



## U. S. AIRMEN START BLITZ ON ITALY AS THOUSANDS FLEE

**Bombs Being Sown Like Wheat As Thousands of Italians Flee North From Tip of Italy; Rome Has Received Large Numbers of Those Seeking Escape.**

Thousands of bomb-dazed refugees were reported Tuesday as fleeing north from southern Italy and from islands in the Mediterranean as American warplanes "sowing bombs like wheat" heaped fresh destruction on Sardinia, Sicily, and the Italian mainland.

Reports reaching Switzerland said an exodus was under way from many towns of the Italian boot, with Rome already receiving thousands attempting to escape the Allied bombardment.

With Allied planes stepping up the fury of their assault on the "invasion trail" into southern Europe, Italy's Crown Prince Umberto was quoted by the British radio as warning Italians that they were short of arms and must throw all of their spiritual and physical strength into the struggle.

Premier Mussolini was said to have called party chiefs of the Rome district last night and given them new orders—presumably dealing with measures to combat an allied invasion.

E. C. Daniel, Associated Press correspondent in London, said the deterioration of Axis power and civilian defenses under the weight of Allied air might, combined with high expectations of the outcome of the Roosevelt-Churchill conference in Washington is brightening the summer war picture today for the United Nations.

**Axis Airmen Desert Sardinia.**  
Although the German radio reported that Nazi troops had been sent to reinforce the defense of Sardinia, allied pilots said the Axis air squadrons had vanished from the Italian outpost on Sunday.

In Germany, the official Nazi party newspaper declared that there was not one person in the heavily-raided Ruhr cities who had not suffered personal or family loss as the result of the air attacks.

Air observers in London assessing the results of the heaviest raid of all time on Dortmund Sunday night, suggested the RAF strategy was designed to pile up cumulative ill effects of the bombing on the strategic Ruhr area.

Having wrecked Essen's war plant—including the sprawling Krupp works, the RAF was reported by air correspondents to have turned heavy attention to Dortmund because it absorbed much of Essen's former production load.

**Dortmund Fires Still Rage.**  
The raid, which for the first time was claimed to have beaten down the powerful Ruhr defenses, also was aimed at one of the principal cities in the path of one of the floods created the week before by cracking two of Germany's great water reservoirs, the Sder and Moehne.

One report from the Morocco raid said fires were still raging in Dortmund, and were out of control because of shortage of water caused by the dam burstings.

Observers speculated that thousands of the Ruhr's civilian defenders still were engaged in flood relief work when the bombers struck again.

## Coal Users Urged To Buy Supply Now

New York, May 25.—Howard A. Gray, deputy solid fuels administrator for war, said today that "coal is going to get tighter and tighter and tighter this year," and advised consumers to "get every ton in your stockpile that you can. You won't be sorry later."

Gray, in an address prepared for delivery before the annual convention of the National Association of Purchasing Agents, said industrial coal users should "seize every opportunity to build stockpiles in essential war industries to ninety to 120 days' supply and for other industrial users to sixty to ninety days supply."

## Bond Quota Is Surpassed In First 15 Days of May

The sales of Series E war bonds in Watauga county for the period May 1-15 amount to \$18,675.00, the quota for the entire month being only \$16,992.00, says Mr. W. D. Farthing, general chairman of the war savings staff for Watauga county. Mr. Farthing says that the figures given come from reports of the Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond.

## Former Merchant Dies



Craig Hollar, former Boone business man whose death was chronicled last week in these columns. Funeral services were conducted from the Three Forks Church last Thursday afternoon, and the large crowd and the size of the floral offering bore evidence as to the esteem in which the deceased was held in the community.

## JAPS CORRALED ON ATTU—BLOWS STRUCK AT KISKA

**Twelve Bombers Are Believed Destroyed In Attacks On Island and Ships in Struggle for Positions in Aleutians; U. S. Holds Whip Hand.**

Washington, May 25.—Decimated Jap defenders on Attu have been squeezed into the narrow Chichagof harbor peninsula and are being slowly annihilated by American troops, driving forward through sleet, cold and rain, the navy reported today in a communique disclosing a new exchange of aerial blows in the south west Pacific.

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox told his press conference the Japs have been "corralled on the peninsula" and that the battle continued.

The communique revealed that the six swift Army Lockheed fighters which intercepted 16 Jap bombers off Attu Sunday probably destroyed seven of the raiders in addition to the five definitely shot down. The Japs jettisoned their bombs without inflicting damage when sighted. Only four of them were seen to escape westward, probably to the big Jap base at Paramushiru in the Kurile Islands.

Army planes continued dropping bombs on Kiska, strong Jap base, not outflanked by American occupation of Attu and next on the north Pacific reconquest schedule.

## FATHER OF WATERS ON MAD RAMPAGE

**Soldiers Fight to Hold Levees Against Flood Waters Of Mississippi.**

A host of soldiers and civilians were reported Tuesday night as fighting to hold the levees still standing against the devastating waters rushing down the Mississippi and Illinois valleys.

Lt. Col. W. F. Lawlor of the U. S. engineers reported every levee on the Illinois side of the Mississippi from Columbia to Gale—approximately 90 miles—had broken, but the walls on the Illinois bank between Alton and East St. Louis withstood the terrific pressure.

Northward a weak spot developed in the earthen levee protecting the east part of low-lying Beardstown, Ill., from the rampaging Illinois river and sandbags were rushed to the strained section, it was said.

**160,000 Homeless**  
Meanwhile, with 160,000 persons homeless in a six-state area and more than 3,000,000 acres inundated, state and federal officials took steps to help the refugees and plan measures to get food production underway again.

An appeal for volunteer workers was issued by Herman Huxel, in charge of the central control room of the office of civilian defense at Granite City, Ill. He stated more manpower was needed to avert a breach in the Tri-City levee that would endanger the whole industrial area across the Mississippi from St. Louis, Mo. Army engineers figured however, that the situation was improved somewhat with the passing of the crest, but that replacements were required to insure a ceaseless struggle.

## SEVENTY-FIVE GO TO ARMY AS MAY QUOTA OF COUNTY

**Watauga Youths Are Accepted For Military Duty in Current Call of Draft Board; Names Of Those Accepted for Duty in Armed Services.**

Seventy-five Watauga county men, the current quota from the local Selective Service Board, have been accepted for military duty at Camp Croft Spartanburg, S. C. The names of those accepted follow:

- York Alton Trivette (transfer)
- Boyd Ray Blanton
- Bill William Dotson
- Tom Lewis Council
- Joseph Elwood Roberts
- Jonas Brady Yarborough (transfer)
- Anderson Triplett Greene
- Olma Denver Greene
- Isaac G. Hodges, Jr.
- Carl Sergeant Hampton
- John Lee Tatum
- William Darrel Baird
- Hoyle Hampton Davis (transfer)
- Lyda Aldeen Watson (transfer)
- Levi William Harmon (transfer)
- Ernest C. Lewis
- Wayne Jack Caudill (transfer)
- Dena Roby Ford
- John T. King
- Joel Lawrence Coffey
- James Wiley Vines
- Earl Smitherman
- Johnson Leon Weilborn
- Lincoln Ross Minton
- Douglas Colen Storie (transfer)
- David Albert Moody
- Malcom Frederick Smith
- Stacy Clyde Eggers, Jr.
- Robert David Harmon
- Arney Willie Triplett
- Blaine James Eiler
- Cecil Watts Farthing
- Homer Ray Cornett
- Dayton William Proffitt
- Silas V. M. Greer
- Thomas Ilar Holloway, Jr.
- Richard Dee Greene
- Ulysses Glen Elliott
- Carson Howard Presnell
- Zeb Vance Trivett
- Robert W. Triplett, Jr.
- Frank John Phillips
- Victor Hill Greene
- Dillard Aldridge
- Lloyd Harold Ragan
- Julian Flinoy Ragan
- Dewey Martin Watson
- James Perry Marsh
- Rom Linney Cornett
- Ralph Muriel Brown
- Bynum Lloyd Presnell
- Dave Cleveland Woodring
- Edward Bynum Stokes, Jr.
- Claude Elijah Harman
- William Hiram Sluder
- Albert James Baker
- Charles Cowles Rogers, Jr.
- Thomas Reece Roberts
- Edward Leonard Hardy
- John Lloyd Hayes
- Lloyd Silas Proffitt
- Arlis Shull
- William Earl Penick, Jr.
- Smith Adam Harman
- Spencer Wilburn Phillips
- William Smith McGuire
- Eugene Fimore Bumgarner
- Dennis William Canter
- Lane Ray Greer
- Edwin Coy Greene
- Olan Rhodes Goodnight
- Clyde Benjamin Baird
- Clyde Anders Hayes
- Quentin Thomas Johnson
- Ira Dell Richardson, Jr.

## Memorial Services To Be Held May 30th

The ex-service men of the County will hold the annual Memorial Service on May 30th 11 a. m. with the Mount Vernon Baptist Church. The Mount Vernon Choir will conduct the song service together with Special songs. Mrs. Warman of Boone will deliver the sermon. Mrs. Warman is a very able speaker and we feel rather fortunate in being able to have her on this program. I'm sure there will be much in store for everyone who attends this service. The public is invited and especially are the fathers and mothers of the boys who are in service, and who cannot now be present.

## Poppy Sale is to Be Held Next Saturday

Mrs. Fred Winkler, president of the American Legion Auxiliary announces the annual poppy sale for Saturday May 29, and asks for Volunteer workers to meet the Chairman Mrs. Charles Younce at the Boone Bargain Store early Saturday morning.

## COURT HOUSE ALSO CLOSES

The offices at the court house will be closed on Wednesday afternoons, in line with the action of other business houses.

## Guard Allied Food Conference



Police carefully scrutinize reporters, cameramen, and their press passes before admitting them to the grounds of the Homestead Hotel in Hot Springs, Va., where Allied representatives attended the International Food conference. The representatives met to discuss food problems affecting the whole world.

## Local Merchant Honored



Clyde R. Greene, popular local hardware merchant, was made the first vice-president of the North Carolina Merchants Association, at the final session of the organization meeting held in Raleigh on Tuesday.

## MANY TAKE PART IN CLEAN UP DRIVE

**Mayor Winkler Says Citizens Responding Splendidly to Clean-Up Appeal.**

Mayor Gordon H. Winkler states that the people are responding splendidly to his appeal for a general clean up of the city, and that a large amount of rubbish has been removed.

However, says Mayor Winkler, some of the residents of the city have paid no heed to his suggestion that the city be cleaned up at the advent of the summer season. He respectfully asks these to cooperate and clear away all the rubbish about their homes, business buildings, or vacant lots, to the end that the city may be attractive when our summer visitors begin to arrive.

The Mayor states that rubbish is being gathered on the regular routes of the city trucks, and that extra trucking service may be secured by telephoning the city hall.

## DEDICATION SERVICE TO BE HELD AT BETHEL CHURCH

A dedication service will be held at Bethel Baptist church on Sunday May 30, beginning with Sunday School at 11 a. m. war time, Carl Farthing superintendent.

The pastor, Rev. W. D. Ashley, will be in charge of the dedication service, and song service led by John Oliver, also some special songs by he and his quartet.

There will be an address of welcome by E. J. Farthing, followed by a recess and dinner on the ground. 2 p. m., singing, followed by church history by Bert Farthing; dedication sermon by Rev. R. H. Shore, followed by dedicatory prayer by the pastor; Talks by former pastors and others; songs, closing prayers.

## RATION BOOK NO. 3 SOON TO BE ISSUED

**Applications for New Book Are Now Being Received By Watauga Citizens.**

Applications for war ration book no. 3 are being received by the citizens of Watauga county. These cards are to be filled out and mailed between June 1 and June 10, it is explained. The mailings of books will begin June 20.

Application cards are being mailed to the head of each family. If the card is not received by June 5, one is asked to call at the general delivery window of the postoffice and get a copy before June 10.

The applications are easily and quickly filled out. D. J. Whitener, the Community Service Member of OPA for Watauga County, has made arrangements to have at the postoffice in Boone between June 5 and 10, a representative to assist any person who needs help. Rural mail carriers and postoffice employees, according to postmaster J. Edgar Brown, will be glad to assist in filling out the blanks. It is pointed out that the application must be signed. No card is valid with the name printed at the bottom.

## Nelson Sees Shorter War If U. S. Peoples All Labor Together

New York, May 25.—Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the war production board said that "the war can be shortened a year if we all keep our minds on the particular job we are doing and on the job of winning the war."

Nelson, who spoke at the first session of the conference of the National Association of Purchasing Agents, said he could not tell his audience when the war would end. "All I can do is urge labor and management and all Americans to work and build as if the war were a never-ending war," he continued.

## Widow of President Taft Dies At Age 81

Washington, May 24.—Mrs. William Howard Taft, who during her eighty-one years saw her husband become president and then Chief Justice of the United States and one of her sons become a Senator, died Saturday.

Ill for one year and a half, Mrs. Taft died at her home where she had lived much of the time since she first came to the capital with her husband when he was inaugurated in March, 1909.

Mrs. Taft was credited by friends with being the political mentor for her husband, who urged him on through the various channels that led to his nomination and election as president.

## JUDGE GIVES WRIT OF MANDAMUS IN BEER LICENSE CASE

**Resident Judge States It is Mandatory for License to Sell Beer to be Issued by Officials Under State Law; Boone Cafe Operator Had Brought Suit.**

Resident Superior Court Judge Wilson Warlick issued a writ of mandamus in Newton Saturday in a hearing called by B. G. Teams, of Boone, against the town of Boone, requesting that he be issued license to sell wine and beer.

It is mandatory that such a license be issued under the North Carolina statute, Judge Warlick pointed out, adding that all provisions regarding the conduct of the applicant must also correspond with the statute.

Mr. Teams originally called for a hearing against the county but that case was first postponed, because the town and county had not been given proper notification, and subsequently ended in a voluntary nonsuit since a county cannot grant licenses within a municipality until the town has given such permission.

Teams contended that when he first applied for a renewal of his license he was told that it had been decided that no more wine and beer permits would be issued in the county, according to Floyd Crouse of Sparta, who was Teams' attorney. Wade E. Brown and W. R. Lovill represented the town of Boone in the hearing.

## George W. Greer Dies At Age 77

Pikeville, Ky., May 22.—George W. Greer, 77, proprietor of one of the largest root and herb businesses in the nation, died yesterday after an illness of six months.

Mr. Greer, who was a native of Watauga County, N. C., established in Pikeville 35 years ago and became district representative of R. T. Greer and Co., operated by his cousin R. T. Greer of Marion, Va.

George W. Greer & Co., which has branches in Virginia and North Carolina, dealt in botanicals such as ginseng, yellow root and others, harvested by natives in the mountain areas served by the firm.

He is survived by five sons, Guy Greer, of New York; Captain Raymond Greer of the Navy; Cecil Greer of Marion Va.; Stanley Greer of Columbus, Ohio; and George Greer, Jr., of Marion; and three daughters, Mrs. Louise Crane, of Chicago; Mrs. Fletcher Sharp of Pikeville, and Mrs. Ansel Culbertson of Prestonburg.

## Stamps For Canning Sugar Are Now Valid

Stamps for sugar for canning purposes, numbers 15 and 16, in war ration book number one, are good for five pounds each from May 24, to October 31.

It is requested that there be no applications for canning sugar until the stamps mentioned for the entire family have been used. It is specified that this sugar is to be used for canning only and should be bought only when ready to use.

## College Scholarships Offered Farm Boys

Raleigh, May 24.—Twenty scholarships worth \$100 each are available at N. C. State College for worthy farm boys desiring to enter the School of Agriculture and who need financial assistance. Dr. Z. P. Metcalf, director of instruction, announced today.

The awards are open to high school graduates who have not attended any college. Dr. Metcalf will select the youths to receive the scholarships, which will be good for the 1943-44 school year, and application blanks may be secured by writing to him.

The scholarships are provided annually by Sears, Roebuck and Company. Since the series began in 1939 the scholarships have assisted 80 farm boys to enter State College.

In setting up the scholarships the firm announced: "We feel that it is only natural that business should cooperate in any way possible in developing our most basic of all industries in the south, farming. To do that seems to be to aid in the development of a better farm leadership."

The firm requires merely that the money shall go to needy farm youths "who have made the most of their opportunities in high school and on the farm."

## Freight Rates

The Office of War Information estimates that more than 350 million dollars a year will be saved consumers, including the Government, by the reduction in freight rates, effective May 15.