

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

Vol. LXXI

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1945.

No. 24

## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Japan Begins to Feel Full Weight Of Allied Air, Sea, Land Blows; Europe Warned of Food Shortage

Released by Western Newspaper Union. EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.



July sides of beef, whole hogs, veal and lamb hang in the aging room of a quick freeze and food locker plant in Towson, Md., near Baltimore, while OPA investigators question locker holders about their meat supplies. The OPA reported that it was not satisfied with the explanations of holdings given by half of the group questioned to date.

### JAPAN:

#### Target for Onslaught

Japan's dwindling empire was given a thorough going over with bombs, warship strikes and offensives by American and Australian land forces.

In an attack that carried American naval power almost within sight of Russian Siberia, a U. S. battle fleet made a surprise bombardment of the Japanese-held southern half of Sakhalin island in the Sea of Okhotsk. The Tokyo radio reported that American surface units had broken through the Kurile barrier and steamed more than 500 miles westward to attack Sakhalin. Tokyo likewise reported an American battle fleet threatening the northern coast of Japan.

Meanwhile the relentless air offensive smuffing out Japanese war production cities continued unabated. Climaxed by an hour-long radio challenge of American fighter planes circling three Tokyo airfields for the Japanese air force to come up for battle, approximately 800 planes set off the latest fires and explosions in Japan. Fires in four Japanese cities burned so brightly they could be seen simultaneously by returning B-29 pilots. Everything from power houses to light houses was strafed. Six Tokyo air fields were riddled with bombs. Two Japanese destroyers were hit in the Yellow Sea.

### Borneo Oil

On Borneo the coveted oil fields held by the Japs since early 1942 came closer into Allied hands. Destruction of well facilities by the Japs had been widespread, but engineers were prepared to work on repairs. Australian and American forces were co-operating in the liberation of this former Dutch holding. With Australian infantrymen bottering at the last Jap footholds in Balikpapan, this major oil port was in Allied hands. Across the bay from the city, artillery had shelled strongly placed enemy guns. Meanwhile engineers had rushed reconstruction of the captured Sepingang air strip.

### RUSS AID:

#### For China Foreseen

To Japan the dread question of possible Russian participation in the Pacific war was heightened by the cordial reception Chinese Premier T. V. Soong received in Moscow on his official visit to the Soviet Union.

Foreign diplomats in the Red capital reported that the Japanese mission there were highly nervous over the friendly relations evident between the Chinese and Russians. The Japs were the only diplomats who did not attend a sumptuous reception that Vacheslav Molotov, Soviet foreign commissar, gave for Premier Soong.

Whether the Russ-Chinese meetings presaged future action by the Soviets against Japan continued to be a moot question, but reports were current that Soong might at least negotiate a mutual aid pact whereby Russia would undertake to supply Chinese armies without lending them direct military aid. In return it was assumed that China would make certain concessions to Russia—possibly granting a warm water naval base in the Liaotung peninsula of Manchuria and certain railway transportation rights through Manchuria.

### CABINET CHANGES:

#### Morgenthau No. 6

The resignation of Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau marked the sixth member of President Truman's official family who has severed his ties with the cabinet. The five who preceded him were Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, Postmaster General Frank Walker, Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard, Attorney-General Francis Biddle and Secretary of State Edward Stettinius. Successors to all five have assumed their offices.

Secretary Morgenthau's resignation was accompanied almost simultaneously by the resignation of Associate Justice Owen D. Roberts from the Supreme court. This was the first resignation from the high tribunal in President Truman's term, but unlike those of the cabinet, it was not expected to set a precedent for others.

Justice Roberts, appointed by President Hoover had served 15 years on the Supreme court. One of his most notable public services was performed as head of the committee that investigated the Pearl Harbor disaster.

### PHILIPPINES:

#### Springboard for Tokyo

In one of the proudest moments of his thrill-studded career, Gen. Douglas MacArthur proclaimed that the Philippine Islands had been won back "in the greatest disaster ever sustained by Japanese arms."

The doughty American commander announced that the islands' 115,800 square miles are being transformed into bases "comparable to the British Islands" to pace the march on Tokyo.

The saga of the Philippines triumph disclosed that in 250 days of campaigning, 17 American divisions defeated 23 Jap divisions in "one of the rare instances when . . . a ground force superior in numbers was entirely destroyed by a numerically inferior opponent."

It was estimated that 420,000 Japanese were slaughtered, including such hated outcasts as the 16th Imperial division which had tortured American and Filipino prisoners in the "Death March" of 1942 following the fall of Bataan.

### FOOD:

#### Europe Must Speed Output

A blunt warning to the liberated nations of Western Europe to speed up their own food production because relief shipments from abroad may fall short of expectation has been delivered, according to Dennis A. Fitzgerald, United States deputy on the combined food board.

Officials of the nations involved have been told that "they'd better start pulling themselves up by their own bootstraps and use every conceivable device to increase their production," Fitzgerald disclosed.

Liberated countries have been assured that vigorous efforts are being made to give them all assistance possible, he said, but they have also been reminded that the United States "still has a full-sized war in the Pacific" which will get first call on our own food stocks.

By far the largest share of relief shipments to Europe will be composed of wheat and flour, Fitzgerald reported. Approximately 650,000 bushels of wheat are expected to go out from the U. S. and Canada.

### UNIVERSAL TRAINING:

#### Governors Hear Plans

Pleas for support of a system of universal military training after the war were made to the 37th annual governors' conference at Mackinac Island by Gen. George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, and Adm. Ernest King, chief of the U. S. fleet.

Meeting with the state executives to report on the progress of the war on Japan, the top leaders of the army and navy pictured universal military training as essential to the future safety of the United States.

The two chieftains warned that if there should be another world war, it would come swiftly, without time or opportunity to train a large army.

Maintenance of a strong national guard with a large reserve maintained through universal training would keep the United States prepared, they declared, without the necessity of a large standing army.

### ATLANTIC AIR:

#### O. K'd for Three Lines

Certificates authorizing the operation of air transportation routes across the North Atlantic were issued to three United States air carriers by the Civil Aeronautics board.

The companies are Pan-American Airways, Inc., Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., and the American Air Lines, Inc. Terminal points designated by the board include New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago and Detroit.

The certificates authorizing the new services were limited to a term of seven years "in order that the operations thereunder, after a reasonable period, may be reviewed."

The action of the Civil Aeronautics board was approved by President Truman.

### BERLIN:

#### G.I.s Take Over Area

As Maj. Gen. Nikolai N. Barinov, Soviet commander in Berlin, formally turned the American occupation zone in the German capital over to Gen. Omar N. Bradley, the American flag was raised over the Adolf Hitler barracks.

A 4,000 vehicle convoy brought the American forces from Halle to the Zehlendorf area of war battered Berlin which will comprise the U. S. zone of occupation. American veterans of World War II entered the former Nazi stronghold as conquerors, returning the smart salutes of Red army traffic police.

For the duration of the occupation of the Reich by Allied armies, Berlin was to be jointly in the hands of the Russians, the Americans and the British. The British generally will control the northwest area of the city, including the localities of Charlottenburg and Wilmersdorf.

### WAR PRODUCTION:

#### 96,359 Planes

A forecast of the enormous American industrial capacity for postwar years was given by J. A. Krug, War Production board chairman, in a review of production results by war plants since the summer of 1943.

The United States produced 45 per cent of the world's munitions in 1944, Mr. Krug's report disclosed.

"In 1944 the country produced 96,359 airplanes, including 16,048 heavy bombers, built 30,889 ships, 17,565 tanks, 595,330 army trucks, and produced 3,284 heavy field guns and howitzers and 7,454 light ones, 152,000 army aircraft rocket launchers, 215,177 bazookas and 1,146,774 tons of ground artillery ammunition," the report declared.

### STARVATION STATION:

#### Discovered in Bavaria

The grisly discovery of a Nazi "scientific starvation" station which was claiming children and adult victims until recently was reported by two public health officials of the American Military government in Bavaria.

The arrest of 4 German doctors and 3 hospital attendants at the station in the Kadzbeuren area, 45 miles southeast of Munich, preceded the announcement. One woman confessed killing 211 children for which she drew extra compensation, the announcement said.

### LEGION:

#### Backs U. N. Charter

Full support of the 1,600,000 members of the American Legion, including veterans of both World wars was pledged to the United Nations charter when National Commander Edward Schieberling urged the senate to ratify the pact.

Schieberling set forth his views in a letter to all members of the senate. "The American Legion feels that the San Francisco charter is an honest and able attempt to create a workable association of free and sovereign nations," the letter declared, "implemented with force to maintain peace and prevent recurrence of war. It is obvious that it is the best and only charter that can be produced at this time."



### Words Without Music:

The Warner Brothers' film biog of George Gershwin reminds of several musical oddities which should be new to most of us. For example, the origin of "Yankee Doodle." . . . During the French and Indian War in 1755, a ragged army was camped on the Hudson, a little south of Albany. The militia was so pitiful an Englishman named Shuckberg just for giggles revived a ditty tagged "Yankee Doodle," which was whistled in Cromwell's time. . . . He passed the tune off as a celebrated European martial air, scribbling some double-talk lyrics for it. . . . The gag was on him. Two decades later, a tiny American army won its independence from Britain to the tune of "Yankee Doodle!"

Four hundred thousand juke-boxes will go overseas to keep our men entertained with the latest recordings. . . . C. Porter's "Begin the Beguine" and "Night and Day" are still printed in lots of 100,000. Known as "popular standards" in the music biz. . . . Otto Harbach is doing a musical play named "Meet Miss April." . . . Four hundred million recordings were sold this year. . . . They say 100 new recordings have popped up. . . . "Rose of No Man's Land" (which sold 5,000,000 copies) and "Till We Meet Again" (which sold 6,000,000) were the biggest song hits of World War I. All the ditties of this war haven't equalled the sale of any of the above standouts.

Mention of "Yankee Doodle" above recalls that an American gratefully returned the British favor in another war over a century later. . . . Most of us know "Keep the Home Fires Burning" was probably the most popular of English songs during World War I. . . . Ivor Novello, English actor, created its lyrics, of course. But a little known fact is that Lena Guilbert Ford composed its melody, reportedly in 10 minutes after Novello had excitedly read her his words via the phone. . . . Miss Ford was killed in 1918 in a German air raid over London. She was an American, born in Elmira, N. Y.

Speaking of the Gershwin flicker, here is how wrong some critics can be. . . . This is what the concert appraiser of the N. Y. Herald Tribune (Lawrence Gilman) had to say of the now-famed "Rhapsody in Blue" when Paul Whiteman premiered it here: "Most ambitious piece on yesterday's program was the 'Rhapsody in Blue' of Mr. Gershwin. Weep over the complete lifelessness of its melody and harmony—so derivative, so stale, so inexpressive!"

Only one Gershwin tune was ever network-banned. That was the ditty tagged "Nice Work If You Can Get It." The air censors decided its lyrics were a bit too risqué. . . . Cole Porter's "Love for Sale" from the "New Yorkers" had the same trouble. . . . Jimmy Walker did his unsuccessful best to get them radio airings.

The first blues song, according to authority Isaac Goldberg, was performed in New York on May 29, 1769. . . . Then a comic opera tagged "The Paddock" premiered in a theatre in Gotham. It was an adaptation of a diversion written by Charles Dibdin and first performed at the Drury Lane Theatre in London. Lewis Hallam, playing the part of a West Indian slave, had this for the punchline of his big musical number: "Me wish to de Lord me was dead!"

In the Warner film, there is a scene demonstrating how Al Jolson inserts Gershwin's "Swanee" in "Sinbad," at the Winter Garden. . . . Old-timers in show biz will pardon the dramatic liberty. First time "Swanee" was heard on B'way was in the initial show opening the Capitol Theatre on the Stern. . . . Jolson later interpolated it in his show. . . . This is not the first time a hit song was pushed into a Broadway production and made a smash of the opus. Some years ago a show called "The Girl Behind the Counter" was playing to moderate houses at the Herald Square Theatre. . . . One night the management inserted a Paul Lincke tune tagged "Glow Worm." Next day the song and the show were the talk of the town. . . . Another time, a Reginald de Koven opus was playing the Standard Theatre at 24th St. Business was off, so a new song was written into the production. It carried the show successfully through the season—"Oh, Promise Me!"

## National Farm Safety Week Making Effort to Reduce Heavy Loss Burden

### 17,000 Deaths Can Be Eliminated in Agricultural Areas

Farmers and their wives and children, as a rule, are too busy producing food for wartime America to have any time to go hunting for danger and death.

Nevertheless, government safety officials declare, back home on the farm is far from being the safest place in the world to live.

Trouble is, safety engineers point out, that accidents don't wait for people to go looking for them. They just happen. And they happen most to people—like farmers—who are too busy doing an important job to think about how to avoid accidents.

Calling attention to America's continuing need for the skill and labor of her farmers, President Truman said:

"I urge farm people everywhere to observe National Farm Safety week by making a safety check in their homes and on their farms. . . . I request all persons and organizations concerned with agriculture and farm life to do everything in their power to educate farm people in the proper precautions by which they may eliminate farm hazards." President Truman has proclaimed July 22 to 28 as National Farm Safety week.

Burns usually rank second in importance on the farm home accident list. Causes include careless smoking, the use of kerosene in starting kitchen fires, placing pans of boiling liquid too close to the edge of a kitchen stove, as well as many other instances of haste or carelessness, or both.

Records show that if parents make sure at all times that firearms

### Farm Front Casualties

The following figures are based on statistics from Pearl Harbor to January 1, 1945. During the same period, total war casualties of U. S. forces, both army and navy, amounted to 764,852. These figures are for farm residents only.

Killed	53,000
Injured	5,000,000
Killed on job	13,500
Killed in traffic	14,500
Killed in homes	22,000
Injured at work	700,000
Injured in traffic	500,000
Injured in homes	3,300,000

and poisons are out of reach of their children, accidents to children in the farm home will be considerably reduced.

Among leading causes of work accidents on the farm is the improper use of farm machinery. Knives, belts, pulleys, gears and the like are necessarily a part of farm machinery. The greatest caution should always be exercised in order to operate them without accident to the person.

Improper handling of animals causes many farm work accidents. While bulls are the cause of many serious injuries, the greatest number of accidents due to careless handling of animals is caused by horses, records show.

Pledge of Cooperation.

Falls are also high on the list of farm work accidents. Better housekeeping methods in the farmyard, the barn and other farm buildings can materially reduce the number of accidents attributable to falls.

Among farm leaders who have pledged their cooperation in the work of National Farm Safety week are Edward S. O'Neal, president of the American Farm bureau federation; James G. Patton, president of the National Farmers Union, and A.

### Toehold on Trouble



A gashed foot, sooner or later, is the inevitable result of steady block of wood with your foot when chopping.

ing into the National Safety council from many of the 300 organizations which cooperated in arranging National Farm Safety week activities in 46 states in 1944 indicate an even more successful week this year.

Lifetime of the implement has long been a yardstick whereby farm machinery care is measured. But there is a far more important and better measurement—the lifetime of the farmer. And that's where the farm safety program, with its emphasis upon the relationship of the human factor to the life-span of farm folks, comes in.

With this in mind, manufacturers of farm equipment are doing a useful job of urging users to take extra care in handling implements, tractors, or other farm machines.

When the tractor, for instance, was new and its friends so freely and correctly forecast the approach of power farming, it stirred critics who ranged from mild to bitter. To catalog the criticisms would be an endless and unprofitable task; but that's all out of the book of "Genesis" of power farming. It was soon proved, again and again, that a tractor produced under good engineering and manufacturing auspices would stand up to the job for which it was designed. Tractors kept getting better and better. Their betterment continues.

Maintenance is a big element in such confidence. Long ago the stronger retail implement dealers assembled good mechanics and organized their shop-service departments. Many sent apprentices, and senior mechanics as well, to tractor factory schools.

### Farm Safety Plan.

In the meantime, the farmer himself has improved as his own service man. Many young farmers have grown up in the new age of power farming and qualify as professional power farmers. And today's farmer knows he can go to the shop of some dealer for repair and overhaul work that the farmer is not equipped to do.

Factory management, by the way, fought the battle of safety with shields over moving parts wherever these might menace workmen—with shields and plenty of special training of foremen and workers in the technique of safety. This battle goes on now with never a sign of letup. Factory men treat safety as one of their major concerns. An unshielded machine is a rarity in any well-run plant.

To make life and limb safer for those who work with farm machinery, the farm machinery manufacturers have developed and put into effect protective shields for tractor and pull-type power drive implements; power line and power take-off shields so designed that the shield for any make of implement may be attached to the master shield bracket of any make of farm tractor.

Now the power line shield for any make or model of implement built to the standard could be connected to the master shield on any make or model of tractor. A good job, well done! But what about the thousands of implements and tractors already in the hands of the farmer? Isn't safety important to them too? It is, and soon provision was made to make available conversion packages for old implements so they could be adapted for use with new tractors, and old tractors converted to the standard so that new implements could be used with them.

In every way possible, farmers are urged to use these shields; never to operate a machine without them. Conspicuous precautionary signs are posted on danger spots throughout implement and tractor alike.

Certain parts of any machinery must be regarded as functional elements and cannot be completely shielded and still perform their job; but even here we do have one real safeguard: "Man can think before he acts."



Upper photo shows risk of operating a saw without a guard. Second photo shows one cause of a \$30,000-000 annual farm fire loss—smoking in farm buildings. Third photo shows that rickety and cluttered stairways add to the annual killed and injured list. Lower photo: loaded or unloaded, neither are safe within reach of a child. Many are killed by "unloaded" guns annually.

greater driving skill and care than ever before will be needed.

There are many other types of accidents which contribute to the annual toll on the farm, Mr. Coe said, but the examples given point the way for both individuals and organizations to make best use of a farm safety check-up during the week.

Mr. Coe concluded his remarks by saying that early reports com-



This farmer should know that his place is in the driver's seat. Instead he risks a lifetime of happiness to save a few seconds by disobeying a cardinal safety rule of adjusting machinery only when at a full stop, and then from the ground.