



# HENDERSON Daily Dispatch



THIRTIETH YEAR

LEARNED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

HENDERSON, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 27, 1943

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY.

FIVE CENTS COPY

## CHURCHILL SAYS WAR ON ITALY GOES ON

### Il Duce Supported Nazi Defense Plan For Northern Italy

#### Fall of Mussolini Attributed to Backing of Plan to Abandon Southern and Central Parts of Country; New Government Insists Country Stands or Falls Together

Madrid, July 27.—(AP)—Travelers arriving by plane from Rome today declared that Benito Mussolini fell because he supported a German plan to abandon central and southern Italy for a strong defense line in the north, and that he was in a villa between Rome and Ostia.

The new government of Marshal Pietro Badoglio insists that all of Italy must be defended, it says, and the Germans have been forced to agree, they declared.

Hitler at first proposed a strong stand behind the Po valley, and Mussolini, seeking to do his bidding, was overruled by the fascist grand council by a vote of 19 to 6, it was asserted.

Carlo Scorza, fascist party secretary, was reported under preventive arrest, with others of il duce's collaborators confined to their homes.

On the issue of defense of all Italy, Badoglio for the moment has at least the support of the army and the crown, both of which enjoy tremendous popular prestige as successors to Mussolini, this late hour account of the crisis in Rome said.

The first clear report of what happened after Mussolini resigned came with the first Ala Littoria plane to leave Rome since the eve of the fall. It is significant of the swift changes that the plane arrived stripped of all fascist insignia, marked only by the Italian national colors, and that an hour after its arrival the fascist name Ala Littoria had been changed to Ala Roma in the line's offices.

### 21 Junkers Transports Shot Down

#### American-Canadian Invaders Attack in Northeastern Area of Island

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 27.—(AP)—American and Canadian troops, throwing themselves forward in the northeastern area of Sicily, have cut to pieces savage German counter attacks in the central sector and advanced over ground strewn with axis dead, allied headquarters announced today.

At the same time a headquarters communique announced that allied air forces had smashed a new enemy attempt to bring reinforcements on a large scale into Sicily by shooting down 21 huge German Junkers-52 transports in a battle over Messina Strait.

It was stated officially that German troops now have been identified all along the entire front in northeastern Sicily where they are attempting to build a dike across the tip of the island to block the invasion gates to Italy.

Enemy losses skyrocketed in the central and southern portions of the line and a number of German battalions lost half of their effective strength in attempts to baulk the relentless forward rush of the allied troops who swept in a wheeling movement from central Sicily.

The Canadians bore the brunt of the operations and made gains against the heaviest opposition, and the allied communique said the American advance, too, was proceeding "according to plan."

However, the Germans were managing to stiffen their resistance as the Americans drove into the harder core of the enemy's defense positions.

Activity on the Catania front where the Germans are fighting to hold the gateway to the Messina escape port was still confined to patrol action.

### Ground Drive For Munda Under Way

#### Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, July 27.—(AP)—Presaged by a 600-ton air and sea bombardment, the American ground offensive against the strategic Munda air base in the central Solomons was under way today.

Softened up by a week's continual bombing, the Japanese gave ground grudgingly all along the perimeter of Munda's defenses yesterday, 500 yards in one sector, and while details of the fighting were lacking it undoubtedly was the start of the long heralded advance.

This first general offensive reported since the battle for the New Georgia island began four weeks ago followed a destructive attack Monday morning by Navy Dauntless and Avenger bombers which leveled intense ground fire to dump 82 tons of bombs on pin-pointed gun positions and personnel targets around the big base.

To the west on New Guinea, formations of Liberators and Flying Fortresses dumped 137 tons of bombs on the Salamona area—the heaviest bomb load yet dropped in a single day on that sector.

South of Salamona, allied forces at Nassau Bay and at Tambu Bay a few miles to the north were attacked ineffectively by Japanese bombers.

FOOD TO MARTINIQUE  
Washington, July 27.—(AP)—Lend-lease shipments of sorely needed food and other supplies have reached the French Guianese islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe to relieve the distressed population, Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., lend-lease administrator announced last night.

### Point Value Of Butter Increased Two Points

#### Washington, July 27.—(AP)—Butter will cost the housewife two more points per pound beginning August 1, but shortening, lard, salad oil and cooking oil will cost one point less and no major changes will be made in meat values, the office of price administration announced today.

The new red point values will remain in effect through September 4. The two-point increase for butter brings the cost to 10 points a pound. Margarine remains unchanged at four points.

In jumping the point cost of butter, OPA said it was attempting to bring consumer demands into line with the available supply. For several months, it was explained, civilian consumption of butter had exceeded allocations.

OPA predicted that the higher point cost of butter would stimulate the demand for other fats and oils. The new point value for lard is three points a pound, while shortening and lard and cooking oils are set at four points.

OPA removed two meat items from the rationed list. Fresh pork backbones and feet (bone in), which have cost one point per pound, become ration free.

OPA said these items were made ration free because of the large supply and the fact that government agencies do not purchase them. Canned pig feet, bone in, will cost one point for August, compared with two points during July.

While no changes were made in the more popular beef cuts, OPA predicted an increase of about 10 per cent in the civilian supply.

The increase in the beef supply is expected to offset a decline in the supply of pork.

## COUNTER ATTACKS REPULSED ON SICILY

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### MANY ALLIED PLANES RAID LOW COUNTRIES

#### London, July 27.—(AP)—Hundreds of Allied fighters and light bombers attacked industrial targets at Zebrugghe and enemy air fields elsewhere in Belgium and Holland by daylight today, the air ministry announced.

The day's operations in the relentless air offensive against the continent followed upon the fifth attack in 48 hours on Hamburg.

### TO OBSERVE CEILING

#### Washington, July 27.—(AP)—Commodity Credit Corporation officials said today that buyers of blue-cured tobacco in markets this year will observe OPA price ceiling.

The officials said that their buyers for lend lease did not observe the ceiling last year, because it was not in the middle of the season after much of the crop had been sold.

### 48-Hour Pounding Began Saturday; R.A.F. and American Planes Take Part

#### London, July 27.—(AP)—For the fifth time in 48 hours Hamburg was attacked from the air last night as the R.A.F. sent Mosquito bombers over the German seaport for the third successive night, the British air ministry news service said today.

Returning crews said there was a clear sky over the devastated city and flames could be seen while they were still more than 30 miles from the target.

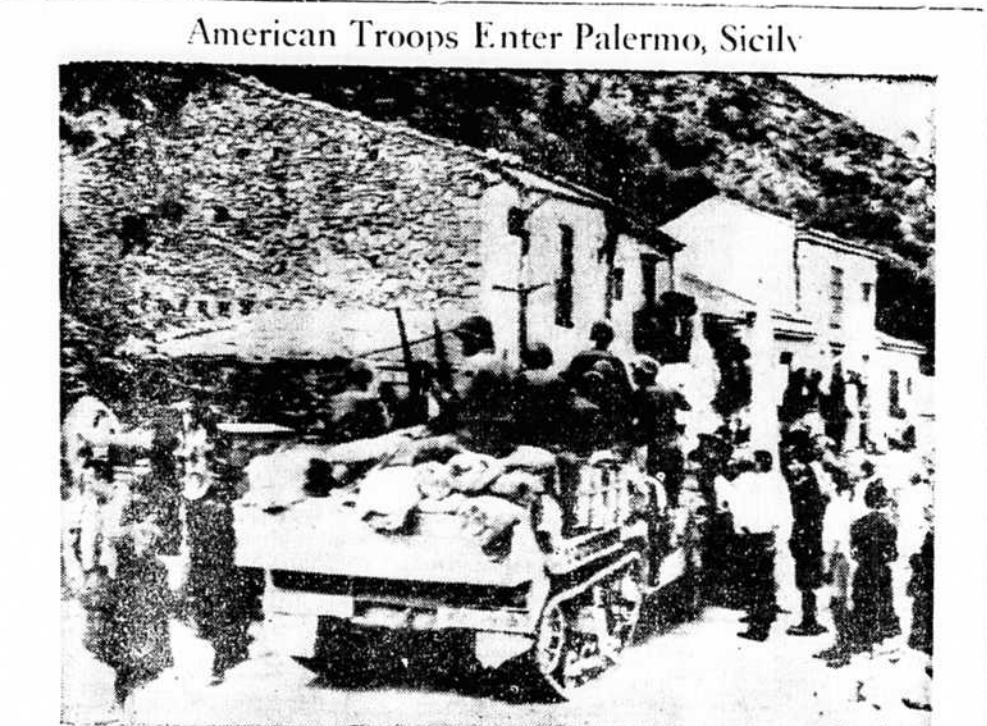
Airmen were quoted as saying that the flak was not so intense as had been expected but there were some night fighters on patrol.

The air battle, designed apparently to flatten Germany's great port on Hamburg, began Saturday night when R.A.F. heavy bombers carried out the greatest raid of the war, dropping 2,300 tons of explosives and incendiaries. Since that time the R.A.F. and the U. S. AAF has kept up round-the-clock attacks.

The U. S. AAF hit the port in daylight Sunday with a large fleet of heavy bombers and the same night R.A.F. and the U. S. AAF have kept up attacks.

The Americans raided the city in daylight again yesterday and the air ministry put out the preliminary announcement that Hamburg had been attacked even before the official communique.

Nothing was said concerning possible RAF losses.



This is one of the first photos to show American troops in Palermo, capital of Sicily. Yank soldiers in a half track come into one of the city's main streets to receive a grand ovation by civilian Sicilians waving white surrender flags (sheets on poles). U. S. Army Signal Corps Radiophoto. (International Soundphoto.)

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### Radio Talk Scheduled

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The address will begin at 9:30 p. m. EDT.

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Presidential Secretary Stephen Early gave no hint as to its primary subject matter.

It will be Mr. Roosevelt's first talk to the American people since the downfall of Mussolini in Italy.

Asked whether the address will deal chiefly with the home front, war front or a combination of the two, Early said "the speech will explain itself."

While it was considered certain the Chief Executive would take the opportunity to at least analyze briefly some of the latest developments of the war, there has been a growing impression that he desired to address the public on home front matters.

The address, to be carried on all networks, will be the first, also, since several major disputes on the domestic scene have flared up, notably that between Vice President Wallace, and Secretary Jones over the purchasing of critical war supplies abroad.

### No Overture For Peace Received

#### Prime Minister Tells Commons That Order to Exert 'Utmost Rigors' Are Issued

London, July 27.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill told a cheering house of commons today that "Italy will be seared and scarred and blackened from one end to the other" unless the new government headed by Marshal Pietro Badoglio abandons Germany's war against the United Nations.

Speaking at a supreme moment in his career as Britain's wartime prime minister when his arch foe Benito Mussolini has disappeared from the scene, Churchill said orders to exert the "utmost rigors of war" against Italy already had gone out to allied commanders.

No overture of peace have been received from the elderly successor to Mussolini, the "first of the dictators to go," Churchill said, and therefore, no new decisions by the allies were called for except to bring "the maximum avalanche of fire and steel upon all targets of military significance throughout the length and breadth of Italy."

"I know little or nothing of the new government," he said. "I express no opinion upon it."

The allied course, he said, would be to leave the Italians to "stew in their own juice for a bit" with the aim of obtaining from the Italian government full facilities for carrying on the war against Germany.

These facilities, it was assumed, included air bases.

But in the interval of the supreme subject of destroying the Nazi war machine, he warned against throwing Italy into such political chaos as to leave the allies no government to deal with or entrust to policing Italy while the war is pursued against Germany.

"The unconditional surrender of Italy should be brought about wholesale and not piecemeal," he said.

Declaring that the British and United States governments were in continuous consultation, he said, they were "acting in the closest concert" in the Italian situation.

### Reds Regain 70 Villages

#### Troops Move Ahead on Three Sides of Orel; German Losses Are High

#### Moscow, July 27.—(AP)—Russian troops moved ahead on three sides of the beleaguered German base at Orel yesterday, capturing 70 more villages, a Soviet communique said, despite bitter Nazi resistance.

German losses were reported running high as the Nazi counter attack desperately to hold Orel and to relieve the pressure already being felt at Bryansk, an important rail base to the west. The Soviet mid-eight communique said that 5,000 Germans were killed in the day's fighting.

The war bulletin disclosed that Russian troops had crossed the Oka river north of Orel and were cutting in behind the city to threaten the Orel-Bryansk railway, only avenue of escape for the Germans. One Soviet column of the northern spearhead has reached Berestna, 45 miles to the northwest, the Russians said.

The southern flank of the Russian army is following the line of the Kursk railway and has taken several towns in an advance reaching to Veropkina, only 17 miles from Orel, the bulletin added.

Elsewhere on the Russian front, the Red army conducted scouting and reconnaissance activities. In the Belgorod area fighting of local importance is still in progress.

### WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Continued warm this afternoon, tonight and Wednesday forenoon. Widely scattered thundershowers, mostly late this afternoon.

### 14-60 Cent Price Range On Georgia Mart Opening

#### Common Grades Sell High, Better Leaf Out of Proportion in First Sales

(By The Associated Press.)  
Georgia's new crop of cigarette tobacco brought from 14 cents to 60 cents per pound on initial sales today.

The first row auctioned at Vidalia gave the growers a high of 60 cents with the lowest grade selling for 20 cents.

On the Tifton market, the first row brought from 30 to 50 cents. Common grades yielded unusually high prices and good tobacco not as high in proportion.

Growers hoped the ceiling price of 41 cents per pound would be marked on the major part of the flue cured crop to make up the increased cost of wartime production.

The 41-cent ceiling, announced Saturday by the OPA, applied to the average of all purchases made by a single buyer during the season without regard to grades or localities. Thus a buyer could pay 65 or 70 cents a pound for high grade leaf, as was the case last year on some markets, if he bought enough cheaper tobacco to bring his average purchase price down to the ceiling.

While a quantity of good grade tobacco usually is offered at the start of auction, much of the weed at the opening sales is of the "lug" variety which comes from the bottom of the stalk and is coarser and of lower quality than leaves higher up.

Farmers with good stands of the leaf looked forward to making more money this year than in the past several years, despite the higher cost of labor. Several sections reported tobacco had entered into a higher grade than in previous years.

At Valdosta, the first row at one warehouse averaged slightly more

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### Broughton To Ask Change In Labor Laws

#### Raleigh, July 27.—(AP)—Governor Broughton will ask the council of state next week for authority to proclaim additional changes in the State's labor laws.

The modifications, prepared by Labor Commissioner Forrest H. Shuford and the State labor advisory committee, are intended to be of temporary duration to help relieve the serious manpower shortage.

Shuford said the changes would: Permit adult women to work as much as ten hours a day, but no more than 48 hours a week.

Permit minors 16 and 17 years of age to work a full ten-hour shift in a plant which operates such a shift.

Permit minors 14 and 15 years of age to work as late as 9 p. m.

Permit girls from 14 to 18 years of age to deliver newspapers on

(Continued on Page Two)