Henderson Daily Dispatch

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Allies Drive Forward On Sicily

Stalin Hails Reds' Double Victory

Nazi Forces Now Reeling In Retreat

Soviet Premier Declares Victories Dispel Legend Of Summer Slump

London, Aug. 6—(AP)—German forces were reeling backward in their first great summer retreat of the war on the Russian front today as the shattering Soviet offensive that crushed Orel struck suddenly 165 miles to the south yesterday to wrest Belgorod from the nazi invaders.

The double victory which pried loose two of the most important German strongholds on the south-central front was hailed by Premier Josef Stalin in a special announcement broadcast from Moscow as dispelling "the legend of the Germans that Soviet troops are allegedly unable to wage a successful offensive in the summertime."

"Death to the German invaders!" he told his victorious forces.

As Belgorod fell to the Russian drive threatening to push the cream of Hitler's forces back into the rich grain fields of the Ukraine, nazi forces falling back from reconquered Orel were subjected to withering punishment from the Red air fleet.

The escape corridor to Bryansk, 30 miles to the west, was littered with burning trucks, guns and other war supplies, the Russians said, as Soviet bombers bombed and strafed the retreating columns.

Seventy-two German planes which tried to screen the beaten nazis were reported shot down.

The Russian advance also was reported continuing south and southwest of the city where more than 30 villages were reoccupied.

More than 3,000 Germans died in the last phase of the battle for Belgorod, the Soviet announcement said when the nazis defended the city bitterly and launched numerous counter attacks.

15 Known Dead In Flood

Sutton, W. Va., Aug. 6—(AP)—Rescuers searched today in the debris of a flood known to have claimed at least 15 lives for the bodies of six others, believed to have perished.

The property toll in battered houses, broken bridges and other devastation rose above $2,000,000 as the Little Kanawha river, swollen yesterday in central West Virginia to the greatest height in its history by raging mountain streams, left a thick layer of muck over the scene.

Eleven bodies were recovered within a 20-mile radius of Sutton, seat of agricultural Braxton county, while five members of a family were swept away by the angry current of Island creek and a mother and child lost their lives in Tenner creek near Gilmer on the Calhoun county line.

Cotton Futures 50-75 Higher

New York, Aug. 6.—(AP)—Cotton futures (old contracts) opened unchanged to 15 cents a bale higher.

Noon prices were 50 to 75 cents a bale higher, October 19.92, December 19.79, March 19.66.

	Previous Open	To-day's Close
October	19.32	19.84
December	19.67	19.68
March	19.52	19.52
May	19.36	19.39
July	19.23	19.25

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Not quite so warm this afternoon, tonight and Saturday forenoon.

When American Bombers Wrecked Axis Oil Capital

American Liberator bombers, white stars shining on their sides, swept low over the Rumanian oil fields at Ploesti in the spectacular foray which smashed the vital Axis oil refineries there. A flight of 175 bombers took part in the raid, flying a record distance of 2,100 miles. OWI Radiophoto. (International.)

Occupation Of Munda Completed

1,671 Japanese Dead Already Counted; Communique Gives Few Details

Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, Aug. 6—(AP)—American ground troops completed the occupation of Munda today, just 22 days after a beachhead was secured on New Georgia island and five weeks after U. S. invasion forces landed on the neighboring island of Rendova.

A special communique issued tonight from General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters gave few details of the final assaults which crushed the enemy's stubborn but hopeless stand.

But preliminary announcement that 1,671 Japanese dead already had been counted testified to the bitterness of the struggle for the 4,000-foot-long airdrome and protecting fortifications built by the Japanese since they occupied New Georgia one year ago. Since that time Munda had become the core of Japanese defenses in the central Solomons.

The bulletin proclaiming that "Munda is now in our hands" and that enemy resistance had ceased was transmitted this morning by the official assertion that the Japanese garrison at Munda had been completely exterminated.

[illegible] Munda and its airfield—[illegible] estimated at 5,000 men—[illegible] the Japanese on the other western foothold on New Georgia, around Bairoko Harbor, ten miles north of Munda, and the long established base at Vila, on nearby Kolombangara island.

[illegible] have been received since July 20 when an Allied force which had landed on the northwest end of New Georgia four days earlier established a road and telephone cutting the enemy's line of communications between the two Japanese forces.

The enemy has managed to hold out at Bairoko and at Vila, eight miles to the northwest, in the face of repeated American bombing, [illegible] mauling blows delivered by surface and aircraft forces, to break all major Japanese efforts to send in reinforcements and supplies.

Twice an Officer

A FORMER newspaper editor and a U. S. Naval Reserve lieutenant commander at the start of the war, Paul C. Smith didn't resign for a soft job. He resigned his commission and enlisted as a private in the Marine Corps. On completion of basic training, Smith went to O. C. S. and is now a third lieutenant. U. S. M. C. photo. (International)

Fortresses Bludgeon Messina

Forces Continue Steady Rollback Of German Forces West Of Mt. Etna

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, Aug. 6—(AP)—U. S. troops have plunged forward two to three miles on the north coastal road to Messina, and in the central sector of Sicily have seized Gagliano in a steady rollback of Germans west of Mt. Etna, an allied communique announced today.

The allied tornado meanwhile reached a new climax as Flying Fortresses bludgeoned Messina, the last big axis escape hatch to the mainland, and air and naval forces continued to blast upon the foe on the north coast.

Italian and Canadian troops in the center smashed ahead toward Adrano in steady progress, it was said to headquarters headquarters said, but the Germans are resisting fiercely.

[illegible] American troops have gained beyond [illegible] and Regalbuto, which was seized by the Canadians. [illegible] helps threaten the allied flank and further endangers the German defenses shielding withdrawal of Axis forces from the south and central east of Sicily.

The communique said that a British eighth army brigade accepted the official surrender of Catania, second chief city and seaport of the island, on July 31. On yesterday and today British troops swept northward to the Mascalinaro and Fiumefreddo rivers to Paternò on [illegible].

Other British eighth army units [illegible] with the Canadians and British [illegible] and Messina area.

[illegible] the Americans [illegible] Agrigento and Porto Empedocle, within two [illegible] of junction, whose [illegible] the last lateral road still in enemy hands.

Draft Probe Advocated

House Subcommittee Recommends Delay In Father-Draft Pending Studies

Los Angeles, Aug. 6.—(AP)—With the father-draft question raised anew at widely separated points on the home front, a subcommittee of the House military affairs committee came forth today with a recommendation for full review of selective service quotas and procedure.

Representatives John M. Costello, (D-Calif.) and Forest A. Harness (R-Ind.), subcommittee members, said in a joint statement:

"We recommend that there should be no draft of fathers until there has been a complete reclassification of all persons classified 3-A, and that a better utilization of the available manpower between the ages of 38 and 45 be made."

Costello, subcommittee chairman, who with Harness has been conducting hearings here on the draft's effect upon war industries, said yesterday Major General Lewis B. Hershey, national selective service director, is scheduled to testify Monday. With the session in recess until then, Harness has left for hearings in Indiana.

Rayburn Cites Gains In War Effort

Commerce, Texas, Aug. 6.—(AP)—Speaker Sam Rayburn, Democrat of Texas, today said the U. S. Army has 2,000,000 men overseas and that the Navy will be twice as strong at the end of this year as it was at the close of 1942.

Rayburn spoke at East Texas Teachers College, where he received an honorary doctor of laws degree.

Rayburn's list of the nation's accomplishments toward victory included:

2,000,000 men—largest overseas force in history—sent to foreign soil;

Addition of 200 warships to the Navy since January 1;

Increase in Army and Navy air forces by more than 64,000 planes in the past year;

Victory over the U-boat;

Adequate transportation of men and materials and an air umbrella to protect them;

Greatest food supply ever amassed by any nation;

Establishment of price controls;

Fitness of our fighting men surpassing those of all other nations.

PURPLE HEART

Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, Aug. 6—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur has awarded the Purple Heart decorations to William F. Boni, Associated Press war correspondent who was wounded July 9 while off Northeastern New Guinea.

Border Belt Prices Steady Or Improved

Offerings Generally Reported As Light; Farmers Hold Back For Ceiling Boost

(By The Associated Press)

Prices held steady or improved on the Border Belt tobacco markets today as second day sales were held. Offerings were generally reported light.

At Darlington, 180,000 pounds were on warehouse floors. Prices averaged an estimated average of 42 cents a pound. Interior grades predominated.

Kingstree reported prices and quality in line with yesterday when 135,000 pounds sold for an average of 41.34 cents a pound.

Light sales were recorded at Timmonsville. Prices were mostly from the opening day when 350,000 pounds sold for an average of 42. Farmers were reported by a report said, that the government ceiling prices be raised above its present 41 cent level.

An average of around 42 cents was reported by most of the Belt's 16 markets for yesterday's sales.

Tar Heel growers generally held back on taking their crops to market and consequently sales were light at the seven North Carolina marts. Farmers hoped for OPA action on the formal request of the North Carolina State Grange that the 41-cent a pound OPA price ceiling be raised to 48 cents.

The ceiling is not said in that 41 cents is the top price, but means that the average for all grades at any market should not exceed that figure.

Sample opening sales averages were as follows with the figure estimated in most cases:

North Carolina: Clarkton, $42; Chadbourne, $42; Fairmont, $42; Lumberton, over $40; Tabor City, $42; Fair Bluff, $42 and Whiteville, range between $37 and $46.

South Carolina: Timmonsville, $42; Darlington, $41; Scranton, $41; Conway, $42; Lake City, $42; Pamplico, $42; Nichols, $42.57; Loris, $38.82; Dillon, $40.

A lower production of lower quality was reported on the Georgia-Florida market, yesterday by the war food administration. The demand remained strong except for medium-red grade, which dropped 2 to 3.75 per pound under Wednesday's level.

3,266 Ships In Invasion

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, Aug. 6—(AP)—The allied Allied naval story of the Sicilian invasion was released today and it disclosed that 3,266 surface craft of all type from battleships to motor torpedo boats took part.

The combined naval command in charge of the American forces on the south of Sicily and the British landings north of Augusta were directed by Rear Admirals Alan G. Kirk, Jean L. Hull and Richard L. Conolly, U. S. Navy, and Rear Admiral Frederick Rhind, U. S. Navy, Philip Louis Vian and Thomas Hope Troubridge of the British royal navy.

The Italian and the British heavyweight Italian battleships, flying their flags to seaward of Augusta, U. S. Navy anchorages and fully [illegible] in accordance with the Geneva convention, was deliberately sunked, with consequent loss of life, the first day of the invasion.

SLIGHT MISTAKE

Charlotte, Aug. 6—(AP)—Lawyer H. H. A[illegible] Chambers, 48, open the envelope he opened and came a cashier's check for $2,000,000.

A [illegible] selection, and he [illegible] included the bank's check which [illegible] must have had a more [illegible].

The check was from a man who owed him $500.

Smathers returned the check to the bank in western North Carolina, with a request that the surplus $2,000,000 be removed.

ATLANTIC COAST LINE VICE PRESIDENT DIES

Bronxville, N. Y., Aug. 6—(AP)—Henry Leigh Borden, 75, vice president and secretary of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co., died here yesterday at the Lawrence [illegible].

Borden began his career as a [illegible] for the Atlantic Coast Line at Wilmington, N. C., in 1887; became secretary in 1902, vice president in 1917. He was a native of Goldsboro, N. C.

Italians Show Unrest

Badoglio's Failure To Seek Peace Is Disappointment To Italian People

Bern, Aug. 6—(AP)—Failure of the new Italian government to give any outward signs that it is seeking peace renewed the unrest of the Italian people today—an unrest accentuated by news of the fall of Catania, Orel and Belgorod.

[illegible]

"Everyone is talking of peace these decisive hours and the possibility of re-establishing Italy's honor," the correspondent wrote. He added that the allied conquest of Orel and Catania "caused an enormous sensation. The people ask each other how can Badoglio still hesitate?"

Civilian Needs Get Attention As Nationwide Study Is Made

Washington, Aug. 6—(AP)—The armed [illegible] now are on notice that they [illegible] will take from the home front only [illegible] they need to fight the war, and that everything else should go to civilians.

Training [illegible] have investigators [illegible] buy the [illegible] at the nation make a survey of [illegible] civilians' need, and what [illegible] on hand to meet them.

The [illegible] of civilian requirements will depend on those surveys, which civilian production should be increased, and civilian needs may be met.

OCD Director Arthur D. Whiteside [illegible] clear that civilians can expect no more goods than will meet their essential needs, for instance.

"By [illegible] of about the same quantities of materials that [illegible] Easy [illegible] production during recent months [illegible] had civilian services and the production of essential civilian goods can be maintained. The needs of the armed at present cannot be met.

So optimists need not expect [illegible] of automobiles [illegible] after war's end. The [illegible] might not find time for refrigerators. Lack of automobiles and gasoline may have been an [illegible] for many war workers but there are various forms of transportation. Refrigerators, however, are needed in each individual household.

Surveys disclosed workers in a [illegible] of riding bicycles to work on a mass scale so bicycle production was not increased; survey showed that Americans were fairly well equipped with razors—[illegible] not interested.

LAVAL TO BERLIN FOR CONFERENCES

London, Aug. 6—(AP)—The Algiers radio said today Pierre Laval, chief of the Vichy government, would go to Berlin next week to discuss measures for the control of French guerilla activity against the Germans. The broadcast was recorded by the Associated Press.

Japs Enlarge Bases In China

[illegible]

Convicts Aid In War Effort

Washington, Aug. 6—(AP)—The [illegible] war, has [illegible] production line, [illegible] everything from [illegible] everything from [illegible] made for the [illegible] almost, [illegible].

Now it [illegible] convict work [illegible] contracts in 47 [illegible] already is at a [illegible] rate.

[illegible] because of the government's plans on the non-essential use of steel.

[illegible] said on one and [illegible] said Maury Maverick, former Texas congressman who heads the government division of the War Production Board. [illegible] plants would have to close. They were afraid of [illegible] everything else if their supplies weren't busy."

The result was the prison industries division of WPB set up specifically to get idle penitentiary factories converted to war production.

Today only Utah is without a war contract, largely because of its small prison population.

Stock Prices Slip Lower

New York, Aug. 6—(AP)—The stock market skidded into lower ground today.

Selected rail bonds were steady and commodities higher.

Stocks slipping included American Telephone, U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, General Motors, Chrysler, U. S. Rubber, Montgomery Ward, DuPont, Johns-Manville, Consolidated Edison, Standard Oil of New Jersey and [illegible].