



# THE ENTERPRISE



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## War Plans Pointing To An Invasion Of European Fortress

### Bombing Is Intensified with Land Attack Expected To Follow Soon

While there's a lull in land fighting in the western European arena, plans are believed in the making for a direct attack on Hitler's fortress. Official spokesmen for the Roosevelt-Churchill Quebec Conference asserted last night that Allies would "bomb, burn and ruthlessly destroy" the Axis, that Germany and Japan would be wiped off the map. Bombing operations, directed against air fields in France and all along the Coast, are being intensified, and observers are daring to say that an invasion of France and Italy will follow within a month. French people along the coast are being notified to be ready for the zero hour, and Germans fleeing southward in Italy are leaving the southern part open to invasion. Whether the Allies will depend on the air offensive to knock Germany out of the war without a land invasion is yet to be determined, but apparently plans are being made to follow through if the attack from the air does not produce the desired results.

United States warships are pounding the Italian mainland for the first time in history, interrupting and cluttering the German withdrawal north.

Following the completion of the Sicilian campaign, correspondents tell that the Germans at Messina were subjected to a terrible battering. David Brown, describing the Allied attack on the straits city said:

No earthquake could have been more effective in destroying Messina than was the Allied bombing. "I have never seen any damage like it," said one officer. "All the ugly recollections of heavy bomb damage in Palermo, Catania, Bizerte or Sousse faded out by comparison with this havoc."

The railway station, one of the largest and most modern on the island is a mass of rubble. Cars and engines are smashed. Oil containers were wrecked by direct hits.

The famous "Corso" promenade along the waterfront is nothing but a heap of stones and bricks. Half-submerged ships are lying along the mole. A cloud of dust and smoke hangs over the cranes. The main street is dead. Hardly a window pane is left.

Most of the people were evacuated to nearby villages and towns. Many were taken to Taormina where the Axis had military headquarters. The village of Sparta, a few miles to the north, harbors five times its normal population. Houses and bungalows had to be cleared to make room for evacuees.

"Four thousand have taken refuge in Italy itself, but they now regret it, I expect," said one man. "They will probably have the experience of Messina all over again on the mainland."

Some heavy blows have been directed against German airfields in Northern France and Holland during the past few days, and the RAF was over Berlin again last night, it was announced this morning. A Berlin correspondent for the Stockholm newspaper, "Dagens Nyheter," reports Nazi circles think it "not impossible" that the Allied air offensive against Western Europe may be connected with "Allied rumors" of a second front.

Included in the devastating raids this week was one against the great German research and development

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## Seven County Men Accepted By Army

Seven Martin County white men, answering the August draft call, were accepted by the Army of the United States recently, according to an official audit just received by the draft board. No men were chosen for the other service branches.

According to one report, fifteen men answering the call on August 17, were rejected, it is understood that fifteen were found physically unfit and that three were below mental and/or literacy standards.

The names of those men accepted are: Raymond William Comstock, Frank Edward Stevenson, Samuel Leo Andrews, Elbert Harvey Wheeler, Joseph Elmer Mizelle, Marvin Earl Copeland and Leroy Godard.

Returning home the second day after they reported at the induction station, the seven men are scheduled to return on or about September 4 for active duty.

## Ration Board In Weekly Meeting Each Friday

Reporting recently the office hours of the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board office, it was stated that the ration board members met each Monday. The statement was made in error. The board members meet each Friday, and any one having business with the board members should make his appearance before evening when the board and panels meet to handle other business matters.

## AXIS NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO USE THESE MINES



THE RAPID ALLIED ADVANCE in Sicily caught the Axis flatfooted in many places. This huge mine dump near Roccapalumba was captured long before the enemy had an opportunity to plant the explosives in an attempt to slow up American, Canadian, and British troops. Official British photo. (International)

## More Martin County Men Called By Army

### Boys In Teen Ages Form Great Part Of Current Quota

### Few Married Men Are Included in Group Leaving for Induction Center

Unable to meet the draft quota in its entirety for the month of August, the Martin County Draft Board bundled up what colored men it could scrape from the bottom of the barrel and sent them to an Army induction center this week. Seventeen or about two-thirds of the group were boys in their teen ages, or boys who did not have a chance to qualify for a "C" classification or snatch a deferrable status as an employee in an industrial plant. Four of the contingent were married, and three had exhausted their deferments in industry. One selectee who had lost or forfeited his "C" classification was included in the group. It could not be learned why he had lost his "C" classification, but rumor has it that he did not measure up to his moral contract with those lads who are fighting, suffering and dying on the battle fronts.

One registrant, Hezekiah Briley, Jr., scheduled to make the trip to the induction center, failed to report and he was listed as delinquent.

The group left for the induction center the same day that eleven white men from the county returned to enter active service.

Names of the colored men making the trip to the induction center follow:

Mark Hardy, Hassell. Elton Hodge, Williamston. Elbert Mitchell, Williamston and Newport News.

Edward Louis Hines, Williamston and Greensboro. William Robert Johnson, RFD 1, Jamesville and LaGrange.

Samuel Teel, Robersonville. Douglas Cromwell Respass, Williamston and Philadelphia.

Kelly Crandall, RFD 1, Robersonville. Golden Williams, RFD 1, Williamston.

T. C. Johnson, RFD 1, Bethel. William Earl Stevenson, RFD 1, Robersonville.

James Roscoe Council, RFD 1, Bethel. William Raleigh Bell, RFD 1, Williamston.

S. L. Godard, RFD 3, Williamston and Washington. J. C. Stanley, RFD 3, Williamston. James Alonza Keel, Everetts and Baltimore.

Russell Johnnie Jasper Dickens, Robersonville.

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## First Tobacco From Current Crop Moves To Market Here

The first tobacco of the current crop started moving to the market here late yesterday, and with a marked increase in deliveries today it is now believed that a large "break" will be on the floors for the opening sales next Tuesday. However, no record opening is anticipated by market observers.

George Thomas, colored farmer, was the first to unload a portion of the new crop here yesterday. He has 320 pounds on the floors and is optimistic. Quite a few farmers visited the market late yesterday, making plans for delivering their first loads.

## STOVE RATIONING

The rationing of all types of stoves will go into effect next Tuesday, and certificates will be necessary where purchases are to be made. In connection with the rationing program, all retailers and wholesalers in this county are to register on September 1, 2, or 3, it was announced by the local board this week.

Anyone needing a stove after next Monday may apply to the County War Price and Rationing Board by filing an application on Form R-900 for a stove purchase certificate. The board will then consider the application.

## Lieut. Billy Biggs In Army Hospital

According to a letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Borne Biggs, here last Wednesday morning, Lt. William W. (Billy) Biggs is in an Army hospital supposedly in North Africa. Whether the young man was wounded or hurt could not be learned, but his letter, dated August 9th, stated that he would be in the hospital at least three more weeks. Using a pencil, the young soldier was able to write the letter himself.

Billy is a paratrooper and it is now fairly certain that he was among the airborne troops that landed three hours ahead of the main invasion forces in Sicily on July 10.

No message has been received from the War Department advising why the young man is in the hospital.

About 3 o'clock, or several hours before the letter stating the young man was in the hospital was received, the young man's mother dreamed he had been wounded, that his companion, Bill Lang, of New Jersey, had been killed. Yesterday morning a second letter was received by Billy's parents and it stated that young Lang "was not with them any more." Billy and his companion spent their last leave in Williamston in early April of this year.

## Williamson Boy Gets Honorable Army Release

Joseph Pender, Jr., after spending several months in a New Jersey Army hospital, was given an honorable discharge a few days ago. Apparently having regained his health, the young man, after spending a few days here with his parents, plans to go to Philadelphia to accept employment in a war industry.

He had been in the Army for about two years.

## Youth Escapes On His Way To Training School

Making his escape while being carried to a training school by the superintendent of public welfare in this county, Henry Hatem, white youth, was taken into custody in Rocky Mount Tuesday night after he had appropriated for his own use another's bicycle. He was turned over to the sheriff yesterday, by Deputy J. H. Roebuck.

Young Hatem, asking to be allowed to stop at a filling station, jumped and ran Tuesday near Rocky Mount.

## TO THE FRONT

To be sure, many copies are sunk or lost, but reports declare that *The Enterprise* is moving right along with the Martin County boys to the fighting fronts.

In a letter to his mother here a few days ago, Captain Jim Rhodes, Jr., stated that the paper had made its appearance in Sicily in almost record time, that possibly his copy was the first ever to reach that island.

A review of the paper's mailing list shows copies moving out regularly to nearly every part of the world except Hitler's lands, and it is hoped that it will be possible to get one there soon.

## Must Exchange Old B And C Gasoline Books

Holders of old "B" and "C" gasoline ration books—books issued before August 3—are directed to exchange them for new ones between now and September 1. The old books will be worthless after that date, it was explained. It was pointed out that the exchange will be made ticket for ticket, that if a person has five coupons in his old "B" or "C" book he will receive five coupons in his new book. In those cases where the coupons have been exhausted, no exchange is necessary and no rations will be issued until after the expiration of the old book. In other words, if a motorist was issued a book and it was supposed to last him until September 9 and he has already used it up, he is not to get a new allotment until on or after the expiration date.

The old "B" ration coupons have reading on the back. The new ones are plain on the back. The old "C" coupons are in a booklet. The new "C" coupons will be in a flat sheet.

Filling station operators must surrender to their wholesalers all old "B" and "C" coupons on or before September 6.

When exchanging their old "B" and "C" coupons, vehicle owners will be asked to submit their tire records for routine inspection.

## Martin County Boy Writes From Sicily

No details of the fighting have been mentioned by them, but Martin County boys are writing home from Sicily. It is known that several youths from this county took part in the Sicilian campaign, that one, Lt. Billie Biggs, was hospitalized some ten days or two weeks ago.

Writing to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Revels, of RFD 3, Williamston, Pfc. William H. Revels said a few days ago, in part:

"I am now on the island of Sicily. And it is a very nice place for a single man like me to be." Young Revels had nothing more to say about Sicily, but he did point out that the war will make a lot of men appreciate home when they get out. He explained that he had only one thing to worry about, and that was the apparent shortage in mail. "When mail comes, everybody is happy," he said. The young soldier would make it appear that he was not worried about enemy fire and shell, that he worries when no mail reaches him from home.

## Order Permits 'C' Registrants To Do "Non-Essential" Work

Barred heretofore from withdrawing from their "C" classifications, farm registrants, whether single or married, with or without children and irrespective of age, may now be released for work in what has been rated "non-essential" jobs, according to an unofficial but recognized ruling received by the county draft and war boards here yesterday. The full meaning of the new ruling is not quite understood, but under it any farm registrant "enjoying" a "C" classification may ask to be released from the farm to engage in tobacco marketing, ship building or any other type of work for at least ninety days. Already approximately 75 persons, including white and colored, young and old, have asked for their releases from the farm.

The draft and war boards, recognizing the shortage of labor not only in and around warehouses but also in nearly every line of endeavor

## Serious Pulpwood Shortage Likely To Affect War Effort

### Situation Is Serious Enough To Justify Unusual Acts And Practices

Recognizing the seriousness of a growing pulpwood shortage, Donald Nelson of the United States War Production Board is addressing an appeal to all farmers, urging them to help relieve the seriousness by devoting three days work in building up the stock pile.

Indirect reports indicate that the shipment of some vital supplies is being delayed because pulp manufacturers cannot get sufficient wood to produce the necessary material for making the containers. This paper, along with others in the main pulp wood areas throughout the nation has been asked to carry the appeal to the farmers, and point out to them how they can help relieve the serious situation.

Mr. Nelson's appeal:

"If every one of the more than 2,000,000 farmers in the twenty-seven pulpwood producing states were to devote three extra days in 1943 to cutting pulpwood we could overcome the threatened 2,500,000-cord shortage with wood to spare." Mr. Nelson declared. "I urge every American farmer to get in touch with his nearest Department of Agriculture representative to find out whether he can be of service in the production of pulpwood. I, of course realize the increased war load which our farmers are bearing today, but the pulpwood situation is serious enough to justify this call for an extra effort."

In anticipation of the present critical shortage in pulpwood supplies, the War Production Board called upon the U. S. Department of Agriculture for assistance. The Forest Service, Regional Extension Directors, Extension Foresters and county agents were requested to assist in stimulating pulpwood cutting by advising farmers of the serious need for more wood and on sound cutting practices, mill prices and specifications.

Farmers and woodland owners are urged to harvest their pulpwood "right now" when the country needs it most. But farmers are not asked to go out and destroy their timber growth, but to follow conservation practices and give the fighting man the support that he needs.

The War Manpower Commission has classified pulpwood production, cutting and transport to the mills, the manufacture of pulp, paper and paperboard products for packing vital supplies as essential activities. Notice of this ruling was sent to Selective Service Boards and U. S. Employment Service offices, to establish the eligibility of these essential workers for draft deferment.

The critical nature of pulpwood

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## Young Soldier Hurt In Auto Accident

Pvt. J. W. Bellflower was painfully but not seriously hurt when his car went out of control and turned bottom side up on the Oak City-Hamilton Highway, near Conoho Creek, about 3 o'clock last Tuesday morning. Driving his sister's car, the young soldier is believed to have dropped off to sleep and lost control of the machine.

According to reports reaching here the young man's nose was almost torn off, but the bone was not broken. He also suffered a knee injury. After receiving first aid treatment in Oak City, he was carried to a Tarboro hospital where he was discharged later in the day.

Damage to the car was unofficially estimated at \$300.

Home on a fifteen-day furlough, Bellflower was given a five-day extension, and is now scheduled to return to his station at Camp Phillips, Kansas.

## Director Of Growers Peanut Cooperative

Robert L. Coburn, Williamston attorney and farmer, was recently elected a director in the Growers Peanut Cooperative by representatives of the organization in a district meeting held in the county courthouse a few days ago. He succeeds Director W. Robert Everett, of Palmyra, who had served the organization for five years. This, the second district, comprises ten counties in this section of the State.

Next Thursday, the organization will hold its annual membership meeting in the courthouse here at 11 o'clock a. m. Representatives from the states of Virginia, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina are expected to attend the meeting.

## Escapes Injury In Auto-Truck Accident Tuesday

D. M. Roberson, local man, escaped with only minor injury during the rainstorm last Tuesday afternoon when a Maxwell Wholesale firm truck plowed into the side of his car on West Main Street. Damage to the car and truck was estimated at about \$150.

## Planning All-Out War Fund Drive In County

### WOUNDED

Pfc. Howard B. Cone known to have been entered in an Army hospital somewhere in the Pacific, was reported this week by the Adjutant General to have been "seriously wounded in action on July 19th. No details could be learned from a letter dictated by the young soldier to a hospital companion or from the official message received yesterday from the Adjutant General. The letter stated that he had an infection of the middle finger and that he would be in the hospital for about two more months.

The young man's many friends join his mother and others in hoping for him a speedy recovery.

## Judge J. C. Smith Calls Eleven Cases In Records Court

### Tribunal In Session Almost Until Noon Clearing Big Docket Monday

After handling very few cases last week, the Martin County Recorder's had a big session on Monday of this week when Judge J. Calvin Smith called eleven cases. The tribunal was in session until almost noon clearing the docket. An unusually large number of spectators attended the session and more interest was shown in the proceedings than at any other time in recent weeks.

Proceedings: Charged with vagrancy, Geo. Ben Manning, white man, was sentenced to the roads for a term of thirty days. The road sentence was suspended for six months upon the payment of the costs and on condition the defendant be gainfully and regularly employed.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, J. S. Crandall was fined \$60 and taxed with the cost. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for fifteen months.

The case charging R. B. Spruill with an assault with a deadly weapon and with disorderly conduct, was not pressed.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, John Mason pleaded guilty of possessing illegal liquor. The plea was accepted and the defendant was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$30 fine and the case costs, and on further condition that the defendant have no illegal liquor in his possession in the future.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, Jas. Stanley Ayers was fined \$50 and taxed with the cost. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for one year.

The case charging Ernest Shepard with larceny and receiving was continued until next Monday.

Charged with attempted assault, Bud Williams pleaded not guilty. He was adjudged guilty and the court continued his case under prayer for judgment until next November 18.

In a second case charging him with larceny, the Williams was found not guilty. Entering a plea of nolo contendere, or neither denying or admitting that he had committed the crime, F. W. Williams was dismissed upon the payment of the court costs and the amount of the check.

Charged with speeding and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Ernest Lanier pleaded guilty and was fined \$25 and taxed

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## Committees Will Be Named Soon To Help Raise Record Figure

Tentative plans for advancing one of the greatest fund raising drives ever heard of in this county and in the name of fighting men and suffering humanity were advanced in this county last Tuesday evening when a small group of interested citizens met with special representatives to discuss the need or whole-hearted action on the home front.

Detailed announcements are expected within the next week or ten days, outlining plans for the campaign which is to be formally launched throughout the entire nation about the middle of October. During the meantime, the people of this county are asked to consider the cold facts growing out of this war and measure their ability and willingness to support what has been well described as one of the greatest drives ever launched in the name of humanity.

Exclusive of the Red Cross, the campaign is to finance the activities of seventeen agencies. There'll be no other drive for funds for any war or relief agency, the sponsors explaining that the one response will eliminate repeated calls for financial support for this or that agency however worthy each may be.

## Money Will Go To Service Men and Suffering People In Several Countries

Without remuneration and coming to this county at their own expense to help perfect plans for the drive, Messrs. Avera and Ward of Rocky Mount, with Mr. Kerr, of Winston-Salem, explained that other counties they had visited had expressed a willingness to meet their quotas, that pledges had already been received in all of them in the district with the exception of Martin. While the quota in this county is a record figure for size, it is small when compared with the \$35,000 quota for Pitt County and those in most of the other counties in this section.

Approximately half of every dollar contributed will go for the use of America's own fighting men. The fund will allow \$61,227,000 for this service with the assurance that everything humanly possible will be done to lighten the burden now resting on the service men, including those from right here in Martin County. A similar aid will be made available to those men who man the nation's merchant ships. It is proposed to spend \$4,125,000 in the name of those men who have been injured or who have met with adversity in carrying munitions and food to the fighting men. Two and one-third million will be used in maintaining in every way possible, and there are ways even though difficult they may be, a hope for prisoners of war.

Approximately 10 million dollars will be made available for Russian war relief, and about the same amount will be made available to the valiant and war-weary Chinese. About 15 million dollars will be used

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