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Allies Report New Progress on Three Big Battle Fronts

Badoglio Working in Closer Collaboration With Germany

The Allies today reported new progress on three major fighting fronts in Sicily, Russia and in the Pacific, but no major military blows have been delivered with the possible exception of the drive in Russia within the past twenty-four hours. The fall of Sicily was predicted the latter part of last week, and while the fighting continues there, the enemy's position has been regarded as hopeless for several days. In fact, the fall of the island was first expected over the week-end, but last-ditch fighting is delaying the final curtain for Hitler and his gang there. The Allied Armies are marching on toward Messina with the enemy experiencing more problems along the road of retreat. Last Saturday night, American forces trapped a large number of the enemy by landing back of his lines near San Agata Di Militello. While the operation was a success, details are not available, but there is little doubt but what the Germans are in a desperate situation. A complete collapse of the Axis on the island is expected momentarily.

In the South Pacific, American and Australian forces are making slow but steady progress. Last Jap stands are being wiped out on New Georgia, and the next scrap is expected to center at Vila, a few miles across the Kula Gulf. The Americans dropped 43 tons of bombs on Bairoko Harbor where the Japs offered continued resistance following their defeat at Munda. Over 100 tons have been dropped on Salamaua in recent days to feature the fighting on New Guinea.

Following their great victories at Orel and Belgorod, the Russians are pushing steadily toward the Polish border. Late reports state that the Germans are being badly battered at Kharkov, a little to the southwest of Belgorod, and at Bryansk, near Orel. Encirclement of the Germans at Kharkov is now expected as the Russians are now directing a three-prong attack within ten miles of the city. The Germans, playing the role of vandals, are said to have wrecked Orel and Beygorod. Before their downfall there, the Nazis tore down and burned buildings and even uprooted trees.

On the diplomatic front, Premier Badoglio has apparently scored a victory for the present, at least. Peace moves by the common people have been blocked, and a closer collaboration with German is said to be in progress. That Badoglio, the scoundrel who did Mussolini's murdering in Ethiopia, will do all in his power to keep Italy fighting is now certain. However, there is a strong urge for peace on the part of millions, including soldiers. Possibly some more bomb medicine will cure the war fever for Italy.

The Italian situation is causing Hitler, and it is apparent that he has not yet been reduced to the role of a figurehead, much trouble. He is sending numbers of German divisions into the Balkans to replace the Italians. Over in Poland, 15,000 Italians fired on the Germans rather than go to the Russian front. Five hundred of the Nazis were wounded, but most of the Italians fell prisoner.

German unrest is growing as tens of thousands of civilians start leaving Berlin to escape a promised bombing. There is a wide difference in opinion as to whether Germany will crack from within any time soon and hasten the end of the war. Reports are conflicting, one

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Three Called For Excessive Driving

Three cases, charging excessive driving, were aired by the Martin County War and Price Rationing Board panels last Friday night. In at least one case, the defense pointed out that there was driving a great deal, and a recognized count of vehicles between Saturday midnight and 3:30 Sunday morning, over 100 automobiles traveled through the town's main street, the traffic supporting the defendant's contention advanced at the hearing.

Walter Biggs, RFD, Williamston, was warned against excessive driving.

Grover Nicholson, RFD 3, Williamston, lost his A book for sixty days and his "C" book was returned to the rationing board at Cherry Point.

Rations were withheld for sixty days in the case charging Evelyn Lilley, RFD 2, Williamston, with excessive driving.

Services All This Week In Holiness Church Here

Rev. and Mrs. McLandon, of South Carolina, are conducting services each night in the local Pentecostal Holiness Church. The public is invited.

More Martin County Men Called By Army

SMALL SCALE

Apparently gaining his idea from the program calling for canning for home use, a liquor manufacturer out in the rural section of Bear Grass Township set up a plant for the making of spirits for home use or individual consumption. The copper kettle had a capacity of hardly more than ten gallons. Officers Joe Roebuck and Roy Peel "allowing" that the small-scale operations hardly permitted a wholesale business. No beer was found, but the plant was hot and the officers confiscated the output—one pint of white lightning. No one was at the plant when the raid was made Saturday.

Sunday morning, the officers returned to that section and seized a gallon of monkey rum from J. H. Mason. Mason explained that he had the liquor for his tobacco hands, but tobacco was burned there yesterday without liquor—that liquor, any way.

Negro Man Robbed Of His Money And Girl Early Sunday

Officers Continue Investigation of Unusual Case in Local Crime Annals

Climaxing a flare-up in crime activities here over the week-end was the alleged hold-up and robbery of LeRoy Roberson, young colored man, about 3 o'clock Sunday morning.

Returning late Saturday night from a visit with his children in Robersonville, Roberson picked up his girl, Mattie Evans, and went for a ride, parking in the driveway to the public cemetery around 3 o'clock. They had been there only a very short time when a second car drove up behind them. The second car backed away before Roberson could start his own and drive out of the way. During the meantime, it is believed that a strange colored man got out of the second car, for a few minutes later he approached the couple and at the point of a gun, the stranger relieved Roberson of his money and forced the girl to accompany him. Badly frightened and with a whitened appearance, Roberson reported to the police station, and Officer Chas. R. Moore went with him to the cemetery. During the meantime, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck was called and a second policeman, John Gurganus, was directed to the cemetery. About three-quarters of an hour later, the woman was found returning from the State Highway Commission's rock pile near Whitley's canal or almost one-half mile from the cemetery. She claimed that she had been assaulted at the end of a pistol, that the strange man accompanied her back up the hill to Pine Street and ran when he saw the officers were extending their search. One report stated that the man also robbed the woman of her money, but no amounts were given.

Going to the rock pile, the scene of the alleged criminal assault, officers saw signs of a scuffle, but the trail ended there.

Continuing their investigation, officers later learned that the strange man in the case and the woman were seen talking at the corner of North Haughton and Pine Streets following the alleged attack. One report stated that officers had virtually determined the identity of the second car, and that the search had been fairly well centered, but no arrest has been made. No direct statement could be released by police early today, but there is a possibility that developments will show that some evidence might be uncovered tending to show that the robbery was a frame-up against Roberson.

While the case is the only one of its kind to get police attention, officers encountered so many parked cars in answering the call that they became a bit confused before reaching the cemetery.

CAR QUOTA

Martin County has been allotted six new cars for the month of August, it was announced last week-end by the War Price and Rationing Board. One-third of the quota was exhausted last Friday when two new cars were allotted, one to J. R. Winslow, Robersonville, farmer and a member of the Triple A and Farm Security Administration committees, and to Vance L. Roberson, Robersonville farmer.

A bicycle was allotted to Woodard Frederick Harrison, of near Williamston, to ride to and from school.

Eight Married Men Included in Group Leaving This Week

Another Third of Group Is Made Up of Youths in Their Teen Ages

Another group of young Martin County white men left this week for an Army induction center, an unofficial report stating that the county draft board almost filled the current quota. To fill the quota, the board reached into all classes, calling eight married men, eight boys in their teen ages, one or two who had been rejected previously, one or two from industry and one or two who failed to qualify under the farm production plan.

The group was not as large as the last one to leave the latter part of July from the county, but quite likely it will be the largest to leave the county from now on or until fathers get the call.

Names of the men called to report for induction this week are as follows, their registration address being first and their last address being listed second:

- Raymond Comstock, RFD 1, Oak City and Creswell.
- Leonidas Bell, RFD 1, Robersonville.
- Frank Edward Stevenson, Williamston and Washington, N. C.
- Harold Saunders Coltrain, Robersonville. Coltrain was transferred to Richmond and will report to the induction center from the Virginia city within a short time.
- Samuel Leo Andrews, RFD 1, Williamston and Norfolk.
- Hugh B. Ellis Moore, Williamston. James Roy Manning, Oak City and Suffolk.
- Mayo Wynne, RFD 1, Robersonville.
- Benjamin Barber, RFD 2, Williamston.
- Elbert Harvey Whichard, Robersonville and RFD 1, Thorboro.
- Harry Adler, Robersonville.
- Mack Landry, Robersonville, RFD 1, Williamston.
- Benjamin Franklin Roberson, RFD 1, Robersonville and Hoffman.
- Joseph Elmer Mielke, Dardens and Plymouth.
- Reuben Arthur Roebuck, RFD 1, Oak City.
- Milton Louis Goldman, Williamston and Philadelphia. This registrant asked to be inducted from the Pennsylvania town and he will report to his induction center with the next contingent from the Philadelphia board.
- Joseph Quincy Holliday, Jamesville.
- Bonnie Hayward Dail, Hassell and LaGrange, Illinois.
- Sylvester Sills, Jr., Oak City and Newport News.
- Paul Manning Coburn, RFD 1, Jamesville and Greenville.
- John Leslie Hassell, Jamesville.
- John Lanier Roberson, Parmele and Raleigh.
- Marvin Earl Copeland, RFD 1, Oak City and Robersonville.
- LeRoy Godard, RFD 1, Williamston.
- Thomas Lot Harrell, Williamston.
- Sam Latenhouse Whichard, RFD 3, Williamston.

Manpower Group to Make Tour Of State

Raleigh—A crew of representatives of the administrative office in Raleigh of the War Manpower Commission will start out on a canvass of employer in North Carolina to determine whether or not they are complying with the provisions for the WMC Employment Stabilization Plan in operation, in this State and region since May 15.

Dr. J. S. Dorton, State WMC director, announces that the members of the crew will canvass areas on a prepared schedule by visiting the offices of plants essential and other those essential employers and checking their payrolls to see if workers added since May 15 have been employed in accordance with the provisions of the Labor Stabilization Plan—specifically that they have statement of availability for all workers hired whose most recent previous employment was in an essential activity.

Members of the crew, who will work closely with the six area directors of the WMC in their respective areas, include Murray G. Hill, chief occupational analyst; Joseph W. Beach, State clearance supervisor; Frank I. Busbee, Placement division; and H. B. Griffin, Placement officer. Others from local USES offices may be added to the crew. This canvass is being undertaken because of frequent reports that employers are not complying with the provisions of the Stabilization Plan either because they do not understand it, or willfully, Dr. Dorton states. The investigation will continue until the entire State has been covered and all types of employers checked.

TOWN - FARM IN WARTIME

Weekly news digest from the rural press section of the OWB news bureau)

Fathers To Be Drafted

Fathers 18 to 37 years old, with children born before September 15, 1942, will be reclassified to make them available for induction into the armed forces after October 1. Fathers will be drafted only when it is necessary to fill a local board's quota; they will be called without distinction regarding the number or ages of their dependent children; those who are "key men" in agriculture or essential industry will be deferred; and those whose induction would cause "extreme hardship and privation to their families" will be deferred.

Rationing of Home-canned Foods

Each person in your family may give away as much as 50 quarts of home-canned food during any calendar year without collecting ration stamps. Any food which is sold does not qualify as a gift, however, and points must be collected for all sales at the rate of eight points per quart (4 points per pound). Home-canned food contributed to school lunch programs and similar services is included in the 50 quarts. More than 50 quarts may be given away provided ration stamps are collected for all gifts exceeding that number. The stamps should be turned in to your local ration boards.

Budget Report

Government budgetary estimates for the fiscal year 1944 estimate total expenditures for the year, excluding debt retirement and trust fund disbursements, at 106 billion dollars, and net receipts at 38 billion dollars. The expected deficit of 68 billion dollars will bring the public debt above 200 billion dollars by next June 30. In the fiscal year just ended, actual expenditures were 80 billion dollars, actual receipts 22 billion dollars, or a deficit of 58 billion dollars. A hundred billion dollars will be needed for war expenditures during the fiscal year 1944, compare with 75 billion dollars actually spent for war in 1943. The War Department now is expected to spend more for war than was estimated in January.

More Woolens for Civilians

Several million men's mackinaw and melton wool jackets, children's legging sets, blankets and other needed items of men's, women's and children's apparel will be added to the civilian supply this winter as a result of a program arrived at jointly by WPB and the War Department. Army procurements on some of the principal worsted and woolen products will be reduced by 50 per cent during the last four months of this year.

Legal Aid to Soldiers

Legal aid ranging from drawing wills to solving problems in insurance, is being provided to soldiers by more than 600 legal assistance officers in military installations in the U. S. and abroad, the War Department announced recently. At each of the legal assistance offices, commissioned officers of the Judge Advocate General's Department, Army Service Forces, who are also licensed attorneys, are on duty.

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Firemen Called To Local Bus Station

The local fire department was called to the main street bus station last Saturday morning at 10:00 o'clock when fire broke out underneath the rear end of a big passenger bus. The machine, well loaded, had just pulled into the station when the motor backfired and filled the bus with smoke. Several passengers did not wait their turn at the door but went out the windows. There were a few who screamed, but no one was hurt or injured in the least. As far as it could be learned little or no damage was done to the bus.

Hardly before the smoke was cleared, the travelers, fearing the seats would not go around, boarded the bus, clearly indicating that there is such a premium on bus seats that some will brave the elements to get one.

Farm Equipment Rationed In The County Recently

The following pieces of farm machinery and equipment were rationed last week by the Farm Machinery Rationing Board in this county:

- Henry Johnson, Robersonville, water system.
- Jos. R. Harrison, RFD 3, Williamston, tobacco sprayer.
- J. Frank Roberson, RFD 1, Williamston, water system.
- H. S. Hardy, Everetts, water pump.
- M. T. Gardner, Williamston, transplanter.
- J. R. Winslow, Robersonville, horse drawn disc harrow.
- R. H. Weaver, RFD 1, Robersonville, power corn sheller.
- J. E. Copeland, Palmyra, water pump.

Sale of War Bonds in Martin County Holds To Low Figure

The sale of war bonds is holding to a comparatively low figure in Martin County, according to a report just released by the State War Finance Committee for the United States Treasury Department. Last month, a total of \$23,555.50 was invested in Martin County, according to reports filed by the several banks and post offices. The sales include \$22,500 in Series E, \$55.50 in Series F, and \$1,000 in Series G bonds.

The county has been assigned an E bond quota of \$52,662.00 for August, and investors are asked to increase that amount by one-third in F and G bond purchases.

Right now the financial situation in Martin County is at a low point, but with the opening of the tobacco markets week after next it is expected the bond quotas will be more than subscribed. No official "break

down" of the bond purchases could be had, but it is fairly well established that the people as a whole are not participating in the bond buying campaigns. At one time, less than ten percent of the people were buying bonds with any degree of regularity in this county.

Basing their quotas on purchases in other parts of the State and nation and considering the buying power of the county, treasury authorities are of the opinion that the people of this county can handle the August bond quota without any trouble. But the real test will come during the three weeks beginning September 8 when the nation will be asked to invest fifteen billion dollars in the Third War Loan Campaign. Martin County people will be asked to invest several hundred thousand dollars in that issuance.

Seventy Tires Are Allotted in County By Ration Board

One-Fourth of August Quota Of New Car Tires Rationed Last Friday

A total of seventy tires was allotted in this county last Friday by the War Price and Rationing Board, the issuance of first grade tires for cars and pick-up trucks using up about one-fourth of the quota for the current month.

Twenty-eight Grade I passenger car and pick-up truck tires, seventeen new truck tires and twenty-seven Grade III tires were allotted by the tire panel board last Friday night.

Tubes and Grade I tires for cars and pick-up trucks were allotted to the following:

- Martha M. Rawls, RFD 1, Bethel, two tires and two tubes.
 - J. E. Davenport, Robersonville, two tires and two tubes.
 - Ben Harrell, RFD 1, Palmyra, one tire and one tube.
 - Willie Mayo Gardner, RFD 1, Jamesville, two tires.
 - Luther Clark, RFD 1, Jamesville, one tire and one tube.
 - J. J. Williams, Robersonville, one tire.
 - Geo. Hoyt Coltrain, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
 - H. A. Early, RFD 1, Palmyra, one tube.
 - Bessie C. Carman, Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
 - Sheppard Roebuck, Williamston, one tire.
 - Bessie Malone, Williamston, one tire.
 - Vernon H. Davis, RFD 1, Jamesville, one tire.
 - Mrs. L. B. Brown, Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
 - B. W. Taylor, RFD 2, Williamston, one tire.
 - David Wallace, Everetts, one tire.
 - J. V. Andrews, Robersonville, one tire.
 - N. W. Worsley, Oak City, one tire.
 - Better Chevrolet Co., Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
 - J. F. Matthews, Robersonville, two tubes.
 - Marie Johnson, Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
 - R. A. Haislip, RFD 1, Oak City, one tire.
 - L. A. Croom, Robersonville, one tire and two tubes.
 - H. G. Harrison, RFD 2, Williamston, one tube.
 - Joe Everett, Parmele, one tube.
 - M. T. Gardner, Williamston, one tire.
 - G. H. Forbes, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
 - Noah Stancel, Robersonville, two tubes.
 - Paul Barber, Jamesville, one tube.
 - Lindsay Ice Co., Williamston, one tire and one tube.
 - W. I. Skinner and Co., Williamston, one tire and one tube.
 - R. A. Critcher, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- New truck tires were issued to the following:
- Martin County Transfer Co., Robersonville, two tires and two tubes.
 - Mill and Gin Co., Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
 - Willie Boston, Jamesville, one tire and one tube.
 - Farmville-Woodward Lumber Co., Williamston, five tires.
 - Williamston Supply Co., one tire and two tubes, and certificates for recapping two truck tires.
 - Martin County Transfer Co., Robersonville, certificates for recapping four truck tires.
 - Grade III tires were allotted to the following:
 - Alice Forrest, Hassell, three tires.
 - Hubert C. Smith, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
 - Robert Wilson, RFD 2, Robersonville, one tire.
 - Fred W. McDaniel, RFD 2, Williamston, one tire.
 - C. W. Gurkin, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
 - Mrs. Alford Griffin, RFD 2, Williamston, two tires.
 - William Keys, RFD 1, Jamesville, three tires.
 - John Robert Jones, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire.

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Flare-Up Reported On The Crime Front Here Last Week-end

Fourteen Arrests Are Made and They Do Not Represent All Disputes

It was a hectic period for local officers last week-end when they were kept busy trying to check a flare-up on the crime front. Fourteen arrests were made, but there were others who had their troubles without attracting the attention of the law. Of the seven drunks arrested, six were referred to as the "crying drunks." One or two of them literally wept on the officers' shoulders. One who insisted he was not drunk, called in a witness, and when the witness expressed his opinion, the drunk insisted that it was no time to joke and staggered on his way with the support of the arresting officer.

The week-end season was ushered in when Nona Smallwood did some expert carving on her husband, Jack, early last Saturday morning. For one thing Jack went in with liquor on his breath, and came out with a twenty-stitch gash on his arm and the seat of his pants almost cut out. He asked members of the police force to get him to a doctor, but would not bring charges against his wife. "If they fine her in court, I'll have it to pay," he explained to officers.

That same night, Linwood Speight colored deaf and dumb mute, tried to break into the Williamston Cafe where he worked. Officer Moore caught him half in and half out of a back window. When the officer stopped his car in front of the courthouse, Speight opened the door and struck the ground running and escaped. Another deaf and dumb mute, Lazarus Williams, volunteered his services and the officers found the first "dummy" sleeping at his home. Unable to get the wanted man to answer, officers called on Williams and he forced the door. Speight went under the bed when he felt the jar and in his hiding place he blended perfectly with the dark. He was finally coaxed out and went to jail without further ado. He is scheduled for trial in the superior court next month. Incidentally it was the third time that Speight had broken into the cafe. Heretofore his job was waiting for him upon his return from the roads, but the proprietor, Gus Rigas, says Speight is through.

"Trouble simmered but never reached alarming proportions among a small group of young colored girls early Sunday morning. None of them were arrested, but their grievances were aired in the courts. They paraded to the police department in groups of six or more, each group telling its story only to have the other group dispute it later. Finally Officer Chas. Moore tackled some home and broke up the row.

Such minor infractions of the law as waving quart bottles of liquor on the main streets escaped attention as the officers chased from one side of the town to the other, including a visit and a search in the cemetery.

Of the fourteen persons arrested and jailed, seven were booked for being drunk, one for drunken driving, two for non-support, one for bastardy, one for breaking and entering, one for trespassing, and one was taken for the non-payment of a court fine.

Only two of the group were white. Several were women, and the ages of the group ranged from 16 to 49 years.

At no time in recent months have arrests been so numerous, and police are at a loss to account for the marked increase in crime activities here.

Volunteers Canning Beans At Oak City

Working three days last week, volunteers canned approximately 600 quarts of beans for the Oak City lunch room project, Principal H. M. Ainsley announced this week, the school man adding that the undertaking was a big success in spite of the labor shortage and the busy tobacco harvesting season.

Twenty ladies reported on the last Wednesday, fifteen the second and ten the third, some of whom left their work at home undone to lend a helping hand.

The volunteers used nine pressure cookers the first day and six on the second and third. Principal Ainsley is appealing for about fifteen bushels of tomatoes which, he believes, will give the lunch room a fair balance of rations. Anyone with tomatoes is asked to contact Miss Hattie Everett, Palmyra, or the school man at Oak City, stating price and possible delivery dates.

Sunday Schools Hold A Joint Meeting Near Here

The Parmele and Holly Springs Sunday schools held a joint meeting with the Community Church Sunday School on the Hamilton Road near here last Sunday. A total of 75 were present for the joint meeting. Those attending the Sunday school also attended church services.

RED CROSS NURSE

Miss Jennie McAllister, representing the home service department of the American Red Cross, will be in the office of the county superintendent of schools in the courthouse on Thursday of this week to interview any trained nurse interested in entering the Red Cross service. No particulars were given in the announcement, but it is understood that the Red Cross positions are open only to nurses with recognized training in the profession.

Auto Tire Quotas Far Below Demand In Martin County

Total of 283 Tires of All Types Allotted County For August

Despite a fairly liberal allotment for the current month, the supply of tires is falling far below the demand in this county. According to a reliable estimate released this week by Mrs. Irene Blount, chief clerk of the County War Price and Rationing Board, there are requests for about 500 Grade I passenger car tires pending at the present time. There are not so many requests pending for Grade III car tires, and the truck tire situation is considered fair. With few exceptions, the requests are granted in order.

The shortage of tires has not materially reduced the number of vehicles on the highways in this county so far. It is quite apparent, however, that the volume of traffic has been reduced as a result of the combined shortage of gasoline and tires. There are some exceptions, of course, according to unofficial reports, where a few vehicle operators are riding as much if not more now than at any other previous time. The "A" card traveler with the exception of a mighty few who are believed to be delving into the black market, has been literally choked and weaned, but some few manage to "stretch" the supply into long trips. The weakness in the rationing system is centered around the "B" and "C" books. A report from the police department recently told how one "C" sticker made between twenty-five and thirty trips up and down the streets of one town in the county during a few hours. Quite a few "B" and "C" books are also seen at recreation courses and the beaches. At the same time there are cases where "B" and "C" book users do not have sufficient gas to carry on their operations, but in the name of fighting men in the jungles of New Georgia they continue to do along the best they can.

The tire shortage unless it is greatly relieved within a short time is very likely to effect a reduction in the number of vehicles in operation. A total of 115 Grade I passenger car and pick-up truck tires, have been allotted the county for August. This week there are

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MAKES ADDRESS

Gregg Cherry, candidate for North Carolina's governorship, addressed a meeting of the John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion in the hut on Watts Street here last evening. Estimated that 250,000 North Carolinians are now in the armed services, Cherry appealed for an all-out effort on the home front. He was quoted as saying, "God forbid that we shall fail to die on a battlefield by reason of failure on the home front. If we did so, our nation would be justly punished by ultimate destruction or by taking a second-rate place among the powers of the world."

The Post installed its new officers for the coming year.