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Allies Gain Bridgehead In Italy

State Road Program Envisioned

Governor Broughton Outlines Road Building at Record Rate; May Start Before Peace

Raleigh, Sept. 3—(AP)—The largest highway expansion in the state's history was envisioned today by Governor Broughton, who said the program might start before the war's end.

The \$25,000,000 in State funds alone could make the program the largest since the \$50,000,000 appropriation many years ago that marked the real beginning of the state's primary road system.

In addition, about \$11,000,000 in federal funds have been earmarked for North Carolina, leaving only a few million less than the record. The federal government has indicated that it intends to continue its road building policy.

As the war demands ease, as materials and labor become available, the new road program could be started, the governor said, adding that some materials already were becoming available for essential civilian use.

The governor made the announcement to the State highway and public works commission, which had been advised that the road system was badly in need of repairs. Bridges are needed, and every part of the state, he said, needs new construction. Since America entered the war, materials have not been available to the roads in sufficient quantity to keep them in good repair.

The governor suggested that the commission immediately start making plans, surveys and generally to get into position to start its rebuilding "within a 30-day period" after materials and labor become available.

One-Third Of Jap Ships Sent To Bottom

Washington, Sept. 3—(AP)—Secretary Knox announced today that one-third of Japan's total shipping, approximately 2,500,000 tons, has been destroyed.

The Navy chief declared this destruction of one of Japan's most vital resources was chiefly accomplished by American submarines, although all United Nations sea and air forces have participated in the sinkings.

Knox agreed with a questioner at his press conference that the enemy's loss of cargo tonnage was important.

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Jap Planes Knocked Out

Allied Airmen Encounter No Japanese Resistance in Widespread Raids Over Salamaua Sector

Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, Sept. 3—(AP)—The allied campaign for north-eastern New Guinea appears, for the moment at least, to have knocked out the Japanese air force from besieged Salamaua all the 550 miles to the Dutch New Guinea border.

In earlier stages of the allied drive on Salamaua, Japanese planes ranged forward mountain positions, ranged far to strike across the Owen Stanley mountains to Port Moresby and down the coast from Salamaua in the region of Buna.

Today's allied communique, reporting the wiping out of Japanese army headquarters, warehouses, fuel and ammunition stores in and around Madang, said the raiding Liberators and Mitchells found only one grounded enemy plane among targets for their more than 200 tons of bombs. Escorting Lightnings did not encounter an interceptor.

The Salamaua airdrome, now within rifle range of allied jungle fighters, is unserviceable to the enemy.

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THE INVASION IS ON!

Leap Stirs No Comment

Official Washington Takes Invasion News Without Excitement; Move Was Expected

Washington, Sept. 3—(AP)—Allied chiefs have worked out their war destiny so far in advance that the invasion of the Italian mainland scarcely stirred a ripple in official Washington—which at the moment includes Prime Minister Churchill.

That was the only logical conclusion to be drawn from the reactions of highly placed authorities when the news of the leap across the Sicilian straits was made known early this morning.

It would have been a minor miracle if some top ranking officials here were unaware of the allied time table calling for the drive across the Sicilian straits to Italy proper. But none either would say they knew about it, or express any comment.

The situation today in Washington is this: Let's wait until the Chief gives the word.

The presence of Prime Minister Churchill at the White House was double reason for the official silence. The stress at the moment is on the war in the Pacific, with the implication that immediate plans for Europe already have been perfected.

U. S. leaders may have been so especially silent because the leap into Italy was primarily a British affair, engineered by the famed eighth army of General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery. Whether Mr. Churchill would have anything to say about it later in the day was problematical.

If Mr. Churchill has anything to say, it would be a good opportunity for him to remind the axis that he promised several months ago great action before the leaves of autumn fall.

NAZIS CAPTURED

Clayton, N. Y., Sept. 3—(AP)—Three men identified as the three remaining escaped German war prisoners from Fort Henry, Kingston, Ont., were captured here by an immigration border patrolman.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Continued warm this afternoon, tonight and Saturday forenoon. Scattered thundershowers north and west portions this afternoon.

Papal Envoy To America

London, Sept. 3—(AP)—Enrico Galeazzi, governor of Vatican City, left Lisbon by clipper Wednesday night for the United States, a Reuters dispatch reported today. The purpose of his visit was not disclosed, Reuters said, but there was speculation here on the possibility that it was connected with negotiations to make Rome an open city.

A Swiss Telegraph Agency dispatch from Vatican City said the possibility was not excluded that Galeazzi was the bearer of a personal message from Pope Pius XII to President Roosevelt.

U. S. Planes Raid France

Paris Reported Bombed During Heavy Attacks in Early Morning; RAF Makes Night Raids

London, Sept. 3—(AP)—While allied invasion forces stormed on to the Italian mainland, great fleets of United States heavy and medium bombers laid down a strong early morning bomb barrage on northern France today, it was announced.

The preliminary American announcement of this morning's raid did not specify the targets, but a Rome broadcast earlier said Paris has been bombed.

In sun-darkening swarms, flying fortresses and swift Marauders swept across the channel under cover of swift-striking Thunderbolts.

Londoners got a view of part of the returning formations, approximately 150 fortresses flying northward over the city as persons in the streets stopped and cheered.

The Paris radio said in a broadcast heard by the Associated Press that an "extensive raid" was made on the Paris region, adding that the main target was the left bank of the Seine.

The daylight attack followed night blows by the RAF against axis airfields and other targets in northern France and the Low Countries. An air ministry communique said other aircraft laid mines in enemy waters during the night.

Reds Hurl Nazis Back

Main German Rail Line Between Central and Southern Sectors Cut 150 Miles From Kiev

London, Sept. 3—(AP)—The Germans reeled back today along a 600-mile front under staggering Russian blows that cut the main Nazi rail link between the central and southern sectors 150 miles from Kiev, crashed into the Smolensk defense perimeter for a gain of six miles and shattered strong enemy positions in a new drive into the northern Dniepr basin.

Five Red armies were engaged in the gigantic Soviet offensive, which threatened the entire German battle line on the eastern front.

The speed of the Russian advance which already has cracked the enemy's 1941 invasion lines, indicated that the Germans were retreating along the whole southern front in an apparent attempt to get behind their Dniepr river defense system. Russian generals were giving them no rest, throwing immense forces of men and motorized equipment into the offensive.

Capture of the Ukraine stronghold of Sumy, 90 miles northwest of Kharkov, by General Nikolai Vatutin's command was announced personally by Marshal Stalin in an order of the day yesterday, while a communique told of the storming of Kirovets and Yampol on the important Bransk-Kiev railway linking the southern and central fronts.

Female Figures

Washington, Sept. 3—(AP)—Female figures make a big difference from now on. You'll have to put on your glasses to look at them because—

The war manpower commission has just unveiled figures which need explaining. Take a look:

Between now and this time next summer 1,000,000 more women must go into jobs, including the armed services and non-farm jobs.

WMC says 100,000 women are in the armed forces now. The number must climb to 300,000 by next summer.

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RAF Raids Japs In Burma

New Delhi, Sept. 3—(AP)—British fighter planes, attacking enemy communications over a wide area of western Burma, destroyed or damaged 13 three-ton trucks yesterday on the highway from Toungay to Promé and six locomotives and two trains between Toungay and Yamethin, it was announced today.

A sawmill was set ablaze and two factories damaged by other fighters, a communique said.

In the Ayakan district a formation of Avengers dive-bombed the town of Pulewa, scoring direct hits on two large buildings and starting fires.

Pacific War Gains Speed

Four-Pronged Offensive Believed in Prospect; Importance Attached To Raid on Marcus

Washington, Sept. 3—(AP)—A promise of devastating naval and aerial blows on the Japanese homeland indicated today that the United States fleet, with its growing armada of carrier-borne planes, is preparing swiftly to join in a four-pronged offensive in Asia and the Pacific this fall.

The September 1 raid on Marcus island, only 1,200 miles from Tokyo, hinted at mighty operations to come, and this portent has now been translated into plain words by Vice Admiral John S. McCain, deputy chief of naval operations for air.

"The attack on Marcus is only a token," he said in a radio broadcast last night. "Such blows will increase in tempo, in power and in fury until we lay waste in blood and ashes the home islands of this treacherous, brutal and savage people."

McCain's emphasis on the importance of the Marcus raid, details of which have not yet been released by the Navy, was but the latest of a number of official disclosures which began with announcements at Quebec and which, taken together, suggest campaigns against the Japanese from four directions:

1. North Pacific, by American and

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Eighth Army Troops Battle On Mainland Of Calabrian Coast

First of Invaders Set Foot on Italian Coast At 4:30 a. m.; General Eisenhower in Command Of Historic Operations; American Warplanes And Warships Support British-Canadian Units

New York, Sept. 3—(AP)—The British radio, quoting a report from the United Nations radio at Algiers, said British and Canadian troops "have established a bridgehead on the Calabrian coast" in Italy. The broadcast was recorded by CBS.

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, Sept. 3—(AP)—(2:15, 8:15 a. m. EWT)—British and Canadian troops, practiced veterans of General Montgomery's eighth army, made landings in southern Italy today in the first of several expected invasions of Hitler's Europe.

Ten hours after they had swarmed across Messina Strait from Sicily in small boats they were battling on the toe of Italy to establish a bridgehead.

Thus once again Adolf Hitler's legions, which had boasted they held the continent secure, were being engaged on the European mainland.

The first of the invaders, British and Canadian, set foot on the Calabrian coast opposite eastern Sicily at 4:30 a. m. (10:30 p. m. Thursday, EWT).

Invasion Bulletins

London, Sept. 3—(AP)—German broadcasts indicated today that the allied forces landing on the Italian mainland had occupied both Scilla and Reggio Calabria.

Both these cities are on the Italian west coast, directly across the Strait from Messina.

The German international information bureau, in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press, said the allied invasion forces had penetrated as far as Scilla on the coast road. It said another force, led by many tanks, had penetrated eastward from Reggio Calabria.

London, Sept. 3—(AP)—Arrival in London of General Henry H. Arnold, chief of the U. S. Army air forces, a few hours before allied troops landed on the Italian mainland, today heightened speculation that he was here to effect a further coordination of ground and air forces for an anticipated invasion of the continent from the British Isles.

London, Sept. 3—(AP)—The London Star speculated today that the U. S. seventh army, not mentioned in the communique on the Italian invasion, had been "assigned a very important task."

In an article in the Star, General Sir Robert Gordon-Finlayson said, "We can be quite sure that the seventh U. S. army is destined by General Eisenhower to land somewhere in Italy soon, but it is impossible yet to say where. The seventh army will have been assigned a very important task."

"Messina is just the beginning," an Evening Standard editor said. "It is not likely that allied strategy foresees only a landing at the toe and steady sober progress up the foot of the mainland."

Surmising that the British eighth army probably had crossed the Strait of Messina in small boats carrying only light equipment, General Gordon-Finlayson predicted that initial progress would be slow if opposition were met.

For several hours the London censors halted dispatches quoting speculation appearing in London newspapers. Dispatches were released when the Germans drew the obvious conclusion that American forces might go into action later.

FUNERAL RITES HELD FOR SUICIDE VICTIM

Rosnoke Rapids, Sept. 3—(AP)—Funeral services were held yesterday for Mrs. Annie Robbins, 62, of Rosnoke Rapids, who, Halifax County Coroner H. G. Rowe said, was instantly killed Wednesday when she threw herself in front of a Seaboard Air Line passenger train near here. Coroner Rowe said there were two witnesses, and pronounced the death a suicide. Mrs. Robbins had been in ill health, he said, and she left a note the contents of which he did not disclose.

The crossing of the strait was made under cover of a moonless night. It defied the moving of a great flood force across the narrow strait of the sea, only two miles wide at its narrowest.

But even in the starlight the outline of the mountains rising from the Italian toe could be seen from Sicily.

The American General Eisenhower was in supreme command of the historic operations. American planes and warships played a prominent part in the preparation and support of the landings.

While troop-laden barges churned across the narrow Strait of Messina, artillery on Sicily thundered a heavy barrage against enemy gun positions, warships bombarded the beaches, and a big concentration of aircraft hovered protectively overhead.

The attack came on the fourth anniversary of Britain's declaration of war on Hitler's Germany.

Allied headquarters announced that Brenner Pass bridges had been bombed by allied aircraft.

Heavy attacks were made on bridge and rail installations at Bolzano and Trento, both in northern Italy on the line from the pass, an air communique said.

While the heavy bombers were striking at the main route by which axis forces in Italy are supplied from the north, medium bombers escorted by long range fighters made a heavy attack on the railway yards at Caniccoli, near Naples, scoring new damage on tracks that often have been targeted and torn in recent weeks.

It was emphasized here that the new assault was not to be regarded as a "second front," but as a continuation of a campaign begun in north Africa and moving into Europe step by step—Tunisia, Pantelleria, Sicily and now Italy itself.

There was no mention of American ground forces taking part in the amphibious attack, but Yankee fliers teamed up with their British comrades to batter enemy positions and provide a protective sky screen for the assault troops.

The landing came after two weeks of intense air bombardment of southern Italy, attacks that almost without exception were aimed at railway and other communication facilities to disrupt enemy troop and supply movements.

On frequent occasions, too, allied warships steamed up to the coasts for ashore bombardments.

Fierce German opposition was expected on the mainland.

The thrust was made opposite Messina in the vicinity of Reggio Calabria, mainland ferry port which has been attacked by air almost daily for several months.

Italians Urged To Welcome Allied Troops

London, Sept. 3—(AP)—The United Nations radio at Algiers broadcast a special appeal to the Italian people today asking them to welcome the allied forces landing in southern Italy "as liberators in the same fashion your forefathers welcomed Garibaldi."

Broadcasting in the Italian language.

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