



# Henderson Daily Dispatch



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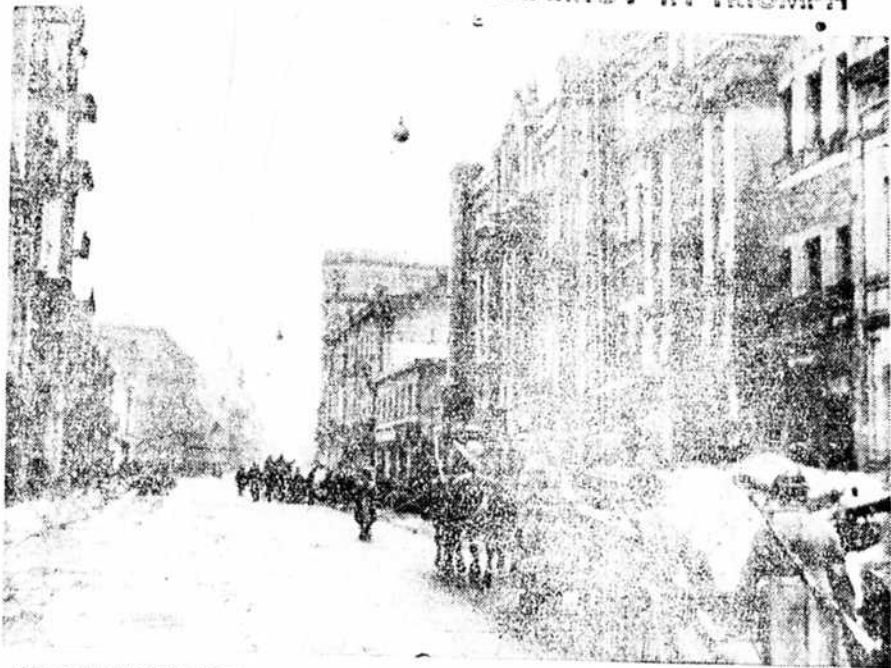
HENDERSON, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 23, 1943

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY

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## Allies Stop Rommel In Tunisia Use Of Army Units For Farm Labor Is Authorized

### RUSSIAN ARMY RE-ENTERS KHARKOV IN TRIUMPH



ARTILLERY UNITS OF THE VICTORIOUS RED ARMY are shown passing through the main street of the great industrial city of Kharkov after great Russian offensive swept Nazis out of the city, once their main bastion in upper Donets area. Pursuit of the beaten German Army is now going on west of Kharkov and a new offensive has been opened on Orel, another key point of Nazi defense line. (International Radiophoto)

### Soldiers To Harvest Cotton Crop

#### White and Negro Troops Stationed In Arizona To Help Save Vital Farm Crop

Washington, Feb. 23—(AP)—The first use of military units as emergency farm labor was authorized today in an Army order for troops in Arizona to help harvest the long staple cotton crop.

"The importance of this crop as an indispensable war material," said the Army's announcement, "impelled War department action as a matter of military necessity."

White and Negro soldiers from nearby Army posts will be used in certain areas in Arizona. The Army said, to relieve an emergency situation arising from the shortage of farm labor. The orders are effective immediately, but officers said there was no information here on the number of troops to be employed.

On Capitol Hill, Lieutenant General Joseph T. McNarney, assistant farm state commander, the Army stands ready to furnish troops to meet "any farm production emergency."

McNarney, deputy chief of staff, went before a Senate agriculture subcommittee on congressional bills of military expansion attributed the severity of the new food rationing allowances chiefly to reduction of farm workers into the armed services.

He testified that President Roosevelt yesterday approved a plan submitted by Secretary of War Stimson for the furloughing of entire military units for use under the regular officers, to gather seasonal crops. He said the furloughing of individual units is impractical.

He added "we are prepared to go just as far as we possibly can without disrupting the training of units being prepared for immediate use overseas."

Furloughing of units would be undertaken in cooperation with the Agriculture department, the witness said, and this department would collect wages from the farmers to reimburse the War Department.

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### BOMBER TAKES FATAL NOSE-DIVE



TAIL IN THE AIR, nose buried in the mud of Williams Field, near Norfolk, Va., a B-17 bomber of the Army Air Corps crashed today after it had killed four crew members. Three other crew members were injured and five escaped with minor injuries. This is a U. S. Army photo.

### Hard Battle Still Rages Near Thala

#### British and American Tanks and Infantry Halt German Army In Two Thrusts

Axis forces, after a North African, Feb. 23—(AP)—British and American tanks and infantry in the hills north of the exhausted Axis army stopped Marshal Erwin Rommel's most important thrust within four miles of Thala today, while allied troops with strong American support had broken back the attack and the west in central Tunisia.

One of the bitterest battles of the Tunisian war still raged near Thala, 15 miles north of Ras el Ma and the gateway to the strategically located Khenassa plateau near the Tunisian Algerian frontier, where British tanks and American engineers stubbornly held off desperate Nazi attempts to gain the Thala road junction and crack the allied front.

While the British, American, and French forces were engaged in the battle, the German army was being pushed back into a precarious position on the Tunisian coast near the Djebel el Akhra.

Defeated by a combination of British and American tanks and infantry, the German army was being pushed back into a precarious position on the Tunisian coast near the Djebel el Akhra.

United States twelfth air force fighters and bombers attacked the Kassassin bottleneck all day yesterday, participating in more than 20 missions. Bombers destroyed at least six Nazi tanks and ten trucks and left many other vehicles blazing, while a large formation of Lightning fighters poured devastating cannon fire into trucks, guns and troops trying to move forward through the twisting valleys to reinforce Rommel's spearhead.

A heavy rain squall kept the air clear, but the weather did not prevent the destruction of the tanks.

Although the Japanese battleship still was unaccounted for, the Navy has been pushing more heavily than ever before in the Pacific. The Navy said it had destroyed the battleship and a number of other ships in the Kuroshima Bay.

### Jap Pacific Base Raided

#### 15 Tons of Bombs Dropped in Lac Area As Allied Planes Sweep Wide Section

Allied Headquarters in Australia, Feb. 23—(AP)—Fifteen tons of bombs, including some 1,000 incendiaries, were dropped on Mothang and nearby villages in the Lac area of New Guinea yesterday as allied planes made a wide offensive sweep over New Guinea New Britain, the Solomons and the Admiralty Islands, an allied command said today.

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## Nazi And Jap Subs Sunk, Navy Reveals

### Secretary Knox Says Every Available Weapon Being Used Against Sub Menace

Washington, Feb. 23—(AP)—The Navy announced today the sinking of a German submarine in the Atlantic and a Japanese submarine in the Pacific and Secretary Knox said that every available weapon is being used against the Atlantic U-boat menace under control.

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### LEGION COMMANDER BURIED AT ASHEBORO

Asheboro, Feb. 23—(AP)—The funeral was held today for Henry L. Ingram, 56, North Carolina, Legion commander, who died unexpectedly in a heart attack Sunday at his home here.

The services were held in the First Methodist church, with the Legion in charge. Officiating was the Rev. Paul H. Hinton, pastor of the church, and R. L. McMillan, Legion commander.

The Legion's national headquarters was represented by its national vice commander John T. Patton of Birmingham, Ala.

### No Quotas On Wheat

#### Wickard Removes Marketing Quotas To Insure Adequate Wartime Supplies

Washington, Feb. 23—(AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Wickard suspended AAA marketing quotas on wheat today in a move he said was designed to insure adequate wartime supplies of the cereal for human food and livestock feed.

The order affected quotas imposed in the 1943 crop year. It was effective for the 1944 crop year.

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### Indian Leader Grows 'Progressively Weaker'

New Delhi, Feb. 23—(AP)—Mahatma K. Gandhi, now in the 11th day of his scheduled 21-day fast in protest against his detention by British authorities, passed a quiet day yesterday and slept several hours although he is growing "progressively weaker," doctors here said.

A government communiqué issued at New Delhi today said "there is no apparent change to record." The communiqué, signed by the six doctors attending the Indian leader, said he had been lying down during the night and had eaten only a few sips of food.

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### Salvage Crews Seek To Raise Crashed Plane

El Paso, Feb. 23—(AP)—Salvage crews worked at the bottom of the Texas river today, attempting to lift the shattered bulk of the Yankee Clipper which crashed yesterday at the end of a flight from New York.

Twenty of the 29 persons announced by the U. S. to have been aboard the plane were found when it was raised and hoisted into the water. The plane was hoisted into the water and hoisted away by the end of the river.

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### Wine Control Bill Tabled In Senate

Raleigh, Feb. 23—(AP)—By 22 to 18, the senate tabled today a bill and all its amendments to create a state wine control division, originally intended to legalize the sale of wine of 20 per cent alcoholic content anywhere in the state.

Amendments to revise the original measure were adopted last night. One, by Senator Cherry of Gaston, would have set the tax on 20 per cent alcohol at 10 cents a gallon, or 60 cents a gallon which would be double the present levy.

Another amendment would have set the alcohol content from 20 to 14 per cent in bottles without ABC stores, and authorized the provision to pay the duty on imported wine.

The bill and all its amendments were placed upon the table on motion of Senator Benton of Johnston. There was a unanimous vote.

Senator Cherry of Wayne said he believed several features of the bill were unconstitutional and, in reply to a question by Benton, said it would prohibit the sale of wine by any company which did not own a warehouse in North Carolina.

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### Red Army Bears Weight Of War, Stalin Declares

Moscow, Feb. 23—(AP)—Premier Josef Stalin, having Russia's military forces on their 25th anniversary as "an army of 25 million," said today that "in view of the absence of a second front in Europe the Red army alone is bearing the whole weight of the war."

Stalin declared "we are being protected by wooden guns and decoy soldiers," he declared after telling the House that he would inspect the troops in the "protection" provided for members of Congress.

"In high heaven," Cooley shouted, "why have they been placed over our heads? I am something of a drinker, but when I place out decoys and decoy guns, I would expect to attract enemy planes."

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### Cooley Says Decoys Guard U. S. Rooftops

Washington, Feb. 23—(AP)—Representative Cooley, North Carolina Democrat, said on the House floor today that anti-aircraft "decoys" mounted on the roofs of congressional office buildings are made of wood and that the soldiers stationed there are "dummies."

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### Death to German Invaders Ordered In Anniversary Message to Army

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### WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Slightly higher temperature tonight.

(Continued on Page Two)