

AMERICANS ATTACK JAP NAVAL FLEET

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, June 21. — United States carrier planes swooped down on a powerful Japanese fleet between the Philippines and the Marianas Island about dusk Monday, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today, in the opening stage of what may develop into the decisive battle of the war in the Pacific.

Contact with the enemy fleet, which included carriers and battleships, presumably was broken off at nightfall. Losses on either side had not been compiled, Nimitz said.

Long Awaited Test

There was no indication whether the battle had been joined again Tuesday. Maneuvers of both armadas through Monday night probably would determine whether the long-awaited showdown test between the American and Japanese navies was at hand.

Scouting planes from the United States Fifth Fleet, commanded by Adm. Raymond A. Spruance, spotted the enemy forces Monday afternoon. Carrier bombers swept in for the attack. It was the first time since the battle of Santa Cruz, in October of 1942, that American carrier pilots had a chance at a Nipponese fleet.

Admiral Nimitz, obviously without detailed information himself, promised additional communiques as quickly as possible. He told a press conference Tuesday night that the entire Nipponese fleet may have been deployed for an all-out contest near the Marianas, which American forces have invaded.

Huge U. S. Force

A massive American force of hundreds of surface ships and more than 1,000 planes comprised the invasion fleet, Rembert James, Associated Press war correspondent, reported. There were hundreds of landing boats and other craft to put many thousands of soldiers ashore.

That invasion, going well at last reports, was one of the immediate concerns of the warships under Spruance, for they must protect the American beachhead and assault forces which already had conquered virtually the southern third of the islands.

The ground forces were advancing north on Saipan, Nimitz reported. Progress also was being made against Japanese pocketed at Natutan Point, on the southeastern corner of Saipan. Severe fighting continued as the ground troops fought to clear the island that will provide a base for bomber strikes at Japan itself.

High American naval sources indicated earlier that a crucial clash between main units of the American and Japanese fleets may be under way.

Recorder's Court

Franklin Recorders Court held regular session on Tuesday and disposed of cases as follows:

Roy Blackwell, speeding, judgment complied with, ordered discharged.

The following cases were continued: Johnnie Ervin Baker, abandonment and non support.

W. G. Mitchell, operating automobile intoxicated, jury requested.

Norman Harris, carrying concealed weapon.

Harry Walton Hayes, speeding.

REVIVAL

Revival services will be held at the Bunn Methodist Church, June 26 through July 2. Reverend Forrest D. Hedden, pastor of the Bunn Methodist Church, will preach. Services will be at 8:30 p. m. daily, except Saturday. The public is cordially invited.

PROGRAM AT THE LOUISBURG THEATRE

The following is the program at the Louisburg Theatre, beginning Saturday, June 24:

Saturday—Chas. Starrett and Cannonball Taylor in 'Sundown Valley' and John Carradine and Osa Massen in 'The Black Parachute'. Also Tiger Woman.

Late Show Sat.—Richard Arlen, Erich Von Stroheim and Vera Ralston in 'The Lady And The Monster.'

Sunday-Monday—William Powell and Hedy Lamarr in 'The Heavenly Body.'

Tuesday—Betty Grable and Geo. Montgomery in 'Coney Island.' Also the Phantom.

Wednesday—'Tunisian Victory.'

Thursday-Friday—Jack Carson, Jane Wyman, Irene Manning and Alan Hale in 'Make Your Own Bed.'

Over Top



JOEL Z. TERRELL

With the aid of Mrs. Walter Fuller, Chairman of the Ladies division, Mr. J. Z. Terrell, Chairman of Sandy Creek Township, was the first to sell his quota of the Fifth War Loan Bonds.

Mr. Terrell is one of Franklin County's leading citizens. He is an excellent farmer and a splendid business man. For fourteen years he has been a member of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and his ability has been of great value in putting Franklin County on a sound financial basis and keeping taxes down.

BOND SALES GOING GOOD

Chairman G. M. Beam has just been notified that \$5,623.00 of unallocated Army and Navy sales of bonds have been allocated to Franklin County. This means that the boys in the service are buying bonds, and that we are getting credit for them toward fulfilling our quota.

The Fifth War Bond Drive has been in progress for ten days. Franklin County has purchased about \$90,000.00 worth of bonds during this time. Listed below are the various townships with their quotas and the approximate amounts which they have bought to date:

Table with 3 columns: Township, Quota, Amount Sold. Lists townships like Dunn No. 1, Harris, Youngsville, etc.

John Nelms Is Freed In Death Of Brother

Henderson, June 21.—John R. Nelms, Franklin County farmer, was freed in Vance Superior Court yesterday of a charge of second degree murder in the death of his brother, Pvt. Leslie Nelms, last December.

The defendant drove to Louisburg early the Monday morning after last Christmas with his brother's body and reported that he found the brother dead in his automobile near Louisburg but did not know how he died. It developed later that the death apparently occurred in Vance County, resulting in the trial here.

The soldier had been shot, and Coroner R. A. Bobbitt of Franklin County said gunshot wounds caused the death. A rifle was in the car.

An autopsy performed after the body was delivered to Camp Butler authorities revealed that death resulted from gunshot wounds near the heart, Maj. D. A. Marion told the court today.

When State testimony was completed, the defense moved for non-suit on grounds of insufficient evidence, and Judge Walter J. Bone granted the motion, freeing Nelms.

FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOLS LOSE FIVE TEACHERS FOR COMING YEAR

A net loss of five teachers for the Franklin County Administrative Unit for the 1944-45 term results from tentative allotment just announced by the State Board of Education, Superintendent Wiley F. Mitchell, disclosed this week.

Reflecting the decreased attendance, which schools generally experienced during the past year, the allotment provides for 191 teachers as compared with 196 for the past year. Three elementary schools and three high schools with reduced enrollment, lose one teacher each. They are: Gold Sand, Wood, Youngsville, Edward Best and Franklin County Training School.

OPPORTUNISTS BAG FIRST ROBOT PLANE

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force—A few seconds after shooting the last bolt into place on a 40-millimeter gun destined for Normandy, an alert U. S. Army maintenance crew used the weapon last week to bag what is thought to be the first pilotless plane shot down in Southern England.

First Bloom

Lonnie Alston, colored, a tenant of Mr. Alex Alston, of the Gold Sand section, and living on Louisburg, R. S. has the honor of having sent in the first cotton bloom of the season. It was a white bloom, and sent in Monday, Mr. M. E. Watkins bringing in the bloom.

Henry Hayes, colored, of Louisburg, R. 1, brought in a white bloom Thursday.

Robert Wright, colored, living on W. B. Tucker farm near Louisburg, brought in a red bloom yesterday.

Mount Airy Man Heads State Legion

Asheville.—George K. Snow of Mount Airy, today headed the North Carolina Department of the American Legion after being elected commander of the department at the closing session of the 26th annual convention yesterday.

Department vice commanders named for the five State divisions were: James T. McKeel, Washington, first; A. J. Kranke, Whiteville, second; Adam J. Whitley, Jr., Smithfield, third; F. Scarr Morrison, Statesville, fourth and Frank W. Swan, Andrews, fifth.

Edgar H. Bain, Goldsboro, was elected historian; L. A. Watts, Raleigh, chaplain; Thad G. Stem, Oxford, judge advocate; W. Bryan Booe, Winston-Salem, national committeeman; Ralph Scheil, Hickory, alternate national committeeman.

Delegates and alternates to the national Legion convention were also elected yesterday.

Sandy Creek Goes Over

At an auction sale held Tuesday night at the Gold Sand High School, Sandy Creek became the first township in the county to reach its quota in the Fifth War Bond drive.

Following a few remarks made by E. H. Malone of Louisburg, the auction began with Percy Joyner serving as auctioneer. A lively spirit of bidding prevailed, and sales for the evening totaled \$13,225.00.

Chairmen Joel Z. Terrell and Mrs. Walter Fuller, and members of the Sandy Creek community are to be congratulated on this splendid work.

TWENTY-FIRST CONVENTION

Miss Evelyn Smithwick, President of the Young People's Service League of the Episcopal Church, which held its twenty-first convention at Winston-Salem on June 11th, returned home the past week. Miss Smithwick presided at the convention. The announcement was made that a series of camps were being provided for the first of which will be Camp Cheshire, Senior, under the direction of the Rev. R. Emmet Gribbin, Jr. Mr. Gribbin has chosen the following for his staff: Teaching counsellors: the Rev. Messrs. M. George Henry, Charlotte; Edwin B. Jeffress, Jr., Concord; W. Moultrie Moore, Salisbury; G. Charles Stutzer, Salisbury; F. Craigbill Brown, Southern Pines, James R. Fortune, Durham; Homer P. Starr, Burlington; Robert W. Turner, Rockingham, and Messrs. Max Rohn and Lansing Hicks, seminarians. In charge of Scout craft and handicraft will be the Rev. F. B. Drane, of Monroe. Athletic counsellors will be A/S Hampton Hubbard and Pfc. Peter Wallenborn. Vade Mecum is the Episcopal camp of this Diocese.

Some fellows secure a sense of security by always being about two months behind in their correspondence and other desk work.

People who raved over their income tax this year may be divided into two classes—men and women.

CHERBOURG READY TO FALL TO ALLIES

PASSES AWAY



DR. R. F. YARBOROUGH

Who died at his residence on Main Street about 2:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon. At this time no arrangements have been made for the funeral. He is survived by his wife, one son, Richard F. Yarborough, Jr., a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, and one daughter, Miss Martha Yarborough.

Dr. Yarborough has a very prominent career, being a World War I Veteran, was physician of the State Prison, and County Health Officer. In addition he was a local practicing physician for a long number of years. Through these contacts he has made hosts of friends who will realize a great loss and who extend deepest sympathy to his bereaved family and relatives.

Hail Monday

During the afternoon Monday a severe hail storm is reported visiting the Ingleside and Trinity Church community doing much damage to cotton and tobacco. The hail fell during a heavy rain.

At about the same time another hail storm visited the Mapleview community extending to Huford Harris Store below Justice, doing quite a bit of damage, according to reports reaching Louisburg.

The amount of damage at both of these locations had not been estimated Tuesday, but was expected to run into thousands of dollars.

SWIFT-VAUGHAN

Mrs. C. M. Vaughan announces the marriage of her daughter, Pattie Charles, to Lt. Orrin Alden Swift, on June 18.

The ceremony was performed by Dr. D. P. Harris in the presence of the family and a few intimate friends.

The groom is the son of Mr. J. Alden Swift, of Middleborough, Mass.

The couple will make their home in Norfolk, Va.

Wife—What would be the proper thing to say in carving the duck it should skid off the platter into your guest's lap? Hubby—Be very courteous, Say: "May I trouble you for that duck?"

AYSUCUE-NORWOOD

In a wedding of lovely simplicity, Miss Mable Greene Ayscue of Louisburg, became the bride of Willie Lea Norwood on Saturday evening, June the seventeenth at eight-thirty o'clock. The Rev. E. G. Moseley officiated.

Mrs. Norwood is the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Ayscue. She attended Gold Sand High School and was very popular among her teachers and classmates.

Mr. Norwood is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Norwood, of Warrenton, North Carolina, formerly of Virginia.

After a brief honeymoon, the couple will make their home in Warrenton where Mr. Norwood is employed by Boyce-Gilliam Motor Company.

Killed In Action

Mr. and Mrs. George Henry Joyner, of Louisburg, Route 2, have been notified by the Navy Department that their son, J. H. Joyner, S-1-c was killed in action in the invasion of Europe. He is survived by his parents and one brother, Ensign Wm. Douglas Joyner, a flight instructor in the Naval Air Corps stationed at Pensacola, Florida.

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, Thursday, June 22.—American troops pressed the battle of Cherbourg to a flaming climax today and were reported driving through the suburbs in fierce street fighting with German rearguards who were covering a withdrawal of the main garrison to bleak Cap De La Hague.

An Allied spokesman said the Americans' momentum promised to win them the prize port by noon; that it all depended on whether the battered Germans could hitch up their morale for a last stand that might delay Cherbourg's fall another day or more.

House-to-House

Radio France said that American troops were piling into Cherbourg's suburbs in fierce house-to-house battles and a front dispatch said they had breached the city's second defense line by capturing Sideville, two miles southwest of the outskirts. From that point the Yanks were pounding on against the city's last fortifications—the twin forts, D'Octeville and Du Roule, the latter only half a mile from the waterfront.

At headquarters, it was believed the hill chain reaching right to the edge of Cherbourg had been penetrated deeply, but official information covered only events up to Tuesday midnight.

(A BBC report quoted by NBC said that American troops had occupied Octeville village, just south of Fort D'Octeville and a mile from the center of Cherbourg.)

The late evening communique, No. 32, said that in the battle for Cherbourg "the area held by the enemy is steadily diminishing; our advance up the entire peninsula has been rapid."

Nazis Wrecking Harbor

With the seconds ticking away, the Germans were reported putting the finishing touches to demolition of the luxury liner moorings along the Quai De France and scuttling their few ships in the roadstead entrances at either end of the outer mole.

The entire Cherbourg area was in smoke and flames as the Germans burned and blasted and American artillery set afire the dense wooded area southeast of the city, a strong German defense position.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower appealed to the French workers of Cherbourg through a radio broadcast to attempt to save their equipment from German sabotage and have it ready for the Allies to use when the port is liberated.

An Allied officer, speaking for the commander-in-chief, urged the dock and railway workers to remain at their posts.

French refugees from Cherbourg and German captives told Henry T. Gorrell of the United Press that the main body of the German garrison already was withdrawing to the northwest toward Cap De La Hague. Their covering line extended from Beaumont, just below the tip of the cape, to Martinvast just east of Sideville.

B. M. C. MULLEN, SR.

Youngsville.—B. M. C. Mullen of Youngsville died at Rex Hospital Sunday morning after an illness of several months, at the age of 66.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock from the Baptist Church in Bunn. Burial was made in the Bunn cemetery. The body lay in state at the church from 11 to 4 o'clock Tuesday.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Pattie White Mullen; three daughters, Misses Bessie J. and Lois of the home, and Mrs. Milton Taylor of Wilson; six sons, Rosser C. of High Point, Dr. Malcolm P. of Atlanta, Ga., Garville W. of Granite City, Ill., Stephen F. of Norfolk, Va., B. M. C., Jr., of Naval Experimental Station, Annapolis, Md., and Pvt. W. Wallace of Camp Davis; six grandchildren; four brothers, W. A. J. H., S. B., and M. C. Mullen, of Bunn; five sisters, Mesdames Alice Wright, Velma Dodson, Mary Perry, Virginia Wetters of Bunn and Linnie Williams of Louisburg.

He was born August 22, 1877 in Franklin County. On January 3, 1900, he was married to Pattie C. White, and lived for a number of years in Bunn, where he was a well-known business man. Later he moved to Youngsville, where he was associated with Whitley Barrow Lumber Company.

REVIVAL SERVICES

The TIMES is requested to state that the annual revival meeting will begin at Harris Chapel Baptist Church on July 2, 1944. The pastor, Rev. Chas. B. Howard will do the preaching.

Services will be at 8:00 o'clock and 8:00 o'clock each day. The public is invited to attend.