

## GRINDING AMERICAN OFFENSIVE AT ST. LO

### Roosevelt May Meet Churchill In England Very Soon

Roosevelt's Revision of French Policy Clears Way for Conference

Washington, July 13—A meeting between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill may come about before long, the way cleared in part by Mr. Roosevelt's dramatic revision of French policy to permit practical cooperation with General Charles De Gaulle.

The problem of Anglo-American relations with De Gaulle's national committee of liberation has been one of the most difficult ever to handle in the course of affairs, which has to be handled jointly by Washington and London.

The President and prime minister at various times been very close together in their desire not to decapitate the committee as a provisional government but Mr. Churchill's position has been complicated first by the fact that his own foreign office has long favored recognition and then by indication that this attitude in recent months has become increasingly widespread in the British Government.

### Fire Line Is Holding Back Swamp Blaze

Raleigh, July 13—(AP)—An eight mile fire line in the great Dismal Swamp Desert was holding today, district ranger R. D. Wise reported, but a lack of rain and a change of wind to the north would endanger 15,000 more acres.

Approximately 12,000 acres already have been burned over. The presence of ground fires, which feed upon peat, makes the situation more troublesome.

The weather in that area continued very dry, Wise said, with high south-west wind. Several smaller fires are in that general area.

A fire near New Bern was under control, with the help of rain. No fires of consequence were reported from the western section.

### WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Partly cloudy and moderately warm tonight with scattered thunder showers. Partly cloudy Friday.

### Douglas Seen Chief Rival For Wallace

Washington, July 13—(AP)—Supporters of Henry A. Wallace named Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas today as the vice-presidential chief rival for second place on the 1944 Democratic ticket.

They also are keeping an eye on Senate Majority Leader Bradley Spilker, Sen. Rayburn, Sen. Truman, Missouri Democrat, and War Mobilization Director James Byrnes. Organized campaigns are not in evidence. None is likely pending an expected word from President Roosevelt that he would not intend having Wallace for a running mate again but that someone else might do.

### Red Cross To Handle Return Men Overseas

Washington, July 13—(AP)—The War Department has decided to discontinue transmitting to theater commanders requests for soldiers overseas to be returned to this country because of illness in the family or other emergency reasons.

This action is necessary the department announced today because of the strain imposed on communication facilities by military messages.

Henceforth those making such a request will be asked to give it to the American Red Cross which, after an investigation, will make a recommendation through its own channels if it believes return of the soldier is necessary.

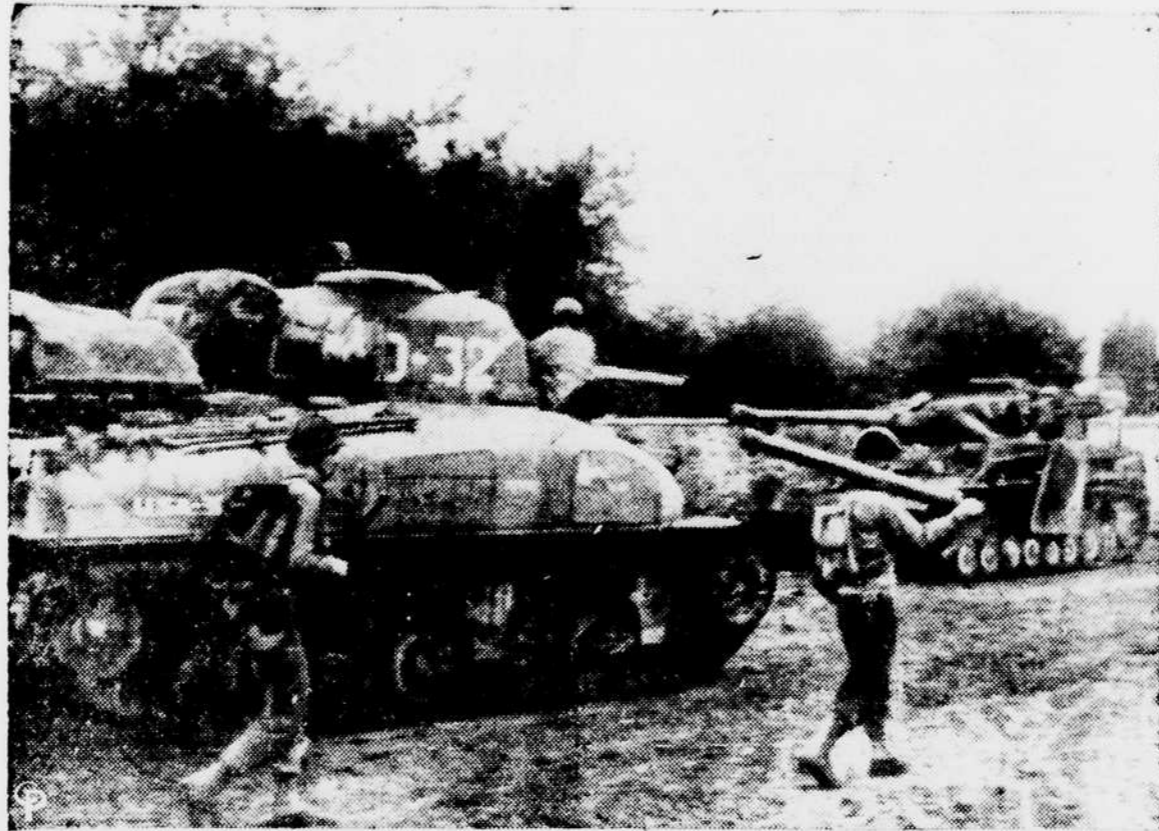
At the same time, the army also announced discontinuance of the practice of sending overseas requests for information on the condition of specific individuals.

The army said its policy is to report serious illness and subsequent changes to the next of kin as a matter of routine procedure, and in the absence of any such report it could be assumed the individual's condition had not changed materially.

### FARM SAFETY WEEK

College Station, Raleigh, July 13—Director I. O. Schaub of the State College Extension Service has requested all agricultural agencies in North Carolina to join with farm families in observing National Farm Safety Week, beginning July 23.

### YANKS MOVE UP TO ST. LO FRONT IN NORMANDY



ACCOMPANIED BY TANK UNITS, American infantrymen are shown as they moved forward in the sector between St. Florent and St. Lo in Normandy. The soldier at right carries a bazooka on his shoulder. Close to the wall (background) is a German Mark IV tank that was knocked out during the advance after holding up the American advance for a short time. U. S. Signal Corps Radiophoto. (International Soundphoto)

### Reds Drive Near Border Of Prussia

### Munich, Saarbrucken Feel Weight Of Heavy Bombing

Battle Echoes Heard in Germany; Disaster Hits Nazis in Latvia

Moscow, July 13—(AP)—Russian troops drive to a point within 30 miles of East Prussia today in a 19-mile advance in the Szwawki area of western White Russia.

(Szwawki itself is but 11 miles from East Prussia. It is a city of old Poland on a wedge of land between East Prussia and Lithuania. It lies 60 miles southwest of Kaunas and 90 miles from the Prussian Baltic coast. A Russian drive to the Baltic might trap two German armies in the Russian-annexed states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.)

(An NBC broadcast from Sweden said the Russians were within 12 miles of East Prussia after driving 30 miles beyond Grodno, also an old Polish city. Proximity would mean that battle echoes could be heard in Germany itself.)

Other Russian columns struck within 33 miles of Kaunas, old capital of Lithuania in a seven-mile advance. Detachments were within 20 miles of Gdovna after racing 27 miles in 24 hours. Yet another group was 50 miles from Bolystryk, strategic rail center leading to Warsaw and East Prussia.

Warsaw itself was within 150 miles of Russian guns to the northeast.

London, July 13—(AP)—1900 flying fortresses and Liberators bombed Munich for the third successive day today and also struck at Saarbrucken in western Germany.

Munich is a transportation center for railways and roads between Germany, Italy and France and the attacks furthered into the rapid snow-balling campaign which threatened to cripple German transport over all western Europe, just as it is now disrupted in the northwest corner.

Berlin said also a fleet was striking from Italy, as on the last two days.

A large fleet of RAF heavy bombers without loss before dawn struck two of the most important rail centers in central France. Other British bombers from Italy battered the Brescia rail yards in northern Italy by night.

Saarbrucken is a major steel and coal center nearly a third of the way from Paris, 200 miles due west.

New York, July 13—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 15 cents a bale higher to 10 cents lower. Noon values were 25 to 40 cents a bale lower, July 22-30, October 21-84 and December 21-66.

Pet. Close Open

Pet.	Close	Open
July 13	22.43	22.46
October	21.88	21.90
December	21.71	21.71
March	21.57	21.56
May	21.40	21.39

### Polio May Delay Opening Rural Schools

Raleigh, July 13—(AP)—Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, state health officer, said today the opening of rural schools in or adjacent to areas stricken by infantile paralysis should be delayed.

"However," he said, "there is no point in closing schools and then allowing children to congregate elsewhere at nurseries, on the streets, churches, swimming pools, theatres, homes, and playgrounds."

He issued the statement with an announcement that 3 new cases were reported bringing the total since June 1 to 291. One case each was reported from Columbus, Durham, Montgomery and Randolph counties, and two cases each from Iredell and Wilkes.

### Cotton Men Ask Boost In Handling Cost

Little Rock, Ark., July 13—(AP)—An increase of 25 percent over pre-war handling prices is being asked by the Cotton Warehousemen and Compress Association, Edgar Fletcher, president of the national organization, said today.

Last year two ten percent increases were granted, but Fletcher said they came too late to affect the handling of the 1943 crop. Fletcher, who recently returned from Washington, stated that the OPA had promised action by August 1.

Figures covering operation over the past six years were submitted to show the need of a 25 percent increase due to increased cost, Fletcher said.

### UNC PLEDGES 55 TO FRATERNITIES

Chapel Hill, July 13—Fifty-five University of North Carolina freshmen have just been pledged to fraternities, following a summer "rush" season, it was announced today by Gid Gilliam, Frankforton, president of the Inter-Fraternity Council.

Phi Kappa Sigma led the list in number with 11 pledges, while Phi Gamma Delta and Pi Kappa Alpha followed in order with 10 and six respectively.

### Americans Drive From Two Sides On Fortress Town

### Air, Navy Blows Blast Japs On Guam

Conquest of Saipan Most Costly, With 15,653 Casualties

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, July 13—(AP)—Sustained American air and naval blows focused attention today on Guam, southwest of Saipan, when now is a U. S. operational base, carved out of Japan's inner defenses at the record cost of 15,653.

Already the enemy air force at Guam and an increasing force appears to have been alerted by the same type of morning raid on Saipan prior to its invasion on June 14. Guam has been bombed daily for nearly a week, and increasingly so since the beginning of the week.

On Saipan, conceding caves and ravines were probed by additional units which are expected to swell both the total of nearly 12,000 Japanese counted dead so far and more than 15,000 captives. A marine regiment killed more than 400 Japs Monday.

Figures for both sides established new records for fierce fighting among the Pacific islands.

1. The 15,653 American casualties, including 2,659 killed, 11,481 wounded and 1,213 missing.

2. The Japanese dead—11,948, already buried by Yank troops, with many more to be accounted for.

3. The Japanese captives number more than 1,000 soldiers and prisoners of war; more than 9,000 interned civilians.

The American casualties were announced in Washington by Navy Secretary Forrestal.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, in reporting carrier plane raids Monday on Guam and Rota, disclosed the enemy air bases there have been so effectively smothered that no fighter plane opposition was encountered although a bomber was shot down over Rota.

### Dennis Made Expert For N. C. Railroad

Greensboro, July 13—(AP)—Governor Broughton requested today the resignation of Harry L. Riddle, of Mecklenburg, as president of the North Carolina Railway company to succeed W. P. Horton, of Pittsboro. The appointment was equivalent to election.

Governor Broughton also asked that M. P. Dawson, of Rocky Mount, be named secretary-treasurer; P. V. Carter, of Lexington, attorney; and Henry A. Dennis, of Henderson, president. The president and secretary-treasurer are paid \$200 a year; the attorney \$1,000, and the expert, \$800.

The governor asked that George P. Gough, Jr., of Raleigh, Fred S. Hutchins, of Winston-Salem, and Brian B. Worth, of Greensboro, be named members of the finance committee and these named directors.

Riddle, R. L. Benson, of High Point; E. C. Green, of Asheville; G. P. Stone, of Belmont; M. A. Hodge, of Charlotte; James H. Holloway, of Raleigh; Rufus A. Doughton, of Spartanburg; and Robert H. Saxon, of Durham.

### Trapped Jap New Guinea Army Slashes At Yanks

Advanced Allied Headquarters, New Guinea, July 13—(AP)—Ending two months smoldering quiet, Japan's trapped, bypassed 18th army, has suddenly and viciously attacked Americans entrenched near Aitape, British New Guinea.

Headquarters announced today that the Japanese, faced with starvation or eventual capture between advancing Australian and American troops, have massed a heavy force, apparently in the hope of blasting an

### Another Yank Drive Threatens Lessay; British Regain Maltot

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, July 13—(AP)—A grinding offensive by American armor and infantry pushed along over the bodies of Germans today within a mile and a half of St. Lo, ancient fortress town midway across the bay of the Cotentin peninsula.

Lt. Gen. Bradley's forces drove on the city from two angles, the northwest and east, and were on the point of passing it on the west.

The Paris radio said 23 divisions had been concentrated in the 14 mile stretch from St. Lo to Chambois to the east, and a Nazi front line correspondent reported that the Allied artillery barrage was the heaviest yet encountered.

Another similar American drive down the Cotentin peninsula east coast threatened to engulf Lessay, 21 miles northwest of St. Lo, and reached it within two miles of that town.

Four towns and several square miles of territory were overrun by the Americans making their biggest territorial gains in several days.

The British, central army, meanwhile, regained Maltot, four miles southwest of Caen at the eastern end of the battlefield in the bloody triangle fought by the Caen and Odon rivers.

The American attack on St. Lo again was preceded by a heavy crash of artillery upon German foxholes and hedgerow hiding places.

Advance formations of tanks and infantry swept through La Coudraye, two and one-fourth miles east of St. Lo and then pushed three-fourths of a mile beyond southward across the St. Lo-Bayeux road and drawing up a semi-circle about the town of 15,000.

To the northwest they turned back a savage counterattack and retook the Norman's land village of Le Desert in the Vire valley.

A front line dispatch quoted refugees as saying the Germans were razing the one unburned building in St. Lo, apparently preparing to make a stand in the rubble.

### Youth Meet At Junaluska Called Off

Durham, July 13—(AP)—Rev. Ernest J. Arnold, executive secretary of the North Carolina Council of Churches, announced today that the southern conference of the United Christian Youth Movement, scheduled to be held at Lake Junaluska July 15 to 19, has been called off due to the polio epidemic. He said that churches in the seven or eight states involved are being contacted.

Rev. Mr. Arnold said the decision to call off the conference was reached after consultation with state health officers and officers of the United Christian Movement in Chicago. He said the step was advised by health officials.

### Air Stocks Show Some Improvement

New York, July 13—(AP)—Buyers continued to search for bargains in today's stock market but the majority displayed a notable reluctance to lift bids.

Improving interests were American Airlines, Eastern Airline, and American Transports. Occasional losers included U. S. Steel and Chrysler. Bonds and commodities were a trifle mixed.



TAKEN FROM A HILLSIDE overlooking part of the Allied invasion beachhead in Normandy, this panorama shows the waters black with shipping and 24 reinforcements and supplies pour ashore in an endless stream. Barrage balloons float overhead as trucks, troops, ammunition and other military equipment move inland toward the fighting front. This is an official U. S. Coast Guard photo. (International Soundphoto)