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LT. BLEVINS WAS IN CREW CAROLINA BOOMERANG



Crew members of the Flying Fortress, Carolina Boomerang, III, which has been anything but a bromide for Hitler's headache, are shown here at the tail of their plane. Left to right, kneeling, are Capt. Roland L. McRae, pilot, of Kinston, N. C.; 1st Lt. Clarence E. Blevins, of Hays, N. C., navigator (now missing in action); 1st Lt. James J. Moore, of Holyoke, Mass., bombardier, and 1st Lt. Charles L. Wiley, of South Bend, Ind., co-pilot. Left to right, standing, are Staff Sgt. Jack G. Collins, of Greenville, S. C., tail gunner; Staff Sgt. Herbert R. Cooper, of Newport, Ky., ball turret gunner; Staff Sgt. Joseph F. Bohning, of Middle Village, L. I., N. Y., waist gunner; Staff Sgt. Alois J. Mayernik, of Allentown, Pa., waist gunner; Tech. Sgt. Leroy C. Hastings, of Long Beach, Calif., radio operator, and Tech. Sgt. William B. Baum, of St. Louis, Mo., engineer.

Carolina Crew On Bomber Carry Out Successful Flights

An Eighth AAF Bomber Station, England—With one Carolinian at the Pilot's controls, another in the navigator's seat and still another manning the tail guns, the Flying Fortress "Carolina Boomerang, III", has contributed a lion's share toward wrecking any plans Germany have had for winning the war.

With one of the most popular crews at this heavy bombardment base the Boomerang, behind whose name alone there lies an interesting story, is one of the Eighth Air Force bombers making history in the European Theatre of operations, otherwise known as the big league of aerial warfare.

Heading the Fortress crew is Capt. Roland L. McRae, the pilot, who was born in Robeson county, N. C., near Maxton. Captain McRae has participated in 21 missions over Germany and its occupied countries and has been awarded the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf Clusters for meritorious achievement while engaged in operational flights over enemy territory.

The Boomerang's navigator, 1st Lt. Clarence E. Blevins, of Hays, Wilkes county, was recently reported missing in action when another Fort in which he was making his 17th mission failed to return to his base. As the Boomerang's navigator Lieutenant Blevins, known among his fellow officers as "Ed", earned for himself a reputation which has established him among the ablest navigators in this theatre. An alumnus of N. C. State College, Raleigh, he was employed by Farmington Dairy, Winston-Salem, when he enlisted in the Air Corps on April 1, 1942, as an Aviation Cadet. For meritorious achievement while engaged in operational (Continued on page eight)

U. S. MARINES TAKE ANOTHER PACIFIC ATOLL

One more step toward full occupation of the Marshall Islands was disclosed yesterday by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz who said United States marines have taken possession of Wotho Atoll.

Wotho, whose 11 islets include one large enough to use as a fighter plane base, is in the western edge of the Marshalls between Kwajalein and Eniwetok atolls, both held by U. S. forces.

American planes were reported at the same time to have pounded four unidentified enemy bases in the Eastern Marshalls, dropping heavy bomb loads on outflanked and stranded Japanese garrisons. No Japanese planes were seen in the air, and all American planes returned safely.

Rat Eradication To Start Wednesday

Home Damaged By Fire Sunday Night

Fire of undetermined origin practically destroyed the residence occupied by Coad Reynolds and family Sunday night about 11 o'clock.

The fire had made much headway when discovered but firemen were able to get it under control soon after arrival and part of the building was saved. The building was the property of John Gilreath and the damage to the building was partially covered by insurance. The Reynolds family lost a greater part of their furniture, on which no insurance was carried.

Soil Conservation Meet Thursday

Officials of the Soil Conservation districts in northwestern North Carolina and the State Soil Conservation committee will meet with other agricultural leaders at the North Wilkesboro town hall on Thursday, March 16, 10:30 a. m.

Members of the state committee are Dr. I. O. Schaub, Dr. L. D. Bayer, Dr. J. C. Holmes and E. B. Garrett.

Districts included for the meeting here are Tri Creek, New River, Catawba and Middle Yadkin.

Local Youth Tells Kiwanis Club Of Great YMCA Need

Bill Gabriel Speaks As President of Young Peoples' Council Before Club

Bill Gabriel, president of the Young Peoples' Council of the Wilkesboros, in a brief address Friday before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club very effectively told of the need of a Y. M. C. A. for the young people of this community.

Text of his address follows: "Gentlemen, I have come here on behalf of the young people of this community. In the various war drives here, you have contributed to the Red Cross, bought War Bonds, and cooperated in every way possible. But I believe in this time of war, one of its most neglected problems is our young people. Almost anywhere in our community you will find them in drugstores, nothing to do, no (Continued on page four)

City Appropriates \$200; Other \$300 Is To Be Donated

North Wilkesboro commissioners in March session appropriated \$200 as part of the cost of rat eradication campaign to be carried out in North Wilkesboro.

The subject was recently brought before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club, which named a committee to present the proposal before the city commissioners. J. G. Finley and J. B. Snipes represented the club before the commissioners in March meeting.

Dr. L. C. Whitehead, rodent control specialist, who is connected with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will supervise the rat eradication work here. He estimated that the campaign in North Wilkesboro will cost approximately \$500, which will be used to pay for bait and for labor in distributing the bait.

With \$200 appropriated by the town, the remaining \$300 will be raised in contributions from business firms and individuals. All who wish to help in raising this fund and are not contacted are asked to make their contributions at the office of the city clerk and treasurer in the town hall.

Efforts will be made to make the rat eradication campaign in North Wilkesboro thorough and effective. In the meantime the North Wilkesboro Lions Club will sponsor expansion of the project to rural areas, where the work will be handled by individuals on their premises.

J. B. Snipes, county agent, said today that Dr. Whitehead plans to begin the campaign here on Wednesday, March 15, and it will be completed Friday, March 17. Full cooperation from all the people is urgently requested.

Mayor R. T. McNeil and all members of the city board of commissioners were present for the March meeting, which was held Tuesday night. The commissioners are R. G. Finley, J. R. Hix, A. F. Kilby, Ralph Duncan and H. M. Hutchens. City Clerk W. P. Kelly was also present.

The board passed an order appointing Carlyle Ingle, a former state highway patrol sergeant, as special North Wilkesboro policeman to serve without pay.

Girl Scout Court Of Awards To Meet

Each Girl Scout Troop will perform a stunt on Friday night at the Court of Awards meeting, which will begin at 7:30 in the religious education building of the Presbyterian church.

\$5,000 Needed To Reach Red Cross War Fund Goal

Milk Producers To Get More Cash On Bigger Subsidy

Increase of 40 Cents Per Hundred Now Effective; Milk Return \$3.70 cwt.

With the milk subsidy payment increased from 40 to 80 cents per hundred pounds of milk, dairy-men in this section of North Carolina are now receiving a record high return from sale of milk.

An official of Coble Dairy Products company, which operates large plants at Wilkesboro and Lexington, revealed that the increase in the subsidy amounts to about three and one-half cents per gallon of milk. The price of milk now being paid by Coble is \$2.90 per hundred for four per cent milk, and when the subsidy is added the total is \$3.70 per hundred. Figures revealed that the total average now being paid for ungraded milk is almost 35 cents per gallon.

The eighty-cent subsidy went into effect March 1. The subsidy is being paid by the War Food administration to compensate for increased costs of dairy feed without raising prices of milk and milk products to consumers.

Dairy farmers of Wilkes county will realize approximately \$2,100 per month additional income because of the subsidy increase, assuming that the volume of milk remains constant. However, agricultural authorities pointed out that dairy farmers will take advantage of the increased income prospects and will boost their milk production to the limit.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS

RATION NEWS

SUGAR—The expiration date of March 31, 1944, originally set for stamp 30 is removed. Reasonable notice will be given when expiration date is set for stamp 30 and also 31 that becomes valid on April 1 for 5 pounds of sugar.

NOTICE TO INSTITUTIONAL USERS—Institutional user must remove from War Ration Books turned over to him, sugar stamps which expire while he has them. Also for each week during which the person who turned over the book lives in his establishment for seven consecutive days or more and takes eight or more meals there, he must remove 10 points of stamps currently valid for processed food and the same amount for meats, fats, etc. However for each two weeks during which the person lives in his establishment the institution must remove 30 points of stamps for meats, fats, etc. These stamps must be surrendered to the board at the time of his next allotment. If the institutional user wishes to collect the ration books and turn these in at the ration board it will be possible to do so, but no future allotments can be issued without the detached coupons or ration books of boarders.

LARD—The release of lard from rationing refers only to hog lard and not to the compounds on the market.

SHOES—Stamp No. 13 (book one) expires April 30. Airplane stamp No. 1 (book three) valid indefinitely. Another shoe stamp, yet to be designated, will become valid May 1.

GASOLINE—Coupons No. 9 in A book good for three gallons became effective Feb. 9 and will expire May 8.

PROCESSED FOODS—Green K, L and M (Book 4) expire March 20. Blue A-8 through E-8 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens; expire May 20.

MEATS AND FATS—Brown Y and Z (Book 3) expire March 20. Red A-8, B-8, C-8 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens; expire May 20. (Red D-8, E-8 become valid March 12; expire May 20).

Heads Committee



Ex-Sheriff Presley E. Brown, of Wilkesboro, for several decades a leader in the Republican party, has been named chairman of the Credentials committee for the North Carolina State Republican convention, which will convene in Charlotte Thursday, March 16. Lt. Governor Joseph R. Hanley, of New York, will be the keynote speaker at the convention.

Republicans Will Have Convention Wednesday, 15th

Precinct Meetings Tuesday, County Meet Wednesday, State Meet Thursday

Republicans of Wilkes county will hold their biennial county convention at the courthouse in Wilkesboro on Wednesday, March 15th, ten o'clock a. m.

Call for the convention, which was recently issued by Chairman N. B. Smith and Secretary R. Don Laws, set the time for precinct organization meetings for Tuesday afternoon, March 14, three o'clock, at the various voting precincts.

At the county convention a chairman and secretary will be named and delegates will be named to the state, congressional and senatorial conventions.

The state convention will be held in Charlotte on Thursday, March 16th.

Baptist Pastors Have Conference Here This Week

The annual Wilkes Baptist Pastors' Conference, being held at the Reins-Sturdivant Chapel on B. street, began this morning with an attendance of ministers from various sections of the county. Sessions are being held daily through Friday of this week, 10:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon; and from 1:30 p. m. to 3:00 p. m.

At noon, each day, a lunch is being served to those attending the meeting. Ladies from the First Baptist church of North Wilkesboro served the noon meal today. Lunch will be served on Tuesday by the Wilkesboro Baptist church, and on Wednesday by the Hinshaw Street Baptist church.

Speakers for the conference are J. C. Canipe, of Boone; J. C. Pipes, of Asheville; E. C. Shoof, of Taylorsville; Walt Johnsen of Taylorsville; Stephen Morrisett of Elkton. Others speakers who are expected at the session on Tuesday are Zeb Candill and Dr. Oscar Mangum, of Lenoir.

Baptist pastors from Wilkes and adjoining counties are invited and urged to attend the sessions of the conference. Visitors are extended a cordial invitation to attend.

Junior Order Meet

North Wilkesboro council of the Junior Order will have an interesting meeting Tuesday night, 7:30. There will be degree work and all members are urged to attend.

OVER \$13,000 DONATED TO DATE IN WILKES; QUOTA FOR COUNTY \$18,200; EXTRA EFFORT IS URGED

All Workers Asked To Complete Canvass And Get In Reports Next Few Days

Wilkes Red Cross war fund has passed the \$13,000 mark but \$5,000 is needed to reach the goal of \$18,200, Red Cross officials said here today.

Dr. John W. Kincheloe, Jr., War Fund chairman, said today that encouraging reports had been received from several divisions.

He urged that canvassers in the business and residential districts of North Wilkesboro complete their work by Thursday of this week if possible and in rural areas, where more time is needed to reach the people, it is asked that they complete their canvasses by Thursday of next week.

Dr. Kincheloe explained that township quotas were not fixed and that workers are urged to contact all the people and make as thorough canvass as possible. He said that it had been planned earlier to fix quotas for each township but that the plans had been changed.

Excellent reports have been received from the Special Gifts committee, which is composed of P. W. Eshelman, J. R. Hix, and E. G. Finley. Another very encouraging report was received from Rev. Howard J. Ford, Wilkesboro chairman, to the effect that the canvass of Wilkesboro had been completed and that the quota assigned to Wilkesboro has been exceeded.

Several industrial firms have completed canvass of employees and the reports indicate the Red Cross appeal received liberal response from both management and employees.

J. R. Edelin, chairman for the colored division, reports encouraging progress in canvass of the colored people.

Any who are not contacted are asked to see the worker in their community or send a contribution to the Wilkes Red Cross office, which is located over Tomlinson's Department Store on Main street in North Wilkesboro.

"R" Coupons Not Good at Service Stations After 1st

In an effort to curb gasoline black market sales, rationing officials will suspend sales of gasoline by service stations on "R" coupons, effective April 1.

After March 31 sales of gas can be made on "R" coupons by distributors only. Those who have "R" coupons and who cannot deal directly with gasoline distributors may turn the coupons in to their rationing boards before April 1 for "E" coupons, which may be accepted by service stations.

Attention was also called to the fact that "E" and "R" coupons must be endorsed by writing the name and address of the user on the face of the coupons, separately or in strips.

RED COLUMN IN 45 MILES OF RUMANIA

Four big Soviet Ukraine armies slashed the Proskurov-Gusyatyn railway leading into Rumania and Hungary yesterday, fought their way to a point only 22 miles from the important Axis base of Kheron on the lower Dnieper River, and raced through 210 localities in almost a mile-an-hour advance, Moscow announced last night.

Striking on both sides of Proskurov, 62 miles east of embattled Tarnopol, another big junction on the already severed Odessa-Lwow railway feeding the Germans in the Ukraine, one Russian force cut the railway to Gusyatyn at a point presumably about 45 miles north of Rumania's Bessarabian frontier.

Money can fight, buy bonds.

Visits Home



George E. Eller, seaman first class, has returned to Norfolk, Va., after spending a few days leave with his mother, Mrs. T. U. Eller, former local resident who lives at Hickory, and with other relatives and friends here and at Hickory.

Violators of Liquor Laws Fined \$2,500 Each In the Court

Coy Marley, Chester Jolly and Sherley Johnson Get Heavy Fines In Court

Fines of \$2,500 were meted out by Judge J. A. Rousseau in Wilkes court to three men who entered pleas of guilty to charges of violation of the prohibition laws.

The defendants were Coy Marley, Chester Jolly and Sherley Anderson. Separate cases against the three were begun following the investigation of the liquor business operated by Phillip Yates at Purlear. Yates was fined at a previous term of court.

Other cases disposed of during the latter part of last week in Wilkes court were as follows: Connie Winkler, assault, eight months suspended.

Howard Neely, larceny and receiving, 90 days suspended.

Joseph L. Hamby, reckless driving, fine of \$10 and costs.

Jack Barlow, crime against nature, five to eight years in state prison suspended on condition he not violate law; also placed on probation.

Robert Hall, violation prohibition laws, eight months suspended.

George J. Holland and Leona May Triplett, prostitution and adultery; Holland—18 months suspended on condition he pay \$20 for benefit of children; Triplett—year in prison suspended.

George J. Holland, operating car while intoxicated, six months suspended on payment \$100 fine and costs, driver license revoked 12 months.

Turley Marley, bastardy, six months suspended on payment of \$10 monthly for support of child.

Toy Wyatt, assault with deadly weapon, six months on roads.

Paul Lester, reckless driving, not guilty.

Paul Sloope, larceny and receiving, case dismissed.

Income Tax Must Be Filed By 15th

Income tax returns, both federal and state, must be filed by midnight of March 15th to save the penalty, or interest. In order to assist taxpayers Messrs. Glenn Dancy and Robert Ornor will be at the town hall through the 15th to assist taxpayers with their federal returns, and J. R. Rousseau will be at his office over Tomlinson's Department Store to assist those filing state income returns.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS