



Henderson Daily Dispatch



THIRTIETH YEAR

LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HENDERSON, N. C.,

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 21, 1943

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY

FIVE CENTS COPY

ALLIES CAPTURE ENNA IN CENTRAL SICILY

RUSSIANS REGAIN MORE TOWNS ALONG SPREADING FRONT

Heavy Fight Still Rages Around Orel

Red Army Now on Move Along Front 400 Miles South From Orel

Moscow, July 21—(AP)—Fighting along the Russian front spread to the southern Donets and Mius river sectors yesterday as Red army troops recaptured town after town in their drive to encircle the Germans at Orel on the central front, the Russians reported today.

Russian armies that were on the move on a front extending some 400 miles south from Orel to a point southwest of Voroshilovgrad, where the Soviet mid-night communique said Russian forces had crossed the Mius river, improving their positions.

Heaviest fighting still raged, however, in the vicinity of Orel, where the Soviet army was closing in around the German supply base. Advances of from four to six miles were reported during the day's fighting which saw the Germans hurl ten futile counter attacks in an effort to halt the Russian advance.

Among the towns captured by the Russians, said a special bulletin, was Mstensk, 31 miles northeast of Orel. The same Russian column was reported pushing on to the west.

The Red army force operating directly east of Orel meanwhile, the bulletin said, captured 20 villages in the day's fighting, including the railway station town of Voroshilov. Russian advances were met by stubborn resistance all along the line, the war bulletin declared. Nazi counter attacks were launched constantly. Red army men routed one only to have the Germans reform their shattered tank units and infantry for another, the communique said.

(Today's German communique acknowledged that Nazi forces were engaged in "fierce battles of defenses," especially east and north of Orel.)

Italian Plea For Nazi Aid Believed Made

Rome, July 21—(AP)—Informed diplomatic circles expressed belief today that Premier Mussolini had made an urgent appeal to Adolf Hitler for more help in defense of his gravely threatened country when the axis partners met Monday somewhere in northern Italy—perhaps Verona.

These sources agreed that immediate steps in the battle of Sicily had prompted the conference, which apparently was held as American bombers pounded Rome, but most of them felt that the situation in Italy itself was the main topic of discussion.

In reaching this conclusion they pointed to recent axis statements hinting that both Germany and Italy already regard the defense of Sicily as a lost cause.

State To Continue Its Fight For Agricultural Inspections

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By LYN MSBET. Raleigh, July 21—North Carolina is not going to take lying down the President's veto of the bill requiring federal agencies to comply with state laws as to seed, feed and fertilizer inspection. Immediately upon learning of the veto, Governor Broughton began to contact the chief executives of other southeastern states to arrange for concerted action in getting the measure back through Congress.

Eisenhower Sure Of Allied Victory In Sicilian Area

Baubles of War



IDA LUPINO of the films aids the current drive to collect bits of inexpensive jewelry which fighting Yanks can use in the jungles to win the friendship of natives. If it glitters, it's good in the South Pacific war zones. (International)

UMW-AFL Deal Talked

Proposal Provides For Return of UMW to A. F. of L. Fold; Lewis to Drop District 50

Washington, July 21—(AP)—Return of the United Mine Workers to the American Federation of Labor hinged today, it was reported, on a deal whereby UMW President John L. Lewis would be given a rather free hand in the coal belt provided he gives up organizing workers in other fields.

Labor spokesmen, emerging from the UMW-AFL conference on the proposed merger, disclosed this plan was in the wind.

Lewis and his UMW would be given jurisdiction as virtually the sole craft union for coal diggers. This would, in effect, freeze the charter and in time abolish the Progressive Miners, the AFL's mine union which is strong in Illinois, Indiana and parts of Kentucky.

2. In exchange, Lewis would drop his so-called "district 50" unit which was set up to organize all kinds of workers, including farmers.

Lewis took back to his 200-man policy committee today a report of the conversations with three AFL vice-presidents.

particularly in the South, to carry on the war. Both the governor and the commissioner voiced surprise and keen disappointment at the President's action. They had assumed he would approve the measure, and no special pressure had been brought to bear upon him. Assurance is now given that no holds will be barred.

There is involved here the basic principle of state's rights—a long dormant ideal lately experiencing resurrection. There is involved the very existence of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. More important than either, there is involved

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Commander in Chief Says Eighth Army Facing High Fight And Slow Advance

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 21—(AP)—General Dwight D. Eisenhower declared emphatically today he was confident of a complete allied victory in Sicily but said the task facing British and Canadian forces was one of bitter fighting with a generally slow advance.

"Due to the nature of the terrain and the location of the enemy forces, the task facing the British eighth army, including Canadian forces, is one of bitter fighting with a generally slow advance," the allied commander in chief said.

"The American seventh army is making a more or less rapid advance through weaker resistance, thus overcoming substantial portions of the island and confining the enemy to progressively smaller areas.

"The Germans have attempted to hold a long line, including Mt. Etna, on the east and to bring about certain formations from the mountain foothills," he said.

U. S. Ships Shell Kiska

Washington, July 21—(AP)—The Navy reported today that two small American warships bombarded the Japanese defenses on Kiska island in the Aleutians Tuesday and the enemy failed to return the fire.

In the south Pacific, meanwhile, Japanese bombed the Cameron base on Funafuti, Ellice islands, in the latest of a series of light attacks against advanced outposts guarding the supply lines to Australia. The enemy caused no damage or injuries at Funafuti so far as reports here showed.

Washington, July 21—(AP)—Office of War Information (OWI) which had its financial tail amputated right behind the ears by an irate Congress, is making a comeback.

D. C. Speaker, the unofficial capital authority, said today that "good behavior" is a competent performance under E. Palmer (Ep) Hoyt, the Oregon publisher named as director of OWI's domestic division, had impressed potent Congressmen, and will lead to effects to restore part of the funds taken away from the division when the national legislature reconvenes.

YOUNG EDDIE A MARINE. New York, July 21—(AP)—David Eddie Rickenbacker, 18, eldest son of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, was sworn into the United States marine corps yesterday.

"ONE WORLD" New York, July 21—The film rights to Wendell L. Willkie's "One World" have been sold to 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation, Simon and Schuster, incorporated publishers of the book, announced last night. The movie will be produced personally by Darryl F. Zanuck, who recently returned from active service as a colonel in the United States army.

Stock Buying At Low Ebb

New York, July 21—(AP)—Stock market buying power remained at low ebb today but a few parts of the list showed signs of stabilizing after yesterday's sell-off.

Inclined to lag were General Motors, Chrysler, Bethlehem, Dupont, Southern Railway and Texas Co. Supported were U. S. Rubber, Woolworth and Consolidated Edison. Bonds were irregular and commodities steady.

Liaison Officer



Representing Gen. H. R. L. G. Alexander, Allied military governor of Sicily, Lieut. Col. Charles Poletti, former governor of New York, is the liaison officer between governor and people, directing the government in the area occupied by American forces. (International)

Farm Policy Truce Nears

Russell Leads Move For Compromise; AAA Puts Official Ban on News

Washington, July 21—(AP)—The executive branch and legislative leaders appeared to be headed today toward a truce on some of their major farm and food policy differences.

1. Senator Russell, Georgia Democrat, called on his farm contemporaries to meet the Administration half-way on any move it might make toward reconciliation of those differences.

2. The Agricultural Adjustment Agency (AAA) forbade its 200,000 field employees and committeemen to distribute information about AAA farm programs through news channels.

Russell said reporters he was pleased that war food Administrator Marvin Jones planned to consult with congressmen before making final decisions affecting future farm programs.

"It would do well for the Administration and members of Congress to approach such conference in a spirit of mutual helpfulness, and without chips on their shoulders," the Senator added.

He said congressional sentiment still favored better farm prices rather than government subsidies, but he believed a "spirit of give and take" would iron out differences of opinion on the subsidy question as well as other issues.

His assertion followed an Agriculture Department interpretation of a provision in its new appropriations act which prohibited the use of federal funds in paying salaries and expenses of any AAA information employees.

The announcement told the employees, as well as the state, county and local farmer committees, that they must not carry on any promotional activity for the AAA as an affiliation or for its policies, or attempt to build public pressure for legislative congressional action on farm measures.

FRENCH HOSTAGES EXECUTED BY NAZIS

At the German Frontiers, July 21—(AP)—French citizens were executed in Paris last week in retaliation for the shooting of a German lieutenant. Frustrated information reaching this Swiss area from the former French capital revealed today.

One of the 50 executed while marching to the shooting-ground, he reportedly was replaced by a man picked from the crowd of spectators. It was reported.

Hostage executions were said to have been carried out at regular intervals in an effort to offset outrage, but since the Axis occupation of the entire country they rarely are announced.

U. S. Planes Sink Three Jap Ships In Solomons Area

Cruiser and Two Destroyers Sunk From Convoy on Way to Munda

Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, July 21—(AP)—American bombers were credited today with sinking a cruiser and two destroyers of a Japanese convoy attempting vainly to run the Allied sea and air blockade around the big Munda air base in the Solomons.

A force of three light cruisers, six destroyers and two transports, undoubtedly seeking to aid the land-pressed garrisons at Munda, was spotted by Catalina flying boats shortly after midnight yesterday in Vella Gulf just west of Kolombangara island.

The bombers followed the enemy until strong formations of Liberators, Mitchells and Avengers bombers arrived with bombs which blasted at least three warships to the bottom and sent the remainder fleeing or limping northward.

A third destroyer was listed as probably sunk, and a transport and yet another destroyer were damaged.

Four bombers were lost—two Mitchells and two Avengers. The action, described in today's communique from the headquarters of General Douglas MacArthur, served to maintain in steady pressure on Munda, big air base on New Georgia island, which has been hit by land, sea and air attacks since the southwest Pacific offensive started on July 1.

Supply or reinforcement of Munda has been rendered "difficult and difficult" the communique said, and "a slow but constant deterioration of his (the enemy's) beleaguered garrison can be expected unless our blockade ring can be broken."

This fourth attempt to crack the Munda blockade brought to 17 the number of Japanese warships listed officially as having been sunk in the fast-moving Allied offensive in the Solomons. Five more are considered probably lost.

Allied ground forces moving steadily in on Munda were aided yesterday by Dauntless dive bombers which dropped 18 tons of bombs on Japanese gun positions along a perimeter about two miles east of the airbase.

FUEHRER AND DUCE CONFER WHILE ROBE UNDERGOES BOMBING

London, July 21—(AP)—Adolf Hitler flew into Italy Monday for a conference with Premier Mussolini as the Axis announced last night that the Nazis are gravely concerned over the fate of their common partner trembling under Allied attack.

London sources said the conference, held at an unnamed town in northern Italy, apparently was a last-minute attempt to whip up the flagging spirits of Italy, whose collapse has been let her European ally invade and lose a vital base.

Choice of Monday as the meeting day was a curious one for Mussolini. While the dictators were discussing "military questions," Rome was being pounded by more than 500 bombers in the biggest raid to come since Duce's wax.

The meeting—first since the dictators conferred at Salzburg April 7-10 while the position of Trieste was being serious—was not expected in view of recent Allied successes.

CHINESE FORCE RAIDS JAP-OCCUPIED ISLAND. Chungking, July 21—(AP)—Chinese troops made a successful raid on the Japanese-occupied island of Hainan off the Fukien coast some 60 miles south of Foochow, killing many enemy troops, taking many prisoners and capturing a hoard of supplies, a high command communique announced today.

In Chekiang province, Japanese troops attacking Chinese positions southeast of Lanhou were repulsed, and lost a large quantity of military supplies, it added.

KITCHEN RELIEF. Washington, July 21—(AP)—The War Production Board has authorized a resumption or increase in the manufacture of a number of household articles, including carpet sweeper, pet strollers and bird graders.

'Helena' Survivor



BLOWN INTO THE WATER in the battle of Kula Gulf, Maj. Bernard T. Kelly of the Marines saw his ship, the U. S. cruiser Helena, go down, fighting. After 42 hours in shark-infested waters and 10 days on an island, he and 160 other survivors were saved. (International)

Eight Banks Would Extend Services

Raleigh, July 21—(AP)—The State banking commission heard the applications of eight individual banks today for permission to open checking savings for their patrons. The only vocal opposition was from the North Carolina Bank.

Asking the extended services were the Morris Plan Bank of Wilmington, Home Industrial of Greensboro, Salisbury Morris Plan Co. of Morrisville, the Citizens, Citizens Savings and Loan Co. of Charlotte, Industrial Loan and Investment Bank of Charlotte, Morris Plan Industrial Bank of Durham and the Fayetteville Industrial Bank of Fayetteville.

The Scottish Bank of Lenoir County authorized to open a branch at St. Pauls and the Bank of Panchard asked authority to open a branch at Camp McCall.

Chairman Charles M. Johnson of the commission indicated permission would be handed down late this afternoon.

DIES AT NORLINA. Waco, July 21—Thomas J. Jones died at the home in Norlina last night at 8:15 o'clock following a long illness.

He is survived by his wife, the former Miss Etta Harper, one daughter, Mrs. W. L. Knight of Norlina, three brothers, E. A. J. H. and J. G. Jones, all of Virginia.

'Dirty Girty' Forced Down To Safe Landing on Sicily

With the United States Seventh Army in Sicily, July 21 (Delayed)—(AP)—"Dirty Girty" was some 400 miles north of Africa, was the first Flying Fortress to land on Sicily—landed in an unobscured strip which had the crew blown a that machine "Girty" shot bombing mission over enemy territory would be her last.

The bomber was in plenty of trouble when First Lieutenant Earl Hammond of Fort Chase, Wis., pilot, and Lieutenant Joseph Pearson of G. 45th, N. C., copilot, set her down on an emergency landing strip that invasion troops captured several days ago.

"I'm certainly glad you boys took this strip of land," Hammond told a cheering crowd of soldiers who gathered around the battered plane. "If you didn't, I'd be waiting around in the Mediterranean somewhere."

"Dirty Girty" was one of a large flight of Fortresses which went over the toe of Italy this morning to bomb San Giovanni. The raid was directed at the harbor, from which small boats and ferries have been plying the Strait of Sicily.

"When we went in for our bombing run they threw everything but the kitchen sink at us," Hammond said. "There was ample thick and plenty accurate."

"Girty" added Lieutenant Pearson, "we were just leaving the target when the No. 2 engine went out. They No. 4 went out. We managed to get No. 2 started up again, running half power, when No. 3 conked out. It looked like all of them were going out at one time.

"But our squad stayed with us until they saw that enemy fighters were in range to jump us."

Resistance On Island Weakens

General Withdrawal Of Defense Units Is Forced; Italians Deserted by Nazis

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 21—(AP)—American and Canadian troops have seized Enna—defense prop of all central Sicily—cutting off large numbers of axis forces and forcing a general withdrawal as resistance on the island weakened hourly almost to the point of collapse.

To the east, British eighth army units, hempered at the doors of Catania—last bastion protecting the east coast—battered a major Nazi counter-attack with heavy casualties and a bombing on the seaport. It was reportedly unopposed.

Enna's fall cut off Catania from western Sicily except for one lone, rough northern coastal road.

Allied observers reported a general retreat about all roads leading to the center of Sicily and Italian prisoners declared bitterly that German forces in the central sectors were speeding eastward for a quick getaway.

The withdrawal appeared intended for a last stand or possible evacuation in the Messina area of northern Sicily, or between Catania and Messina.

Italians complained against their own government as well as the Germans. The Nazis, they declared, were repeating their African tactics of abandoning them every time the situation became hopeless, fleeing in all available transport.

They asserted their own fascist government had given them no revolvers and food, and issued obsolete transporters, ammunitions and uniforms.

The U. S. and Canadian troops were spending days in Sicily beyond Enna in a powerful advance. They are only some 40 miles from the north coast of Sicily and they are rapidly splitting the island in two.

"The Italian communique announced earlier that Enna had been evacuated and that the western sector of the Sicilian front, German and Italian forces annihilated by the enemy executed ordered movements en route to plan," British attacks at Catania were reported, it said.

British eighth army troops closing in upon Catania, lay to eastern Sicily, have shattered all another desperate German counter attack with "very heavy casualties" and continued to smother in upon the seaport.

The fall of Enna through the axis communique claims "system in Sicily are rapidly and quick collapse of resistance in the west and central areas was threatened.

The town outside the main highway and railroad lines, running east and west across the mountains is Enna and it thus cuts the German defenders at Catania off from contact with Italian forces in the west.