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Nazi Lines Break In Battle

U. S. TROOPS CRACK THIRD GERMAN LINE

American troops in an eight-mile advance have captured Fondi, cracking the Germans' third defense line in Western Italy, and French forces have blocked the Pontecorvo-Pico Road in parallel blows that split the enemy front into three crumbling segments, it was disclosed last night.

Fondi fell late Saturday to an American armored column which surprised and overrunning the German defenders, thus reached a point only 30 miles from the Anzio beachhead and 58 miles from the heart of Rome.

A dispatch from Anzio said that vanguards of the Southern Allied Army were only 20 miles air line from the beachhead but according to information here Fondi was the point of nearest approach.

A second American column swept up the sandy Tyrrhenian coast to within eight miles of burning Terracina, meeting only scattered resistance from German rear guards who were being harried by long range artillery and clouds of planes.

YANKS SINK BOATLOADS OF JAPANESE

American airmen have sunk boatloads of Japanese fleeing the encircled North Burma, a stronghold of Myitkyina, already one-third in Allied hands after bloody street fighting, and Lieut. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's troops have blocked the main enemy forces at Kamaing to the west, an Allied communique announced yesterday.

With Gen. Stilwell's Northern Burma campaign obviously approaching a climax—the capture of Myitkyina would plant a strong peg on the path to China and give his forces their first big strategic victory on the offensive—Allied headquarters declared Japanese battle casualties in all sectors had exceeded 25,000. Total enemy forces in Burma have been estimated at well over 100,000.

W. M. U. Will Have Meet at Oakwoods

Mrs. George P. Johnson, of Wilkesboro, associational superintendent of the W. M. U. of the Brushy Mountain Baptist Association has issued the following call for this year's session of the W. M. U. which will be held Friday, May 26th, at Oakwoods Baptist church:

"The annual Brushy Mountain W. M. U. Associational meeting will convene at Oakwoods Baptist church Friday, May 26. The meeting will begin at 10:00 o'clock a. m. It will be an all-day session. Featured speakers will be Mrs. O. R. Mangum, Lenoir; Miss Olive Lawton, missionary to China, and Miss Lucy Thompson, our new Associational missionary.

"We trust we will have a good representation from all the churches."

There are about 1,500 kinds of birds in North America, north of Mexico.

In the Navy



James Robert Smoot, seaman second class, entered the navy on August 10, received his boot training at Rainbridge, Md., and is now on sea duty in the Pacific. He is the son of Mrs. Dora Hall and the late H. M. Smoot, of Hays.

Aviation Student



Aviation Student Forrest E. Tugman was recently transferred from Keesler Field, Miss., to the University of Alabama to receive his college training for aviation cadet. His wife, the former Miss Helen Kelly, formerly of this city, has joined him there.

A.S. Tugman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Tugman of North Wilkesboro route one, whose other son, Cpl. John Tugman, is also in the air corps and is now serving in Italy. Before enlisting Forrest was employed in the Norfolk navy yard as a machinist.

MANY PLANES RAKE ENEMY STRONGHOLDS

Three thousand Allied planes, mostly fighters, converted Western Europe into a gigantic shooting-gallery Sunday, sweeping across Germany, France and the Low Countries in the most colossal ground-strafting onslaught of the war with vast success.

Some bombs were dropped by fighter-bombers and a medium-sized force of heavy bombers, but machine guns and cannon were the principal weapons.

Fifty-seven British and American planes failed to return.

American and British airplanes of every type participated in the sudden, savage attack, dealing gigantic blows to the German military transport system by shooting up more than 300 locomotives, scores of troop carriers and trains, hundreds of canal locks and barges and scores of grounded enemy planes.

Twenty German fighters were destroyed in air combat, while 35 American fighters failed to return. This was a record fighter loss for one day's operations, the previous high having been 30 on a much smaller sweep April 15. Twenty-seven of the American planes were lost in the tremendous sweep across Germany beyond Berlin.

Now In England



Corporal Edward M. Bumgarner, who is serving in a gasoline supply co., is now in England, according to a letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Bumgarner, of Halls Mills. He writes that he likes England fine and it is a beautiful country. He entered the army May 18, 1942.

Many Defendants In Federal Court Given Pen Terms

Court in Wilkesboro Enters Second Week of Work On Large Docket Of Cases

May term of federal court in Wilkesboro today began the second week with several jury cases yet to be tried.

The term opened on Monday of last week and many cases were disposed of during the week. Practically all of the cases involved violations of the liquor tax laws.

Judge Johnson J. Hayes is presiding over the term. Following are listed the cases which were disposed of Thursday, Friday, Saturday and today.

George Hendrix, \$100 fine, year and a day in Chillscothe.

Edgar Glen Edsel, \$100 fine, year and a day in Petersburg; Raymond Arthur Estep, \$100 fine and a year and a day in Chillscothe; Lester Adams Davis, \$100 fine, two years in Chillscothe; Mack McKinley Stikeleather, \$100 fine, two years in Petersburg.

Lindsay Woodie, probation two years.

Charles Tidline, \$100 fine, year and a day in Petersburg.

Will Walker, \$100 fine, year and a day in Petersburg; James Lytle Mastin, \$250 fine and probation.

Gurney Simpson, probation, two years.

Theodore Roosevelt Billings, temporary probation.

Henry Doughton Eller, \$100 fine, year and a day in Petersburg, suspended until November.

Romulus Carlton and Tom Land, probation two years.

Berlie Columbus Foster, probation two years.

Ivan Miles, \$100 fine, year and a day in Petersburg.

Grant Miles, \$100 fine, year and a day in Petersburg.

Eugene Reavis, two years in Petersburg.

Ina McCarter, year and a day in Alderson, W. Va.

S. V. Tomlinson, failure to keep records on sale of chop, fine of \$500.

Final Program Commencement Thursday Night

Baccalaureate Sermon Delivered by Rev. Eugene Eller Sunday Night

North Wilkesboro schools will end another successful term with the final high school commencement program on Thursday night, May 25, eight o'clock, in the school auditorium, at which diplomas will be presented to a large class of graduates.

The commencement season got under way Friday night with the annual concert by the high school band under direction of Miss Betty Story. A most excellent program, rendered in a manner which reflected splendid training, was presented before an appreciative audience.

On Sunday night Rev. Eugene Eller, pastor of Crawford Avenue (See Commencement—Page 9)

Girl Is Killed On Highway 421 On Saturday Night

Mozelle Burnette Fatally Injured When Hit By Car; Hobert McLean Held

Miss Mozelle Burnett, age 16, was killed Saturday evening when she was struck by a car driven by Hobert D. McLean, of Cricket, one mile west of this city on highway 421.

Miss Burnette was walking along the highway about eight o'clock when the accident occurred. She died two hours later in the Wilkes hospital.

State Highway Patrolman Lamar Ratliff, who with Deputy Sheriff J. C. Grayson made an investigation of the accident, placed McLean under arrest and charged him with manslaughter.

The accident victim was walking with Alma Anderson toward this city and they were on the right side of the road. The Anderson girl told the patrolman that they were walking on the shoulder of the road when they heard a car coming across the hill from behind, that she turned and saw the car McLean was driving coming at a high rate of speed and swerving across the pavement. She said she took the Burnette girl by the hand and ran down the hill and to the right of the pavement but that the Burnette girl was hit. Her body was badly broken.

Miss Burnette was a daughter of W. E. and Bessie Buncombe Burnette, who live near the scene of the accident. In addition to her parents she is survived by six sisters and three brothers.

Funeral service was held this afternoon, two o'clock, at Gordon Baptist church with Rev. J. E. Hayes in charge of the service.

Mrs. Blackburn Is Claimed By Death

Mrs. E. M. Blackburn Died Sunday Morning; Funeral On Tuesday Afternoon

Funeral service will be held Tuesday, 3:30 p. m., at the First Baptist church for Mrs. Myrtle Edwards Blackburn, wife of E. M. Blackburn, for many years a prominent citizen and business leader here.

Mrs. Blackburn died at her home in this city at 4:30 a. m., Sunday. She had been in ill health for several months.

She was born and reared in Wilkes, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Edwards. For many years she had taken an active interest in church and community life with her husband. She was a member of the First Baptist church here.

Surviving Mrs. Blackburn are her husband, two sons, Jeter Blackburn, of Brunswick, Ga., Lt. John Kermit Blackburn, with U. S. army forces in England, and one daughter, Miss Ruby Blackburn, who is a member of the North Wilkesboro school faculty. Also surviving is one brother, W. M. Edwards, who lives in Davie county.

The pastor, Dr. John W. Kinchee, Jr., will be assisted in the funeral service by Rev. Eugene Olive, of Wake Forest, a former pastor. Burial will be in the Baptist cemetery.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS Twice Wounded



Staff Sergeant Arlie Griffin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Noel H. Fish, of Waterford, N. Y., and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Church, of Purcell, has been twice wounded in action in air combat in Italy and is now in a hospital in Italy. On February 14th he was wounded while on his 14th mission and was awarded the air medal and purple heart.

Four Fires Here Do Extensive Damage

Now In Texas



Pvt. Luther M. Morrison, who was stationed at Fort Jackson, S. C., since entering the army in January, 1944, has been transferred to Camp Wolters, Texas, where he is to receive his basic training. Pvt. Morrison's wife, the former Miss Agnes Brewer, and his six children, one girl and five boys, make their home in Wilkesboro. He is the son of Mrs. A. M. Morrison, who makes her home in Winston-Salem. Pvt. Morrison tells all his friends 'hello'.

Deal Is Elected President North Wilkesboro Lions

Officers Elected Thursday Evening; Dr. Rustin Delivers Inspiring Talk

Vernon Deal, secretary of the Northwestern Bank and who for several years has been active in civic life in North Wilkesboro, was elected president of the North Wilkesboro Lions Club Thursday evening.

Mr. Deal, with the other officers elected Thursday evening, will take office at the first meeting in July. He will succeed James M. Anderson, under whose leadership the club has made much progress during the past year.

The meeting was held on Thursday instead of Friday evening in order that the club might have opportunity to hear Dr. John W. Rustin, of Washington, D. C., who was here preaching in the First Methodist church revival. The program was in charge of B. B. Broome and H. H. Cobb. Rev. A. C. Waggoner presented the speaker.

Dr. Rustin delivered a very inspiring message, which was well received by the club.

With Mr. Deal as president other officers of the club for the coming year were elected as follows: Dr. J. S. Deans, Oliver Absher and Bill Marlow, first, second and third vice presidents; Attorney J. Allie Hayes, Lion tamer; Jack Gibson, tail twister; Paul Cashion, secretary-treasurer; Boyd Stout and Bill Jester, directors. Jack Swofford and Bryan Collins are directors whose terms will expire next year.

Ladies night will be at the first meeting in June.

Biggest Poppy Sale Predicted On May 27th

The biggest poppy sale in the history of the American Legion Auxiliary is predicted by Miss Toby Turner, president of the local unit, who said yesterday she would not be surprised if more than double the usual number were sold.

Poppy Day will be May 27. As few people know what the arrangements are for making these Memorial Day flowers, Miss Turner explained that the materials are furnished free to the veterans by the American Legion Auxiliary. Volunteer workers teach the disabled men to make the poppies. The entire poppy program, from the supplying of the poppy materials, to the distribution of the finished flowers to the American public, is under the management of the Auxiliary. "The veterans and their dependents are the ones who benefit from our poppy sale," she said, "not only from the money that is received (See Poppy Day—Page 6)

Lightning Sets 3 Fires Here Friday Evening

Simultaneous Fires At Oak Furniture Co., C. G. Day Home, Moore's Market

Three fires, presumably set by lightning during a severe electric storm, happened at the same time here Friday evening.

The fires were at Oak Furniture company, at the home of C. G. Day, and Moore's market. Extensive damage was done to the finishing plant of the furniture plant and to Mr. Day's home.

The alarm was turned in first from Oak Furniture company, where flames were discovered in the finishing room near the top of the building. The large fire truck was rushed to the plant and the flames were soon under control.

Meanwhile, the home of C. G. Day, chief of the fire department, was burning on D street. Mr. Day and family were eating supper when the fire was seen near the roof of Mr. Day's home by L. Vyne, who lives nearby. Mr. Vyne found the phone dead and got into his car and drove to the fire department, only to find that the fire truck and firemen were away fighting the fire at Oak Furniture company.

By the time firemen and equipment could reach Mr. Day's home the upper floor of the beautiful brick residence was in flames and considerable difficulty was experienced in extinguishing the fire. Much of the furniture was removed from the downstairs portion of the home.

The third fire, in which there was little damage, was at Moore's Market, where lightning had run in and set fire to an electric motor. B. F. Bentley, manager of the establishment and who is a member of the fire department, extinguished the blaze with a fire extinguisher, ran to the Oak Furniture company to help put out the fire there and then proceeded to the home of Mr. Day to help get the fire there under control.

Damage to the Oak Furniture company plant, although confined mainly to the finishing department, was estimated to be several thousand dollars. Mr. Day's home was badly damaged and the top floor and roof were practically demolished. The loss was partially covered by insurance.

The storm was the most severe of the season. Power lines in several parts of the community were temporarily knocked out.

Fire at noon Sunday destroyed the large barn on the premises near the home of Frank Blair on Main Street in this city.

When first discovered the flames had made much headway in the large, two-story frame structure and the fire spread rapidly. A greater part of the rapidly burning structure was destroyed before the fire could be extinguished.

Origin of the fire was unknown. The livestock, which included some splendid riding horses and cows, was removed from the building but two pickup trucks and a considerable quantity of feed were destroyed.

Now In Alabama



Pvt. William Church, who had been stationed at Camp Stewart, Va., is now in Alabama. Pvt. Church is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Odell Church, of Lenoir route one, and is a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Church, of Purcell, and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Church, of Walsh.

RATION NEWS

SHOES — Airplane stamps No. 1 and No. 2 (Book 3) valid indefinitely.

GASOLINE—Coupons No. 10 in A book good for three gallons became effective May 9 and will expire August 8.

SUGAR—Sugar stamps No. 30 and No. 31 (book 4) good for five pounds indefinitely.

CANNING SUGAR — Sugar stamp No. 40 good for five pounds of canning sugar until February 28, 1945.

PROCESSED FOODS—Blue A8 through Q8 (book 4) now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens. Good indefinitely.

MEATS AND FATS—Red A8 through T8 (book 4) now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens. Good indefinitely. Stamps U8, V8 and W8 become valid June 4.

Gets Promotion



T-5 Maston J. Walsh, who was recently promoted to his present rank from private first class, has returned to Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida, where he is in training, after spending his furlough near Moravian Falls with his wife and sons, Ronald and C. G. T-5 Walsh, who was inducted into the army December 30, 1943, celebrated his 26th birthday on April 24th.