mighty Nazi bastion of Staraya Russa, German infantry yesterday made a strong counterattack. The communique said it was repulsed with more than 300 of the enemy killed.

(The German high command acknowledged "adjustment" for the "shortening of the front" below Lake Ilmen, but said renewed Russian attacks in that area and south of Lake Ladoga had been beaten off. The Nazis admitted fresh Soviet assaults on the Germans' Novorossisk-Taman "bridgehead" in the Caucasus, but claimed they were repulsed.)

The thaw appeared to be abating at the southern extremity of the long Russian theater. The Soviet Wednesday noon communique had told of "active operations" and capture of an enemy "base point," with 150 Nazis slain, in the Kuban sector of the western Caucasus Tuesday night.

NAZIS LOSE SEVEN TANKS.

Simultaneously, the Germans undertook new but weaker night thrusts against the Soviet Donets line which were broken up with heavy losses, including seven tanks destroyed. Soviet artillery was credited with destroying four tanks and dispersing an enemy infantry battalion while three other Nazi tanks were blown up as they entered a Russian minefield.

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