



BADOGGIO SAID TO BE DISCUSSING AN ARMISTICE PLAN

Successor to Mussolini Reported Armistice Conditions With Allied Representatives; Hitler is Said to be Forced Into Combined Defense of Italy.

London July 27.—Italian Premier Marshal Pietro Badoglio was reported discussing armistice conditions with allied representatives in a Bern dispatch tonight as the Rome radio told the world that the Italian people had rejected fascism.

Without confirmation from allied quarters or from Rome, the Swiss telegraphic agency said information from Rome stated that Benito Mussolini's successor was talking terms and that it was generally believed the contact was made through the Vatican.

The report was made after a day of rumor to the same effect.

The allied demand for unconditional surrender was placed anew before the Italian people earlier in utterances by both President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill.

Even as the crisis appeared to heighten, Adolf Hitler was reported to have been forced against his wishes into a combined German-Italian defense of all Italy as the price for her continued participation in the war.

Turkey in Picture

Italy's new foreign minister, Raffaele Guariglia, conferred aboard an Italian embassy launch at sea with Turkish Foreign Minister Numan Menemenciloglu, with whom he has been associated as ambassador to Turkey, an Ankara dispatch said, reporting the meeting might have far-reaching consequences.

In announcing the Italian disavowal of Fascism, the Rome radio said Badoglio's "purely professional cabinet can only help in the present transition period" and that it did not lean to any specific political idea.

The Italians acted after finding that "the curtailing of liberties" and the errors of Fascist leaders "were compromising the war effort," the radio said.

President Roosevelt reaffirmed in effect at a White House press conference the allied policy of exacting unconditional surrender. Secretary Knox said developments in Italy indicated some attempts to take that country out of the war in the reasonably near future.

Drive to Continue

Prime Minister Churchill declared in an address before the house of commons that allied commanders had been ordered to exert the "utmost rigor" of war against Italy until she yielded.

Without confirmation, rumors of negotiations for an Allied-Italian armistice circulated in neutral capitals and in London.

Swiss newspaper dispatches indicated that Italian factions long subordinated to the fascism yoked upon Italy by Benito Mussolini—and these include liberals who seek an immediate end to the war—were seeking a voice in the development of a new national policy.

Count Giacomina Suardo, Fascist president of the Italian senate and an aide of Mussolini, resigned today and King Vittorio Emanuele appointed Don Paolo De Velle to succeed him, the Rome radio announced. The king received the new cabinet in audience.

It was said however, in another dispatch that no official decision had been made regarding the future of the Fascist party.

Yanks Continue Drive Against Jap Position

Green-clad American soldiers and Marines slugging steadily forward through the jungles of New Georgia have scored new advances which have carried them to within less than a mile and one-fifth of the strategic airbase at Munda.

The jungle veterans drove through strong Japanese defenses to the east of the airfield yesterday in the second consecutive day of advance. A spokesman at General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters said the new thrust took the Americans to within 2,100 yards of the airfield.

Driving forward in what the spokesman called a considerable advance all along the battle line, the Americans passed the coastal village of Tetele.

General MacArthur's communique said they "continued their pressure against the enemy centers of resistance." These centers probably are dugouts placed so that machine-gun fire can cover advances against each post.

BUY WAR BONDS

Survives Bomber Crash



LIUTENANT MORRIS EGGERS

LIUT. EGGERS IS SAFE FOLLOWING CRASH OF BOMBER

Boone Pilot, Aboard B-17 in Crash Landing, Which Took Life of One of Crew of 10; Local Man Suffered Minor Cuts and Bruises in Crash.

Lieutenant Morris Eggers, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Eggers of Boone, in a letter to his parents, tells of having escaped the crash of an army bomber near Redmond, Oregon, recently in which one of the crew of ten lost his life.

The letter from Lieut. Eggers telling of the crash follows:

"Thanks for the prayers. It wasn't just luck that I walked away from a completely demolished B-17 this afternoon. We had fuel trouble and got ready to bail out, but petted the ship to within sight of the field. We were too low to jump when the motors quit, so we rode her into the woods at 140 miles per hour, cut down a whole mess of juniper trees and plowed into the ground. My escape hatch was jammed and I finally got out a ripped place in the side. Men were lying all around. The pilot, the bombardier and I counted quickly—only 9. I found the tenth. Remember how I used to faint at the sight of blood? It didn't bother me today. I helped cut the parachute off the boy and load him and the others in ambulances. Then we all went to the hospital. I only had a few cuts on the left hand and assorted bruises. Sgt. Kastning died a few minutes ago. He was our ball gunner. Only two had to stay in the hospital—cuts and bruises was all.

This was just an unavoidable accident and very seldom happens. I am being careful, and taking no chances so don't worry. I'll be home all in one piece one of these days."

PUBLICITY GROUP TO MEET TONIGHT

Airport Committee Boone and Blowing Rock to Meet At Daniel Boone.

The Boone Chamber of Commerce Committee on publicity and airport development is asked by President H. W. Wilcox to meet at the Daniel Boone Hotel this (Wednesday) evening at 8 o'clock, with a similar committee from Blowing Rock to further study ways and means of giving Watauga county the property degree of publicity as a tourist center, and to make plans looking to the development of an airport in the area.

Those requested to be present are: J. E. Holzhauser, Barnard Daugherty, Clyde R. Greeng, W. H. Gragg, Wade E. Brown and Russell D. Hodges. Mr. Wilcox asks that every member of the committee be present and takes occasion to thank the people of Blowing Rock for their fine cooperation in behalf of the common progress of the two communities.

The local Chamber of Commerce has almost completed its membership campaign, and following are the names of the recent firms and individuals to join:

Boone Steam Laundry, I. T. Barnett, Northwestern Bank, Maddux Ezzo Service, W. R. Winkler, Boone Drug Company, Dr. W. M. Matheson, Colvard Tire Co., John E. Brown, Jr.; Parkway Company, Boone Tire and Bargain Store, Smithy's Store, Watauga Democrat, Gateway Cafe and W. C. Greene.

FSA RELIEVED OF FARM LABOR JOB

County Supervisor Says Duties Are Transferred to the W. F. A.

William A. Smith, County Supervisor for the Farm Security Administration, emphasized yesterday that the FSA has been officially relieved of all responsibility in connection with the recruiting, transporting and placing of farm labor by an order transferring these duties to the War Food Administration's office of labor.

Howard H. Fordon, FSA Regional Director of Raleigh, has announced that all persons employed by FSA to handle farm labor have been transferred to the payroll of the other agency, effective July 1, Smith said. Those transferred include managers and other employees of the farm labor supply centers which FSA has built and maintained to provide the shelter for, and facilitate the procurement of seasonal farm workers.

Tire Recapping Drive Opened

Washington, July 26.—Armed with word from Rubber Director William M. Jeffers that few new tires would be available for months to come, even for essential civilian driving, the oil industry today launched a campaign to get motorists to "recap before it is too late."

The Petroleum Industry War Council took up the campaign on a nation wide basis, directing filling station operators to keep motorists conscious of a letter by Jeffers to the PIWC delivering the warning.

"Even under the most optimistic conditions, we should not expect to get many tires, even for essential driving until late this year or mid-1944. Only those drivers whose work is most essential to the winning of the war can count on new replacement tires for at least the next 12 months."

Conquerors Surrounded by Sicilians



Sicilians liberated from Axis oppression by the invasion of the Allies gather admiringly around American soldiers. On the heels of the invasion came an Allied ultimatum, telling Italy to get out of the war. This was soon followed by a bombing of military objectives in Rome.

Elected By Retailers



GUY H. HUNT

HUNT PRESIDENT MERCHANTS ASSN.

J. E. Clay Named Vice-President as New Board Directors Holds Meeting.

Guy H. Hunt, owner of Hunt's Department Store, and one of the leading figures in the business and civic life of the community, was named president of the Boone Merchants Association Friday evening at the first meeting of the newlyelected board of directors of the organization. Mr. J. E. Clay was elected vice-president while Mrs. Ruby Ellis was re-elected Secretary.

The new board of directors which was elected last Wednesday at a business session incident to the annual picnic of the retailers, is as follows: Kenneth Linney, J. L. Qualls, D. L. Wilcox, R. A. Manship, G. K. Moore, B. W. Stallings, W. H. Gragg, Guy Hunt, Bus Crowell, Grady Tugman, R. D. Hodges.

The annual picnic was held at Camp Fiesta. Games, swimming, races and plenty of fried chicken being features of the entertainment. The group met at the Bank corner and journeyed to the camp in cars and trucks, about 100 being in the group.

Besides the election of a board of directors, the business session heard the financial report of the year, and the President made a brief report of the activities of the Association during the period.

Returns From National Lions Club Convention

Dr. W. Amos Abrams, recently-elected Governor of District 31-A Lions International, returned last Saturday from Cleveland, Ohio, where he attended the International Lions Club Convention. Dr. Abrams was a part of a delegation of 75 Lions and Lionesses from North Carolina in attendance.

For the first time in history, says Dr. Abrams a North Carolina man was named on the International Board of Directors, Wesley W. Brown of Asheville. Dr. Abrams succeeded Mr. Brown as District Governor.

Masonic Lecturer Is Here This Week

Mr. J. F. Marquette, of Statesville, assistant Grand Lecturer of the Masonic Lodge is in town this week, and lectures are being delivered at Junior Hall, as well as at the rooms of Snow Lodge at Sugar Grove. All Masons are asked to take advantage of the opportunity of hearing Mr. Marquette.

Employment Service To Aid Jobless In County On Specified Dates

David S. Gray, Jr., of the U. S. Employment Service, North Wilkesboro office will be in the county on the dates and at the places mentioned below for the purpose of recruiting war workers. Anyone interested in employment should see him.

Monday—Vilas, 1:00 to 1:30; Valle Crucis, 3:00 to 3:30; Foscoe, 5:00 to 5:30.

Tuesday—Victor Ward's Store, 9 to 9:30; Bethel, Clyde Perry's Store 11:30 to 12:00; Sherwood 2:30 to 3:00; Mabel 5:00 to 5:30.

Wednesday—Rutherford 8:30 to 9:00; Deep Gap 11:30 to 12:00.

Thursday—Perkinsville 9:00 to 9:30; Sands Service Station 10:30 to 11:00; Todd 12:00 to 12:30; Meat Camp 3:30 to 4:00.

Friday—Boone, itinerant service; Blowing Rock 3:30 to 4:00.

Saturday—Adams 8:30 to 9:00; Lovell 10:30 to 11:00; Boone, Smithy's Store, 12:00 to 2:00.

Mrs. Winkler Counselor of "Minute Maid" Group

Mrs. Gordon H. Winkler, has been named Counselor of the "Minute Maids" organization of the younger girls of the community, to cooperate with the War Savings Staff.

Anyone interested in doing some work in this new organization is asked to call Mrs. Winkler. It is stated that Polly Pitcher tag day will be observed in Watauga county on August 4, and the Minute Maids will have charge of the War Stamp sales on that day.

Patrolman Recovers Stolen Automobile

Patrolman Miles Jones recovered a stolen 1940 Hudson sedan Monday afternoon, the property of H. Kemp Holmes of Greensboro, N. C., and arrested Herman Watson of Watauga county and Walter Grady Dunlap, Liberty, N. C., who admitted the theft of the car, it was said.

The men are being held for the Greensboro officers.

Associational W. M. S. Holds Meetings Locally

The Women's Missionary Society of the Three Forks Association, of which Mrs. S. C. Eggers is president, is holding meetings in the different churches of the county for the remainder of the week.

Mrs. Carpenter, wife of the Editor of the Biblical Recorder, Miss Abbe, and Miss Mary Curran, State WMS superintendent, all of Raleigh, are taking part in the local meetings.

DOUGLASS WILL DELIVER ADDRESS COLLEGE FINALS

Veteran Congress Member Literary Speaker at Appalachian Summer Commencement, Occurring August 19; Two More Enrolled Than A Year Ago.

Dr. Robert L. Doughton, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the United States Congress will deliver the literary address at the summer commencement of Appalachian State Teachers College, on the evening of Thursday, August 19, it was announced this morning by Dr. J. D. Rankin, dean of the institution.

The date for the closing of the second summer term, says Dean Rankin, has been fixed one week earlier than the original date, because of the early opening of the North Carolina schools, to adjust to the uniform nine month's term. Class work at the college is being conducted on a six-day schedule to make possible this earlier closing.

The complete enrollment for the second term is three hundred and fifty-one, being two larger than in the second term of last year. This makes a total increase for the summer quarter over that of last year of forty-seven students.

HEAVY DEMAND HERE FOR CABBAGE

Buyers Disappointed in Not Being Able to Load Their Trucks, Says Eggers

Watauga farmers, caught rather between the early and late crops, are finding themselves unable to fill the demand of the big trucks coming in to this section this week, says Mr. S. C. Eggers, local realtor, who aids the farmers through his radio and otherwise in disposing of their produce.

Mr. Eggers says that on Tuesday he knew of truckers wanting to load 25,000 pounds of cabbage, and while there is a good deal of the late crop in the county it is not ready for harvesting.

Mr. Eggers says that the cabbage acreage this year was partially diverted to string beans and other crops. He will be glad to render the farmers any assistance possible in marketing their crops.

Community Cannery To Open August 5th

The Boone community cannery is to begin operation on Thursday August 5th, Dr. Orby Southard, the supervisor stated today.

Since sealers have not yet arrived, it is impossible to state whether canning may be done in tin cans at the beginning. However persons wishing to do home-canning in glass jars, may bring their produce to the cannery, which is located in the basement of the Mountain Burley Warehouse.

Further announcements of canning dates will be made in the next issue of the Democrat.

Number Of New Books At County Library

Some of the new books recently added to the Watauga Library are: "Journey Among Warriors," Cutler; "The Year of Decision," DeVore; "Never Call Retreat," Freeman; "The Human Comedy," Saroyan; "Forest and the Fort," Allen; "Assignment in Brittany," Melnis, and "The Little Prince," St. Exupery.

Mrs. Ingle, the librarian, asks all clubs and individuals to return all past due books to the library for an inventory. Visitors are invited to use the library.

Sugar Stamp 14 Good August 16th

Washington, July 28.—Sugar stamp no. 14 in ration book No. 1 will become valid August 16th and will be good for five pounds of sugar through October, the Office of Price Administration announced today. This on the same basis of previous rations—about one half pound per person per week.

The presently valid stamp No. 13 will expire August 15. OPA said it made the early announcement to enable the trade to plan packaging.

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