



# Henderson Daily Dispatch



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## Rome Is Bombed For First Time

### Reds At Approaches To Orel

SICILY SMILES FOR THESE YANK INVADERS



MUCH GAYER than newly-conquered persons are expected to be, Sicilian natives greet three Yank soldiers of a force which took over their town. Getting acquainted are (left to right), Pvt. George Kater, Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Pfc. William Moss, Wheeling, W. Va., and Pvt. Jesse A. Hampton, Louisville, Ky. Most natives were obviously glad the war was over for them. Signal Corps photo. (International)

### Airplanes And Warships Batter Jap Sea Forces

Two Jap Attempts to Run Supplies Into Solomon Islands Are Beaten Back

Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, July 19.—(AP)—Allied airplanes and surface ships battered Japanese shipping in the Solomon islands over the week-end as American troops increased their pressure on Munda with attacks on enemy positions near that key air base. United States warships beat back two more attempts to run supplies to the besieged Munda garrison on New Georgia. Two destroyer flotillas the first of three ships, the second of six, were intercepted west of Kolombangara island and forced to retreat northward. One destroyer was believed to have been sunk and two were scored on three others.

A powerful aerial force, described as strong as the 200-plane armada that sank seven Japanese ships and shot down 49 planes in the Buna-Faisi area Saturday, struck again at the remnants of enemy shipping in that harbor and pounded the nearby Kahili airfield. Thirteen Zeroes were shot down. A cargo ship was sunk and two destroyers and another merchantman were damaged.

Allied planes scored another victory over New Guinea Sunday. Greatly outnumbered, our fighters,

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### State Guard Open Training At Fort Bragg

Fort Bragg, July 19.—(AP)—More than 2,000 members of the North Carolina State Guard began today a ten-day training program under the direction of Colonel William S. Pritchard, commander of district No. 2 of the fourth service command.

The Guardsmen were divided into platoons and squads today for drill and fundamental instruction preparatory to the more advanced training to follow.

The men began arriving yesterday, and by nightfall the encampment area was filled with state soldiers from every part of North Carolina.

Brigadier General James W. Jen-

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### 15 NAZI TRANSPORTS SHOT DOWN OVER SEA

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 19.—(AP)—All 15 German Junkers-52 transports were shot down when American Lightning fighters encountered the formation over the Tyrrhenian sea, an allied headquarters communique announced today.

### Liquor Sales Show Decline

Raleigh, July 19.—(AP)—The 25 ABC counties sold \$1,174,869.93 worth of liquor in June, according to figures released today by the State ABC board. That represents 28,655 cases, a substantial reduction in both volume and dollar value under last month's \$1,299,001.65. Durham was third with \$126,032, and Wake was fourth with \$112,079.25.

Other counties reporting each sales included: Beaufort, \$28,734.90; Edgecombe, \$37,761.69; Vance, \$28,625.65; Wilson, \$36,151; Nash, \$24,042.25; Pitt, \$43,568.20; Greene, \$7,267.30; Warren, \$12,207.53; Lenoir \$60,785.80.

### AirRaids Continue

Strong Force Heads Across Channel in Afternoon After Widespread Bombings

London, July 19.—(AP)—A strong force of allied planes was reported heading across the English channel this afternoon in the direction of Calais and Boulogne. Observers on the southeast coast said the planes flew almost at sea level. Other planes were heard along the coast.

Earlier, the air ministry announced that RAF bombers and fighters destroyed eight enemy aircraft and damaged two enemy vessels in attacks last night on and airport facilities in France and shipping off the Dutch coast.

Heavy explosions rumbled across the channel from the continent a little later. Fighters ran a shuttle over Folkestone, one large group returning as another formation went out.

Swift Mosquito planes on intruder patrols over northwest Germany and enemy-occupied territory attacked and damaged ten locomotives and burned a heavy train near Dieppe.

Two transport bombers were knocked down in England, one by fighters and another by a Spitfire. The latter was destroyed by Mustangs on patrol.

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### GOP Chairman Forecasts 1944 Victory For Party

Washington, July 19.—(AP)—Ten years a bride-to-be in presidential politics, the Republican party came out fully today with the forecast that it would be the bride in the 1944 election.

In a seven-page statement reprinted to President Roosevelt as "Candidate Roosevelt," Chairman Harrison Spangler of the GOP national committee made the prediction of Republican victory, what he called the strength of "polls of public opinion."

Spangler said the election would be decided in the southern states. Yet, he declared, the "solid South" was not so solid for the Democrats as they usually reckon.

These "private polls," said Spangler, have showed that the GOP has gained 3 per cent among the ranks of labor, and 5 per cent in the rural areas of the North.

Spangler put it this way: There are 21,000,000 labor votes

in the North, a 3 per cent gain for the Republican means a gain of 630,000 votes. A rise of 5 per cent would pull 700,000 more than before from the 14,000,000 listed as the labor bloc.

Subtract this gain from President Roosevelt's 2,449,752 rural majority in his successful third term bid in 1936, and the Republicans would have an edge of 210,248.

A 5 per cent gain also is seen by Spangler from the 10,000,000 voters among the professions, small business and miscellaneous, non-union groups, which would make the GOP a winner by 1,710,000. Spangler predicted the electoral college vote would reflect what he said would be the GOP gains in balloting totals.

Who the GOP intends to win with is yet to be developed, with a score of possible presidential candidates mentioned, but none formally announced at this early date.

### Nazi Forces Driven Back Along Front

Soviet Counter Blows Threaten Nazi Base on Central Front; Nazi Losses Heavy

Moscow, July 19.—(AP)—The Russian army, overcoming the German fluid defense, has slugged its way to the approaches of the main enemy base at Orel on the central Russian front south of Moscow, the new paper Pravda, official communist party organ, announced today.

As the battle reached the close of the second week of furious fighting along a 165-mile front it found the Nazi army, initiators of the offensive, rucking back under sledge hammer blows of the Russian counter attack which threatened the German base and their hold on the vital Orel-Bryansk railway.

The Soviet midnight communique reported that the Red army had advanced an additional four miles in one sector during the fighting yesterday, capturing several villages and killing about 5,000 German troops.

The battle, which was intended by the Germans to push off the Kursk salient and straighten out the line, continued to go on heavily losses in the Nazi armored and air divisions, the Russians said. They announced they had knocked out 78 tanks and 237 planes on Saturday and said an incomplete check showed 29 more tanks destroyed yesterday by being German losses to the staggering total of approximately 3,500 tanks and 2,000 planes in the last two weeks.

Russian communiques have indicated during the last two days that Red army troops were advancing steadily in a somewhat slower despite adverse weather conditions. Their reports of the fighting showed that the Germans were slipping at the Soviet tanks and melting back in the face of determined Red army mechanized attacks.

### Scorza Appeals To Fascists

Rome, July 19.—(AP)—Declaring that Italy would be dismembered, her people enslaved and her treasures looted if she yielded, Carlo Scorza, new secretary of the fascist party, broadcast from Rome last night a frantic appeal for last ditch resistance to the allies.

The speech, obviously a reply to the Roosevelt-Churchill unconditional surrender demand which last week was conveyed to the Italian people by radio and leaflets dropped from planes, acknowledged, however, that the plight of Italy is desperate.

Italy, Scorza said, is "as never before in mortal danger," picturing her as "a little group of men" standing out against the two richest powers in the world who, he asserted, are "most avid to gorge and wishing to destroy her territorial and political unity and abolish her rights."

### Court Martial Is Postponed

Seltridge Field, Mich., July 19.—(AP)—Indefinite postponement of the general court martial trial of Colonel William T. Colman, former commanding officer at Seltridge Field, was announced today by Colonel William B. Wright, present commander at the field.

Colonel Colman was accused of having shot a Negro private, although the specific nature of the court martial charges was not disclosed.

The court martial was to have opened Tuesday morning. A continuance was granted at the request of defense counsel, who pleaded insufficient time to prepare for trial.

Colonel Colman, commander of the base until removed after the shooting episode on May 5, is accused of shooting Private William McRae, 24, of Morven, N. C., who has almost completely recovered from his wounds.

### STIMSON GIVES HIGHEST AWARD



SECRETARY OF WAR Henry Stimson places the Congressional Medal of Honor, America's highest decoration, about the neck of Sgt. Maynard Smith of Caro, Mich., in England. Smith, the first living man to receive the award in the European theatre, saved the lives of six crew mates on a Flying Fortress raid over the Continent. (International)

### American Army Captures Caltanissetta In Sicily

INVADERS OF SICILY CAPTURE 35,000 MEN

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 19.—(AP)—Axis prisoners taken in Sicily now exceed 35,000, an allied headquarters report said today.

### Negroes Reply To Johnston

Columbia, S. C., July 19.—(AP)—The Negro Citizens' Committee in South Carolina made public today a letter to Governor Olin D. Johnston denying that Negroes in the state were seeking "racial equality," but asserting they did want "racial educational facilities" and "the right to fully participate in our state government."

The letter, signed by President E. A. Adams and Secretary J. M. Johnston of the committee, was in reply to Johnston's speech last week in which he told officers and men of the state home defense force that he would call upon them to expel from South Carolina "any outsider" who might come into our state and agitate social equality among races.

In his letter to the governor, the citizens committee said it was the intention of Negroes to use the courts in seeking the equalities they demanded, instead of resorting to "rioting and creating unrest."

### WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Little change in temperature today and tonight except not quite so warm in afternoon. Scattered afternoon thunder showers in west portion.

### East Gets More Gasoline At Expense Of Other Areas

Washington, July 19.—(AP)—More gasoline for the starved east will be made available, it is getting, and not so good news for the world's greatest motor nation.

Completion of the huge Big Inch pipeline from Texas to the east coast scheduled for today, combined with these developments:

1. Secretary of the Interior, Fred C. Ives, announced that gasoline rationing for the driving of private cars will be eased over most of the nation, and a reduction for the maximum and for southwest. No change was indicated for the west coast.

2. The office of price administration, acting at the request of Rubber Director William Jeffers, banned sale of new tires for spares for the next few months—no specific date given. Existing firemen, doctors and auto dealers with emergency ration

cards will be denied motorists who have four sound tires, plus one that can be made to serve as an emergency spare. Jeffers said he was waiting to make the present stock of new tires available until the new rationing system is in effect.

3. OPA also ruled that the rationing system will be changed to encourage drivers to conserve their equipment without fear that the change will become inflationary. The change will be made by "flipping" rationing stamps on a three-month basis. Individual needs will be adjusted by the ration boards by issuing coupons, not used in the three-month period, rather than giving each bookholder the same number of stamps but varying the length of time in which the coupons must be used. The cars' four-month rationing stamps will be replaced.

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### Military Targets Hit In Daylight

Specially Trained Crews Make Attack, Pin Pointing Targets of Military Value

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 19.—(AP)—Allied heavy and medium bombers blasted military objectives in Rome for the first time in the war today, striking at the very heart of fascist Italy in an emphatic follow-up to the Churchill-Roosevelt ultimatum demanding that Italians remove their country from the war.

Specially trained allied crews carried home a precision attack, pin pointing targets which supposedly were protected by their proximity to some of the most sacred symbols and monuments of Christianity.

A terrific force of explosives burst in from the east. The raid was announced in a brief communique from allied headquarters which said special crews were taken not to damage religious or cultural monuments.

This was in line with a communique which President Roosevelt sent to Pope Pius XII recently assuring him that the allies, in attacking Sicily and Italy, would do all in their power to avoid damage to the Vatican and property of the Roman Catholic church in Italy.

Bombs were away—dropped on their targets on the night of July 17-18 and July 18-19. (The bombing was announced by the War Department in Washington at 5:29 a. m. before the bombers had time to return.)

It was the first time in this war that a report on a bombing was released before the attack actually started. Correspondents were given the information at 11:45 a. m. The bomb hits doors were opened in the lead flight of the allied planes 13 minutes later and the radio operators on the flight informed headquarters instantly.

The reason was to forestall or prevent a flood of Axis propaganda claiming Rome had been bombed indiscriminately, with civil and fanatical tales (attributed to Catholic circles) over the world.

Rome is nearly 350 miles from advanced allied air bases and Mussolini and his fascist chiefs are reported to have lived in terror of a bombing of their capital since the turn in the fortunes of war in the

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### New Device Stabilizes Tank Gunfire

Washington, July 19.—(AP)—American genius has devised a "mechanical gun" stabilizer that stabilizes tank gunfire no matter how the charging member's pitch and buck over rough terrain.

Army ordnance has accepted the design and production of the idea developed by the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., a new stabilizing tank output, the company reported.

Ordnance authorities believe the idea has increased tank shooting accuracy several hundred per cent.

Sold Major General L. H. Campbell, Jr., chief of ordnance for the Army service forces.

"Not only do the 75 mm. guns in our M3 medium tanks outrange the best German tanks but we can fire this gun when the tank is in motion (thanks to the stabilizer), which is more accurate than enemy tanks, whatever its size. And we hit the target."

"Despite the pitch of the tank, the stabilizer keeps the gun barrel at a fixed elevation and the target within focus of the gunner's telescope sight."