Henderson Daily Dispatch

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Fighting Mounts In Kursk Area

Yanks Attack Three Miles From Munda

Air Support Batters Jap Island Base

Allied Fliers Meet Little Opposition; Main Attack Awaits Consolidation

Allied Headquarters in Australia, July 9 — (AP) — Only three miles from Munda, United States invaders are probing Japanese defenses of that New Georgia island air base, and, over both the Solomons and New Guinea, allied planes have dealt new blows with nearly 100 tons of bombs, General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters reported today.

On the other hand, the hard hit Japanese air force, having lost nearly 200 planes over the Solomons within a week, has diminished the weight of its punches.

The pincers which American Marines and soldiers began applying on Munda July 5 by landing both above and east of it pressed nearest at Elelo on the east, where advanced patrols clashed Thursday with Japanese and defeated them. It was a fleeting scout encounter with the big push obviously in abeyance while the main forces which stormed ashore above Munda at Rice anchorage and east of it at Zanana consolidated positions. The entrenched Japanese at Munda are believed to be in considerable strength, prepared to offer a bloody defense.

Above new Georgia on Kolombangara island, Munda's big supply depot at Vila was fired and holed by 21 tons of high explosives unloaded by Dauntless dive bombers and Avenger torpedo bombers.

Farther up the Solomons, the Kahili airdrome, from which the Japanese might offer Munda's defenders aerial support, was raided at the southern tip of Bougainville island by big American Liberators Thursday night. There 23 tons of bombs started fires. One Liberator didn't get back.

On northeastern New Guinea, where Australian and American patrols are moving toward the enemy air base of Salamaua, the allied planes continued to virtually blast a path through the jungle with their bombs. In the same area where on Wednesday a concentration of 106 tons of bombs paved the way for occupation of a vital hill, Mitchell medium bombers directly supported our jungle fighters yesterday by dropping nearly 50 tons of high explosives on enemy buildings, ground installations and jungle tracks connecting villages near Salamaua.

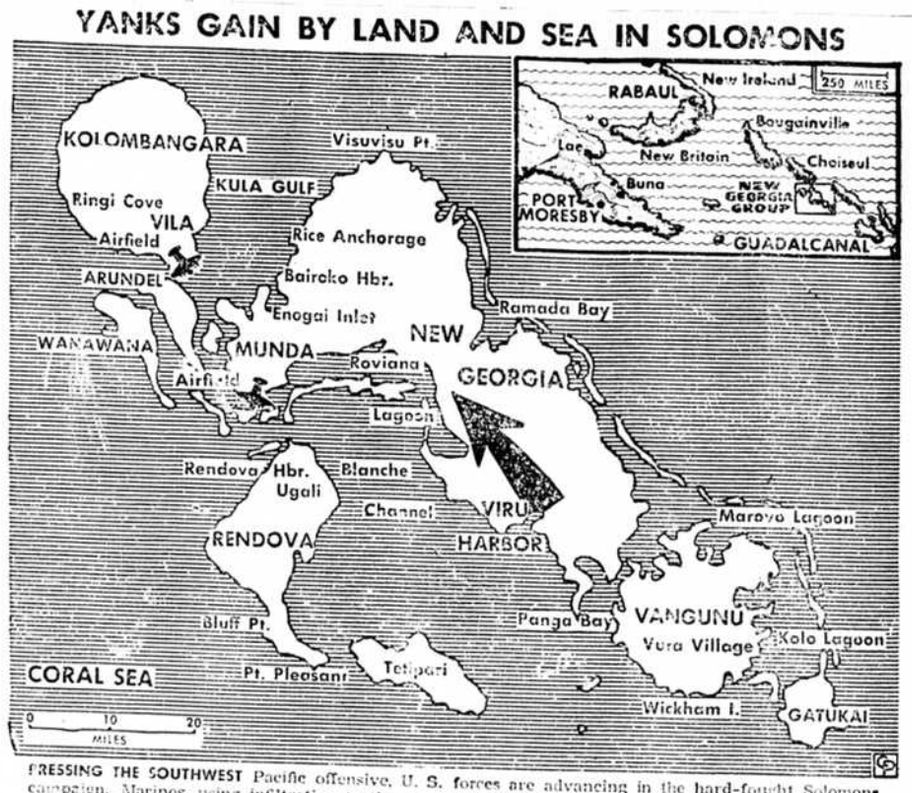
Cotton Prices Little Higher

New York, July 9—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 5 cents a bale higher to 20 cent, lower.

Noon values were unchanged to 29 cents a bale higher, July 20.67, October 20.14 and December 19.95.

	Previous Close	Today's Open
July	20.66	20.67
October	20.11	20.09
December	19.95	19.93
March	19.73	19.76
May	19.66	19.62

YANKS GAIN BY LAND AND SEA IN SOLOMONS



PRESSING THE SOUTHWEST Pacific offensive, U. S. forces are advancing in the hard-fought Solomons campaign. Marines, using infiltration tactics, continued their drive against the Munda Bay area from their Viru harbor starting point (arrow). The Jap Munda base also was imperiled by the defeat of Rendova island have consolidated their positions and with reinforcements have checked a Jap air offensive. Our objective, the big Jap base at Rabaul, is seen in the inset. (*International*)

Cotton Crop Quotas Off

Cultivated Acreage Below Allotment, Bringing Decision to Lift Quotas

Washington, July 9—(AP)—The war food administration prepared an order today suspending rigid AAA marketing quotas on the 1943 cotton crop.

Decision to lift the quotas was made after an Agriculture department crop report estimated the 1943 acreage at about 8,000,000 acres less than the 30,000,000 acres which farmers could have had by cultivation under the AAA program.

As a consequence, farmers will be free to sell all the cotton they harvest this year without regard to penalty. Under quotas, excess sales were subject to a penalty tax of about eight cents a pound.

Quotas have been in effect on cotton ever since the present AAA crop adjustment law was passed in 1933. They have been approved for the current year by more than 90 per cent of cotton farmers voting in a referendum.

The cotton supply situation was said to be no longer a serious problem. Surpluses have gone down under an unprecedented demand for cotton goods for civilian and military uses. Consumption this season is expected to reach a record level of 11,250,000 bales.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Continued warm tonight; scattered thundershowers this afternoon and early tonight.

Giraud Promises To Fight Japanese

PARACHUTING FLIERS ARE MACHINE GUNNED

Cairo, July 9.—(AP)—A United States ninth air force communique said today that crew members who bailed out of two Liberators of a force which attacked Catania, Sicily, yesterday, "were machine gunned by enemy fighters."

Truman Group To Criticize Plane Buying

Washington, July 9.— (AP) — A formal report criticizing the nation's military forces for permitting continued production of planes it considers obsolete will be issued this week-end by the Truman war investigating committee. That was the prediction today of D. C. Spencer, anything capital observer who receives authentic but unquotable sources.

Spencer said the report lashes at what it terms failure of the military men to realize the number "could be 60 per cent" for various types of fighting, transport and trainer planes now under construction.

In addition, Spencer said the report charges that one of the largest aviation manufacturing companies handling military contracts had "bad management for more than" with inefficient production of warplanes as a result.

"The committee findings also will deal with a subcommittee's investigation of reports that defective parts have gone into some aircraft engines being manufactured for the armed forces," Spencer said.

French Leader Holds Press Conference; FDR Pledges to Arm 300,000-Man Army

Washington, July 9—(AP)—General Henri Giraud, disclosing that President Roosevelt had promised to equip a French North African army of 300,000 men, pledged today that French forces will help fight the Japanese after defeat of the axis powers in Europe.

Giraud told a room full of correspondents, gathered in Secretary of War Stimson's conference chamber: "I give you the following pledge: "France will be at your side to liberate the Pacific from Japanese domination, even as she will remain with you to build a peace that will be lasting and just but also realistic."

General Giraud spoke in French to the press conference. He avoided discussion of the political situation in north Africa, where he shares the chairmanship of the French Committee of National Liberation with General Charles de Gaulle.

The conference was held under War department auspices and at its beginning the department handed correspondents the following statement:

"The member of the French Committee of National Liberation (General Giraud) does not wish to take a political position that might involve the whole committee."

General Giraud opened the conference by reading a prepared statement, followed by an informal summary of his impressions on a visit this morning to Mt. Vernon.

Stock Market Trends Higher

New York, July 9—(AP)—Specialties buying of rails and industrials continued to prop for today's stock market and returned the list generally upward.

In front were Southern Railway, Montgomery Ward, Sears Roebuck, U. S. Rubber, U. S. Steel, DuPont, International Harvester, General Electric and American Can. Laggards included Chrysler, General Motors, Anaconda, American Telephone, Westinghouse, Eastman Kodak and United Aircraft.

Documents Denied Solons

Washington, July 9—(AP)—The War and Navy departments refused today to turn over to a House investigating committee headed by Representative Cox, Democrat, of Georgia, a data document it had requested to support charges that federal procurement officers were in collusion with subordinate operators of the armed services.

The department position was stated in a letter, made public by Chairman Cox, and signed by Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson and Acting Secretary of the Navy Artemus L. Gates.

Patterson and Patterson also notified the committee they would not permit the appearance of Army and Navy officers before the committee, as Cox had requested.

RAF Fliers Renew Raids On Naziland

Heavy Attack Made On Cologne; Eight Bombers Lost; Lull Broken by Attacks

London, July 9—(AP)—The RAF, returning to the assault on Germany after a four-night lull in the allied aerial offensive, made a heavy attack on the Rhineland industrial center of Cologne last night, the air ministry announced today.

Eight bombers were lost in the raid, the announcement said.

Mines also were laid in enemy waters during the night and British fighters on intruder patrols simultaneously attacked enemy air fields and railway targets in both France and northwest Germany. Three German mine sweepers were reported damaged in sweeps along the French coast.

The heavy British bombers had scarcely returned from their night foray over Germany when formations of allied fighters swept out across the channel in the direction of northern France to continue the offensive by daylight.

The attack on Cologne was the 119th on that bomb-battered city, target of the RAF's first great 1,000-bomber raid a year ago. The big Rhineland industrial center had been attacked twice before within the past two weeks—once on June 28 and again last Saturday night. Both assaults were highly concentrated.

The RAF's big bombers had not been out since last Saturday night's raid when they also struck at Hamburg and targets in the Ruhr. Operations since then have been limited to comparatively minor operations against communications and airfields in occupied territory by intruder patrols.

A Berlin broadcast recorded by the Associated Press, following the usual line taken by nazi propagandists, described last night's assault on Cologne as a "terror raid" directed against residential areas. The broadcast indicated that other targets in the Rhineland were hit in addition to Cologne, however.

London Has 650th Alert

London, July 9—(AP)—German raiders dropped high explosives on a town in southeast England and a southeast coast resort today while others over London its first daylight alert since June 27.

The London-bound raiders were headed off short of the metropolitan area, the British reported.

Anti-aircraft guns were in action in two districts of the home counties surrounding London and planes were heard overhead, diving and twisting out of the field of fire and then heading back toward the coast.

The London all-clear came 18 minutes after the warning. The alert was London's 650th of the war.

UCC Body Re-Appointed

Raleigh, July 9—(AP)—Governor Broughton today re-appointed the advisory committee of the State unemployment compensation commission for terms ranging from two to four years in accordance with a legislative directive.

The committee advises the commission on legislative procedure, cooperation with agencies, public information and conditions of employment.

Conn Warnick, of High Point and Raleigh was re-appointed chairman for a two-year term. Named to represent employers were Willard Dougall of Raleigh, four years; M. Brooks of Greensboro, two years; and I. Leonard Igoe were H. L. Kizer of Charlotte, four years, Cecil Stallings of Durham, two years, and Lawrence the public, Dr. Thomas Kitchin of Wake Forest, Mrs. R. J. Reynolds of Winston-Salem, four years; and Robert Phillips of Asheville and Mrs. F. H. Rosenthal of Mooresville, two years.

Flying Buzz-Saw

LT. JACK BADE, 20, routed a formation of six Zeros in the Solomons when he tore into them using his propeller as a weapon. His guns had been shattered by Jap fire. He saved three Navy dive bombers by his unique fighting. (*International*)

Big Planes Raid Sicily

Round-the-Clock Attacks Continue Against Italian Island Outpost

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 9.—(AP)—Allied heavy and medium bombers made steady round-the-clock attacks on axis airfields in Sicily yesterday and the night before, it was announced today, and fighter bombers shot up enemy transports and communications.

"Many bombs were seen to burst in dispersal areas and on runways," the communique said in reference to the latter field attacks.

Nine enemy planes were destroyed yesterday and one the night before. The allied losses were four planes.

These new attacks followed a similar bomb blast toward the south and breadth of Sicily and Sardinia on Wednesday, with 19 axis planes on the Sicilian airdrome never to fly at Gerbini alone.

(Eighty-one persons were killed and 200 injured in an allied raid on Catania, Sicily, the Italian high command stated in a bulletin broadcast from Rome.

(The Italian communique, as relayed by the Associated Press, said 29 raiding planes were shot down.

(Three allied merchant ships totaling 40,000 tons were reported to have been sunk by axis torpedo planes operating off the north African coast and a fourth, of 8,000 tons, was damaged heavily damaged. These claims were without confirmation from allied sources.)

GENERAL ARMSTRONG HURT

A U. S. Bomber Station in England, July 9—(AP)—Brigadier General Frank Armstrong of Nashville, N. C., commander of a Flying Fortress group, was injured when his plane crashed on a training flight which destroyed the plane yesterday Wednesday. He was expected to be released from the hospital in a few days.

Nazis Hurl Fresh Units Into Battle

German Leaders Seek to Exploit Wedge Driven in Red Lines Near Belgorod

Moscow, July 9—(AP)—The battle of the Kursk salient mounted in intensity today as the Germans threw in fresh troops and new tanks to exploit a wedge in Russian defenses near Belgorod and batter the unyielding northern section of the Soviet line.

Red Star, Red army organ, reported the powerful nazi tank columns had changed the direction of their attack several times in the Orel-Kursk sector, seeking a weak point in deep Russian positions.

In that northern section of the fiercely blazing 200-mile battle line, the Russians said their troops regained lost ground in a succession of counter attacks yesterday while holding firm against a mighty stab by some 90,000 nazi troops against one narrow area.

The nazis returned to the attack at 8 a. m. yesterday on the Orel-Kursk sector. On the narrow front where the 90,000 German forces were engaged, the battle had reached its peak by 2 p. m. The Pravda correspondent said one unit, however, withstood 23 subsequent attacks.

The correspondent said that, protected by swarms of aircraft, the Germans threw 250 tanks against the Russians. But not a single one got through, he said.

Dispatches from the front declared the German air force had failed in all its attempts to win supremacy over the battlefield. One batch of Russian pilots was said to have shot down 110 German planes during 81 dogfights throughout the day.

As the masses of plane-supported nazi armor and infantry commanded

(Continued on Page Four)

Price Ceiling For 1943 Leaf Under Study

Washington, July 9 — (AP) — Price ceilings for the 1943 flue cured tobacco crop were studied at a conference today of Price administration officials and representative growers from the flue cured belt.

Representative Hill (D., Democrat of Virginia) who had been informed he saw no indication that the conferees had any ceilings this year under existing market conditions but if such action was taken the ceiling should not be less than 25 per cent above the average price last year of 38.40 cents.

Hurley said he told the conference, which was held behind closed doors, that the OPA gave "assurance" that this ceiling would be at least that made for 1942, and probably more.

Hurley said he also suggested that in fixing ceilings that the OPA give due consideration to the superior quality of the tobaccos types grown in the Old Bright Belt of Virginia and North Carolina in comparison with other sections.

U. S. Subs Sink Jap Ships At Rate Of Vessel A Day

Washington, July 9—(AP)—U. S. submarines slicing through Pacific waters in ever mounting numbers, are knocking off Japanese ships at the rate of one a day.

This terrific toll of what Japan needs most—ships to link her far flung outposts of stolen empire—has prompted the Navy to issue three special bulletins in little more than a month on the activities of its undersea arm. Ordinarily, the doings of submarines are related only after long periods of silence maintained for security reasons.

Since June 1, the American submarine packs, which Navy Secretary Knox said were augmented steadily, have blasted to the bottom 33 Japanese supply vessels, many of them big transport and tankers, and three destroyers. Probably sunk were two more of transport and a tanker. Nine more ships, including a destroyer, were listed as damaged.

Sometimes vessels seen from a periscope only as being damaged sink later but submarine commanders have adhered rigidly to the rule of calling them just as they see them. The submarine most likely to be back for another try at the enemy is the one that gets out of there without waiting for too much observation as soon as an attack has been pressed home.

Hence, the toll of ships sunk announced in Navy communiques is the very minimum.

Appropriations For War Set Record For Session

Washington, July 9—(AP)—The 78th Congress in six months appropriated $111,000,000,000 in new money—enough to allot $2,000 worth of lethal stuff at each axis soldier.

The total approved by the lawmakers from the 78th they convened in January with the start of a summer recess yesterday was $333,000,000,000 short of the previous high in congressional spending for one session. However, the actual direct appropriations to the national forces was a record.

The expenditures provided for the Army and Navy this year are sufficient to give the United States the biggest air and naval forces the world has seen.

Direct appropriations for the War Department were $50,034,839,673 ex- [illegible] $[illegible] in reappropriations of funds provided in previous years but not spent. The Navy share of the 1943-44 outlay was $31,173,962,417. Last year the Navy got $[illegible] and the Army $[illegible] plus a carry over of $29,000,000,000 in money previously appropriated.

For other services connected with the war but not directly tied in with the War and Navy department program, Chairman Cannon, Democrat of Missouri, estimated the 1944 appropriation were $17,000,000,000. Added to the $90,000,000,000 for the armed services this put the war outlay for the six month session at approximately $107,000,000,000 with nonwar items accounting for the remaining $7,000,000,000 appropriated.

During the entire first World War, Cannon estimated, the Army spent [illegible]