THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

Vol. LXVIII

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1942

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Egypt Defenders Turn on Axis Armies In Struggle for Middle East Control; Nazi Spy Ring Smashed in Canal Zone: Allies' Wheat Pool Aids Famine Areas

(EDITOR'S NOTE-When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

EGYPT:

Defenders Hit Hard

Even as parliament by a 475 to 25 majority voted its confidence in Prime Minister Winston Churchill after a prolonged debate over the Libyan defeat, reports from Egypt revealed that British imperials, heavily reinforced from the Middle East, had struck fiercely at the flank and rear of Marshal Rommel's Axis army to counter its assault on the main British positions.

At the same time it was disclosed that United States army air force and Royal air force planes had un-leashed a terrific air offensive throughout the eastern Mediterran-ean area. In one assault on Marshal Rommel's supply port of Ben-gasi, hundreds of bombers rained destruction down on munition dumps and equipment concentrations.

Reinforcements of both men and material had strengthened the Brit-ish Egyptian position in the battles on which rested the fate of Allied power in the Mediterranean and Middle East. Crucial battle area was the 40-mile wide strip of desert lying between the impassable Quat-tera salt marshes and the Mediterranean shore.

Few observers had doubted that Prime Minister Churchill's position



PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL

would be sustained. Facing his critics in the most critical period since the fall of France, Churchill had admitted that Marshal Rommel's victorious drive from Libya into Egypt had placed Britain in "mortal peril."

Meanwhile on the Russian front, the Nazis had opened a new drive north of Kharkov, while hand to hand fighting in the ruins of Sevastopol, Russia's last stronghold in the Crimea, had highlighted what the Reds termed "an extremely grave situation.

NAZI SPIES: **Rival Fiction**

In a series of dramatic moves matching the thrills of a mystery best-seller, the United States Caribbean defense command arrested 20 alleged Axis agents and broke up what was believed to be a Nazi spy ring refueling submarines and supplying them with vital information on United States shipping.

Nineteen of the enemy agents were rounded up in a trap in Belize, British Honduras. The twentieth-a trusted employee of a labor recruiting office for the Panama canal leum Co-ordinator Harold Ickes -had been seized a few days earwas happy when he spied this lier in the Canal Zone. The army disclosed that the leader of the ring 75-pound rubber mat inside the door of the White House. He was George Gough, a British cititold his chauffeur to take it to the nearest gas station to conzen who was a shipping executive in Belize. tribute to the rubber drive. When Details of the seizure of the spies

asked for a comment, a White were disclosed by Lieut. Gen. Frank M. Andrews, chief of the Caribbean House spokesman declared, "There's no complaint." defense command.

WHEAT POOL: To Balk Famine

With famine stalking many na tions and wheat surpluses taxing the Australians, the Yanks and the Dutch were ready for hit-and-run storage capacities of others, an agreement of historic importance to thrusts preparatory to the general land offensive which Gen. Douglas the future of the world's bread supply became effective when five na-MacArthur has promised eventual-ly, Allied Commandos swept down tions signed a pact creating a vast international wheat pool.

on the big Japanese base at Sala-Signers of the agreement were the maua, New Guinea. United States, Great Britain, Can-ada, Australia and Argentina. The Using the elements of surprise and terror which have made Comagreement, initiated at a Washing-ton meeting last April, created a wheat pool of not less than 100,000,-000 bushels for the relief of famine mando raids on Europe so spectacular, the United Nations' raiders slashed through the defense screen and carried away prisoners, booty in war-stricken areas. It forecast and information about the layout of international action toward control one of the most important Nipponese of prices, production and export of bases in the Southwest Pacific bread grains after the war. Salamaua, on the Huon gulf, lies 170 miles north across New Guinea

The United States is to provide 50,000,000 bushels of wheat or flour from Port Moresby, last Allied outpost north of Australia. It was to the relief pool and Canada and the United Kingdom 25,000,000. captured by the Japs early in March These nations, with Argentina would and ever since the enemy has been furnish additional supplies as need-ed on a basis to be worked out by attempting to use it as a base for widening their occupation of New their respective governments. Guinea. It has served as one of Agriculture department officials pointed out that benefits to American the principal air bases for attacks

against Port Moresby. wheat farmers would be of a long-term rather than immediate nature. SCRAP: The agreement will have no effect on the 1943 farm program calling for a planted area of not more than 55,000,000 acres of wheat and U. S. Wants More

assuring farmers of parity returns. PRICE CEILINGS:

First Hole First hole in the universal price

J. Rosenwald, chief of the bureau of industrial conservation of WPB. ceiling instituted by the OPA was made when Price Administrator The new program has a threefold Leon Henderson announced that he objective: "compelled to take measures was that will raise retail prices of the 1942 pack of canned and dried fruits

LEON HENDERSON

special price concessions it granted

to farm products and its failure to

vote government subsidies to main-

Throwing down the battle gage to

congress, the fiery price official is-

passed by the house, or any amount

below the \$161,000,000 he originally

requested, would cripple his agency

and mean "in short that price, rent

and rationing controls are all placed

tain price ceilings.

in jeopardy.

1-To collect metals, and rubber and other waste materials which low f

Doctors and Nurses Asks for Check Of Gems in U.S.

Diamonds Needed to Give Precision Required in Modern War Engines.

WASHINGTON .- Modern war has made the diamond more precious than ever.

Throughout history diamonds have figured in romance, assassinations and adventure. But it remained for the current time to see them used as a tool without which America would find it hard to produce its fighting material. Bodies of nurses, he said, showed signs of worse treatment.

Enemy countries also need dia-monds for war. And if the United States can keep them from getting them, it will handicap them almost as much as though they were cut off from steel or oil.

This is why the War Production board is calling upon all Americans having title to 10 carats or more the American forces in the fighting of rough diamonds to report their holdings.

At present the order applies only to rough diamonds. But a call may eventually be expected for an inven-tory of all stocks of the precious

Help War Drive.

They put glass in my shoes and made me walk around." Meanwhile, purchasers of engagement stones and other decorative diamonds are helping the war effort. For industrial diamonds would be five or six times as costly if they were not a by-product of the mining and cutting of more valuable gems.

The importance of this may be seeing his buddy-who had escaped judged from the fact that just one with him from concentration-and two other men go to their deaths on a destroyer's bridge as they manned a machine gun in blazing oil war production plant in Detroit uses industrial diamonds at the rate of \$2,000,000 worth annually. Only the diamond has the hard-

on water covering the ship. ness necessary to repeat the same "They just stood there firing away with the machine gun until they dropped in flames," Roberts said. precision operation over and over again, with never a variation. Since precision is an essential of assembly line production, war factories with out the diamond would have to fall back on the old hit-and-miss methods of hand work.

WICHITA, KAN .- A glider fac-Chief uses of the diamond in war tory, begun 30 days ago "some-where in the Middle West," is ready to turn out the motorless craft esindustry are to true super-hard abrasive tools, turn delicate machine parts, draw wire to precise sential to the army's recently anthickness, and to grind lenses for bomb-sights, range-finders and navinounced large-scale air training progation instruments.

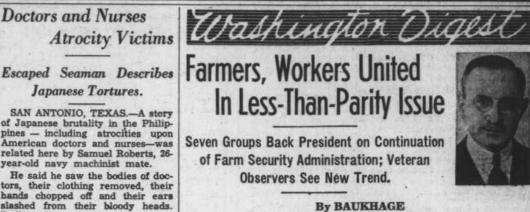
Fortunately this country has an abundance of gems. Between 1934 and 1941 United States dealers imported \$42,753,517 worth of industrial diamonds alone. In addition, the Union of South Africa, one of our allies, produces 95 per cent of all diamonds.

Other Sources Available,

Even should this source be cut off, however, Brazil is a large source of diamonds and diamonds of good in-dustrial quality have been found in Arkansas

Output of Africa was shut off to Axis powers three years ago. As a result the Axis powers are so hard pressed for industrial diamonds that they are said to be using cut stones in their factories.

The Japs also, reportedly short of diamonds when they entered the war, may have their eye on the im-mense treasure chests of Indian rajahs. Incidentally, the Germans greatly augmented this country's diamond supply without intending to. When the Nazis invaded Belgium and Holland, they had planned to seize the huge stock of diamonds in Antwerp Amsterdam, centers of the and world diamond cutting industry. But the diamond cutters, two jumps ahead, got their stocks aboard Brit-ish warships which had been lying by for that purpose. On the ships also fied some of the world's most famous diamond cutters. Some of these cutters went to Lon don: others are now in the United States and have established Americanized "streamlined" diamond cutting establishments on West Forty-seventh street, New York city, the new center of America's diamond trade.



By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Com

This is what happened. John Lewis, head of the powerful United Mine Workers of America, as you

WNU Service, 1343 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

"Bodies of two nurses and dour doctors were found in one place," Roberts said, "and they were not pretty sights. It was awful." There is an interesting story yet to be told, behind the letter sent to the President urging him to take to the multiple the improved continue. Mine Workers of America, as you all know, has been trying to organ-ize farm labor. He has made some progress under the so-called Dis-trict 50 of his union in signing up hands in the dairy industry. But he has encountered obstacles of all kinds among farmers who are all potential employers and capital-ists at heart. If he could only get some really respectable farm organ-ization, of a man connected with Roberts said he was captured by the public the issues of continu-ation of the Farm Security administhe Japanese soon after the out-break of the war and placed in a tration and the sale of grains for concentration camp, but escaped and made his way to engage with feed below parity. The story lies in the signatures

to that letter. There were seven of them and they represented two farm organizations, three labor or-ganizations and two religious groups. some really respectable farm organ-ization, of a man connected with some such organization to take up his banner it would help. He settled on the Farmers union not because of the name for it is not a union at all in the sense labor complexe the more d. But because it The combination of names, united in a single plea, marks one of the few occasions when farmer and worker found common ground on which to take a stand on policy. And some persons in Washington Roberts enlisted in 1940, navy authorities here said. He told his story as a naval officer stood by to who are working for a closer farm-labor alliance see in the move the beginnings of a realignment of the farm organizations, with the forma-tion of a new group that has at least a loose agreement with the AFL and The San Antonian told also of the CIO behind it. Veteran observers who have

watched agriculture and labor pull in opposite directions for many years still feel these two groups have more to disagree than to agree upon. But they admit that this tim

farm organizations say it is more than that. They point to significance in the signatories of the letter to the President. The seven signatories of this

First, James G. Patton, president of the National Farmers union, the most radical of the farm groups. This group contains more tenant farmers and fewer farm owners, than the other farm groups. It is a

gram, Dwane Wallace, president of Cessna Aircraft company, said. Cessna is one of three major aircraft factories awarded glider con-struction contracts. Wallace said equipment is almost complete in the new plant. Its size and the number of employees are military secrets.

Wallace's announcement gave substance to claims of Wichita manufacturers that plants in the Midwest are producing more training planes than any other section of the country.

Japanese Tortures.

American doctors and nurses

year-old navy machinist mate.

in the Philippines.

formation.

While he was in the concentration

"They shoved rice straws under

my fingernails and set them on fire.

see that no information of value

to the enemy was revealed.

War Glider Plant Is

Completed in 30 Days

camp, he said, the Japanese tor-tured him in an effort to obtain in-

Cessna is one of 50 war-production plants being visited by newspaper men by special permission of the government and under the auspices of the National Association the National Association of Manufacturers.

Wallace said the Cessna plant is ideally prepared to build gliders be cause of previous experience with twin-engined trainer planes. Cessna manufactured Bobcats and Cranes, used by the United States army and of the Federal Council of Churches. British joint air-training program.

employs the word. But because it was left-of-center and had an ag-gressive president. Through negoti-ators he made an offer to Mr. Patton something like this: "Fall down and worship me, get your organization to stand behind my District 50 drive and here is a

million dollars to play with." Mr. Patton's answer was "no." But that move made Messrs. Murray and Green very Pattonconscious. It also called the atten-tion of other up-and-comers with a left-of-center inclination to the pos-sibilities of developing an organithe situation was ideal for mutual logrolling. Backers of a new day in zation which without in any way get-ting under the direct influence of a union labor movement such as Lewis', might work out a practical

working agreement for pooling comletter were: mon interests. Whether this is a practical idea

will be revealed by the amount of activity the labor whips show when farm issues are up in the next months-whether this is just another temporary log-rolling alliance which has made stranger bedfellows before, or whether it has the basis

virile, growing outfit. Second, Murray Lincoln, execu-tive secretary of the Ohio Farm Buof a more permanent working agreement. reau Federation of Ohio. The Farm Bureau federation is not a left-wing watching. organization. Its President O'Neal is opposed to selling grain below parity. But Mr. Lincoln, head of the Ohio Farm bureau units, has a 'Victory Pig Clubs' **Prove** Successful mind of his own. He runs buying co-operatives in the country. He is

tonian, who moved to Kansas City very consumer-minded. with his cohorts in order to make The next signature is that of Wilroom for war workers, was in the capital on business secently. He is A. D. Black, head of the Farm Credliam Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and the next Phillip Murray, head of the CIO. The fifth of this group is J. G. Luhrsen, executive secretary of the American Railway Labor Executives association.

it administration He was full of the story of the The religious groups are headed by L. G. Ligutti, executive secre-tary of the National Catholic Rural Life association, and Benson Landis

"Victory Pig." He said the Victory Pig move ment, which is getting a good start in the South, promises to spread into the northern states. The first Victory Pig auction was held at Jonesboro, Ark., recently and the farmers and farmer boys who signed up to deliver pigs were paid in war bonds and stamps. The cry of the auctioneer worked prices up to \$15.30 per hundred pounds, and that was more than top hogs were bringing on either the Memphis or St. Louis market. The idea was hatched by the sec-retary of the local Production Credit association. He held a contest, offering \$5 for the best name for the plan and so the Victory Pig club was born. The local chamber of commerce joined with the association and the whole countryside soon was feeding pigs to trade for war This, in spite of the fact that this agricultural county, Craighead, had signed up for \$600,000 in bonds in the last 12 months.

Times are changing. It's worth

. . .

A prominent former Washing-



COMMANDOS:

Strike at Japs

His eyes as alert for rubber as

hawk's are for chickens, Petro-

Serving notice on Tokyo that the

Rubber Hunter

SHIPBUILDING: Yanks Break Records

Hope that American shipyards would soon equal and then exceed the total sunk by Axis submarines was seen in a report issued by Vice Chairman Howard L. Vickery of the maritime commission which disclosed that 66 vessels totaling 731,900 tons deadweight had been delivered in June and that production was speeding ahead toward a level of 900,000 deadweight tons a

Admiral Vickery reported that 288 ships of approximately 2,544,000 deadweight tons had been delivered by American shipyards in the first six months of 1942.

SECRET SPENDING: F. D. R. Accounts

How President Roosevelt spent \$239,500,000 in secret emergency funds since the war crisis became acute in June, 1940, was revealed in an accounting which the Chief Executive presented to congress.

Eighty-seven per cent of the total was allocated to the army, the navy, maritime commission and Federal Loan agency, the President said.

Large sums were spent to suppress subversive radio activities in connection with the German submarine campaign.

Important among expenditures was \$52,000,000 for secret naval bases in the Western hemisphere, \$12,000,000 for purchase of Austral-ian wool for uniforms \$8,000,000 ian wool for uniforms so, out, and for development of air, rail and highway transportation in Latin America and \$36,500,000 for construction of merchant ships,

by as much as 15 per cent and posof trade. sibly more." 2-To gather up waste kitchen Henderson indicated that congress

fats, such as bacon drippings from households via meat dealers. was to blame for this, because of 3-To collect tin cans in specified

areas. "The immensity of our task," said

A "new and greatly intensified"

program that will reach into every American home and industrial plant

and increase the flow of vital scrap

materials to the nation's war plants

was announced by War Production Chief Donald M. Nelson and Lessing

Mr. Nelson, "makes it absolutely necessary to step up the tempo of our national salvage program." **REPATRIATION:**

Nazis Break Pact

Termination of the exchange agreement by which more than 1,400 American nationals were brought home from Axis territory in Europe resulted when Germany withdrew the safe conduct granted the Swed ish liner Drottningholm which had docked at New York with 800 repatriated Americans and alien refu gees.

The agreement for exchange of nationals held by the respective bel ligerent governments had provided for continued voyages of the Drottningholm under safe conduct until all Americans held in Europe and Germans held here were repatri-

ated. No reason was assigned for Germany's withdrawal of the safe conduct, but it was understood the Nazis cancelled the agreement to emphasize its "paper blockade" of sued a statement in which he said America. that the \$75,000,000 appropriation contemplated for the OPA in a bill

Suspicion that the Axis powers might be attempting to get sabo-teurs or spies into this country in the guise of friendly aliens, caused government to institute the most the rigid scrutiny of passenger credentials ever conducted in any eastern harbor.

War May Cause Return of **Old-Fashioned** Nightshirt WASHINGTON. - The war may bring about a revival of the old-fashioned nightshirt, or its 1942-

model cousin. One of the proposals for cloth con-servation advanced at a meeting of men's pajama makers with the War Production board was a collarless sleepcoat—described by WPB as "a sort of nightgown."

Other suggestions, which may be embodied in a forthcoming order, included the shortening of trousers elimination of collars, lapels, cuffs, pockets and belts; the use of only a ew specified fabrics, and the manu facture of perhaps not more than three pajama styles.

Obstacle Run Newest

Conditioner for Airmen SACRAMENTO, CALIF .- At least once a day, every member of the military personnel at McClellan field, army air depot near here, must ne-gotiate a 440-yard obstacle course to keep them in condition.

Three such courses have been installed, including hurdles ranging from 2 feet to 30 inches high, 7-foot sandbag walls to scale, simulated tank traps which must be cleared by broad jumps of 11 feet or bet-ter, 11-foot fences which must be scaled by an overhand rope climb and a series of two-barrel hurdles.

There also are a two-sided, 15-foot ladder, parallel bars 24 feet long and many other features.

Sensitive Bus Driver

Draws Line at Snakes ATLANTA. - Dogs, yes. Cats, okay. But snakes! Nosirree!

So decreed an irate bus driver shortly after an elderly, mild-man-nered gentleman had boarded his trackless trolley. The man was reaching in his pocket for his money when a snake, about an inch in diameter, crawled out of his shirt bosom and dived under the driver's seat.

The driver was startled (understatement).

"He ain't gonna hurt you," observed the snake fancier.

"That's all right," retorted the driver. "You can't buy him a seat and he ain't gonna ride free!"

story behind efforts to realign the farm organizations see only the surface reasons why all the organizations represented by the above names were willing to support the issues mentioned in the petition. The tenant farmer who is am-

Those who don't know the whole

bitious wants to own his own farm. He sees in the Farm Security administration an aid to that end. considers this help a substitute for the vanished frontiers-the days when a man with a strong will, a willing wife and a sharp axe could cut a new home out of the wilderness to which the government was glad to hand him the deed.

Cheaper Food

This concept concerns labor less directly but the question of cheaper food concerns him considerably. The argument for sale of grain below parity is that it is necessary to keep dairy and meat products prices down and the Farmers union claims that opposition to Farm Security comes from "interests solely committed to the high-price-through scarcity concept" which of course is the opposite of labor's platform. Those are the obvious and imme-diate reasons why the signature of two of the country's leading labor leaders rest among the seven. The religious organizations have the family and general welfare in mind of course. But there may be another reason

why Mr. Murray and Mr. Green signed up, and why their one-time colleague, John Lewis, didn't. The story of the part Mr. Lewis didn't play is closely connected with the effort to create a new farm organ-ization which will have the blessing of labor.

Although Jonesboro claims to have held the first auction, Quitman, boasts of the organization of Ga., the first Victory Pig club.

Many of these auctions will be held this fall prior to the date when Secretary Wickard says there is likely to be a bottleneck in hogs. By this he means that there has been so many million more hogs raised this year than normally it is going to tax both transportation facilities and the capacity of pack-ing houses. The secretary is urging farmers not to try to market too many hogs between Thanksgiving day and Washington's birthday, which is the time of the year when the pack is ordinarily particularly heavy.

More accidents happen to farm people than to any other class of workers, and in wartime accident rates usually rise sharply. Careless use of the tractor and other farm machinery causes 29 out of every 100 farm accidents.