôts, and phosphate quays. Just at the approach of dawn slowly moving transport was seen on the road leading into Sfax, and was heavily bombed, with resultant fires and explosions.

Ranging farther afield, Liberators of both the U.S.A.A.F. and R.A.F. continued their attacks on Sicily and Italy. During Tuesday night Naples and Messina were raided, and yesterday it was the turn of Palermo. Although the weather was not good, a number of direct hits were scored in target areas. Attacks from enemy fighters were easily beaten off, and all our aircraft returned safely.

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### GEN. EISENHOWER'S MESSAGE

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#### EXACTING FULL PRICE FROM THE ENEMY

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, April 8.—General Eisenhower to-day sent the following message to General Alexander:—

I hope that you and all ranks serving under you will accept my personal congratulations and those of the entire Allied Headquarters on your recent successful operations, which have joined up the victorious Eighth Army with the British, French, and American forces that have been carrying on through four months a magnificent fight in central Tunisia under very unfavourable conditions.

While every one of us fully appreciates that great difficulties and bitter fighting still lie ahead of you, and that beyond this campaign lie still greater hardships and sacrifices, you and your Eighteenth Battle Group and the naval and air forces are in a position to exact the full price from the enemy now confronting us in Tunisia.

You may be sure that the whole democratic world is applauding your successes against the forces that have outraged our conceptions of freedom and human rights. Good luck.—*Reuter.*

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