

New British Drives Beat German Line in the Caen Sector

Several Hundred Lose Lives in Munitions Blast Last Night in California

While no major offensive has been launched, the British last week-end were said to have dented the German line in the Caen sector, the new drive featuring the activities in France. Gains up to a mile were reported, but in other areas it was admitted that advanced American patrols had been forced to withdraw temporarily from St. Lo in the center of the Cherbourg Peninsula base.

Although they are not altogether of a pessimistic note, reports coming from the invasion front are not the most encouraging at this time. A five-day lull had obtained on the front with the exception of patrol activities in most of the areas. The new drive by the British was first thought to be an all-out offensive planned by General Montgomery. Apparently, the time is not ripe, and the lull there is a part of the Allied over-all strategy. The Germans are said to have 25 divisions on the invasion front now, or about one division for every four miles. Many of the enemy forces, it is said, were forced to march 100 miles to reach their stations, the disrupted transportation system finding it impossible to move them. It is possible the Allies are drawing the Germans to that area with the view of making another thrust at a second point. It is understood that the British have not yet cleared Caen for use as a port, but supplies are pouring into the invasion area through the Cherbourg port, and big-scale action is believed in the offing.

That the war is progressing toward an ultimate goal after a successful fashion was evidenced yesterday when General Montgomery reiterated his D-Day statement. He said at that time, "If we do our stuff properly this year in this business we shall have Germany out of the war this year."

Predictions that the European war will be brought to a close in early September are not recognized officially. At the same time, others are of the opinion that the war will last much longer, but between the various predictions is Montgomery's statement.

In Italy, the Allies are still pushing northward, the liberating forces uncovering gruesome crimes committed by the Nazis. Wholesale killings of men, women and children were reported at Civitella. Since May 11, 40,000 Germans have been taken prisoner, and today the enemy stands almost upon his so-called Gothic line which runs from Pisa on the Tyrrhenian Sea through Florence to Rimini on the Adriatic.

Over in North Burma, the battle for Myitkyina, key Japanese base, is now believed in its final stages. In China, Allied aircraft are operating steadily in support of the Chinese in Yunnan and Hunan provinces. Around besieged Hengyang, the Chinese have accounted for 14,000 Japanese dead in three weeks.

In the Pacific, the Allies are apparently making ready for another move. No land action has been reported since the drive on Saipan, but Guam is still under attack, late reports stating that surface craft were firing on the former American base.

Russia is still pushing forward with Berlin as its ultimate objective. Grodno, last remaining fortress city in the path of the Red Armies pushing toward East Prussia, has fallen. Unofficial reports state that Russian paratroopers have already landed in East Prussia and that the territory was being evacuated. The people there are frantic and turmoil exists among the entire civilian population.

On the home front disaster struck last night in California, a munitions blast killing at least 350 persons and injuring an estimated 1,000 others. No report on the property damage could be had, but the explosion was felt over a radius of fifty miles and the flames were visible 100 miles away. Most of the killed were naval personnel on a munitions ship, one report stated.

Series Of Accidents Reported In County

No one was badly hurt and no great property damage resulted in a series of highway accidents reported in the county last week-end.

Andrew Roberson, colored, was slightly cut on the face when the car in which he was riding crashed into another on the Robersonville-Stokes Highway at 11:30 o'clock last Saturday night. Damage to the cars was estimated at \$75. Israel Blount, colored, of Pitt County, was charged with drunken driving, and Tom Williams, driver of the second car, was charged with operating a car on the wrong side of the road. The wreck was investigated by Cpl. W. S. Hunt of the Highway Patrol.

Joseph Alexander Jones lost control of a big bread delivery truck when the steering gear broke and crashed into a ditch on the Oak City-Tarboro Highway, near Oak City, last Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock. No one was hurt and damage was estimated at \$150 to the truck by Patrolman W. E. Saunders who investigated the accident.

No one was hurt and damage was done in the sum of about \$25 when the cars driven by Eugene Bell and Grover Clevin Williams sideswiped each other near Whitley's Bridge in Poplar Point Township last Sunday evening at 7 o'clock.

Special Recruiter Coming for Waves

Recruiter Jeanne d'Agay, special representative of the Navy Waves, and Navy Recruiter H. S. Lee will be in the Williamston Post Office building on July 21 in an effort to make Wave information available to every woman in Martin County and surrounding area.

Miss d'Agay, a native of California and recent graduate of Wave training schools, will be in this area for one month to discuss every detail of service for women in the Waves.

Principal requirements for enlistment in the Waves include age, with enlisted personnel accepted between 20 and 50 and officer candidates between 20 and 50. At least two years' high school or satisfactory education is necessary for enlisted personnel.

Miss d'Agay will be glad to contact any interested lady at home if it is impossible to visit the post office building.

Two Brothers Meet After Four Years

Ensign Ben F. Grimes, who married Miss Ruth Hurley, of Williamston, had a chance meeting with his brother, Ensign Joe Grimes, in Wilson, a few days ago. It was their first meeting in four years, the young men having seen each other only a short time in San Diego, Calif., the first in four years.

Both young men were home on leave from duty in the South Pacific. Ensign Joe Grimes was on his way to his home in Smithfield and was on the streets in Wilson waiting for a bus, hoping he could catch a ride home during the meantime. Brother Ben was traveling from here to Smithfield and happened to see his brother on the street and picked him up.

BOMBED CHILD DREADS ROBOTS



A BURNED CHILD dreads the fire no more truly than this wounded English tot dreads the air from which one of Hitler's robot bombs dropped recently among innocents. Her wounds dressed, she in her mother's arms, the child still looks skyward in fear. (Illustrational)

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

For about five years, a weekly running account of highway accidents has been offered through the cooperation of the Highway Patrol. During that time, many additions have been made, time takes its toll in ever-increasing accidents, injured, damages and death. But this week was the first time that a subtraction has been made. Tom LeRoy Pitt, colored man who was reported to have died from injuries the early part of this month, is still alive and is expected to recover in a Tarboro hospital. The first report could have been "fixed," but officers made an official check and are making ready to bring the man to justice for tearing into and injuring several people who were riding on a cart.

Last week was a really black one for the record. There were six accidents, but no one was killed, the death toll holding to a count of one.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

Week	Accidents	Inj'd	Killed	Dam'ge
1944	6	3	0	\$ 400
1943	0	0	0	000

Year	Comparison To Date	Accidents	Inj'd	Killed	Dam'ge
1944	37	20	1	7300	
1943	23	11	5	3250	

Few Farmers Using War Prison Labor

Comparatively few farmers in this county are using German war prisoners for general farm labor, according to unofficial reports here during recent days.

The reports indicate that the labor is not proving very satisfactory on the farms. No reports from industrial plants where the labor is employed could be had.

During the period, May 15-June 15, 405 prisoners picked up 4,559 bushels of Irish potatoes for four contracting farmers at a total cost of \$273.54, or about six cents a bushel. While the unit cost may not be entirely out of reason, the average collection of about 11 bushels per man does not look so good.

In about the same period, 796 prisoners worked 5,183 and a fraction hours on general farm tasks for eleven farmers at a total cost of \$1,355.83.

FOR EMPLOYERS

The deadline for filing of forms WMC-NC-106 by employers in North Carolina has been set for midnight Thursday, July 20, it is announced by R. S. Dorton of the War Manpower Commission. The form is the required application for the establishment of a manpower ceiling and a priority rating.

Every employer—even if he has only one employe—must have the above forms filed with the nearest local United States Employment Service office by that date, Dorton emphasized.

Employers who fail to file form 106, will have to file form 63, "a much more intricate form, together with the attachments required for this intricate form," Dorton said.

RECORD

For the first time in recent months not a single person was arrested and jailed in this county last week-end. No direct explanation for the holiday on the crime front could be had, but one officer stated that beer sales were frozen during the period and that possibly the shortage of that beverage contributed its part to sobriety. And then, too, crime activities go into a summer slump at least two or three times between July 1 and the middle of August.

Ned Cunningham Is Badly Wounded In Leg A Few Days Ago

Williamston Boy Now in Cast on Hospital Ship Somewhere In the Pacific

Ned Cunningham, young son of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Cunningham, was badly wounded a short time ago somewhere in the Central Pacific, according to information received here yesterday morning by his aunt, Mrs. H. B. York, and friends of the family.

Complete details about the young man's wound could not be had, but it was learned that the young man wrote to his mother, stating that he had been shot in his right thigh just below the hip, that the bone was broken. At the time the letter was written, he was on a special hospital ship somewhere in the Pacific. The limb is now in a cast, and apparently the young man is getting along all right. He stated in his letter that he was receiving the best of care, but, as far as it could be learned, he said nothing about coming home any time soon. He pointed out in his letter that he was lying flat on his back, that it was a bit difficult to write and that he would go into more detail in his next letter.

The message was the first received from the young man in six or seven weeks. It is believed that he was with the Marines in that bloody struggle on Saipan where American casualties approximated 12,000 within a comparatively short time.

The young man participated in the bloody struggle at Tarawa, and was later transferred to Honolulu for a short rest. He has been in foreign service for more than a year, and apparently has been in the thick of the fight in the Pacific during much of that time.

Bandage Room Calls For More Workers

Volunteers are reporting in increased numbers, but the local Red Cross bandage room needs more workers if the July quota is to be handled on time, a report from the room last evening stated.

Less than half the work has been handled to date, it was stated, and a repeated appeal is being directed to all women to report to the room and help complete the task before the 31st.

The following persons have found time to devote an hour or more to the work since last Thursday night: Friday afternoon: Mesdames John Williams, Victor Champion, Frank Weaver and B. S. Courtney. Friday night: Mesdames Coy Roberson, H. L. Meador, M. L. Peel, Ralph Parker, E. H. Willard, J. M. Ward, Bill Harrison, B. S. Courtney, Abner Brown, J. H. Edwards, J. S. Ayers, J. B. Taylor, W. C. Manning, V. E. Brown, M. J. Webb, K. D. Worell, Anna Harrison, and Mrs. Bullock, and Misses Mary L. Taylor, Mary Charles Godwin, Julia Everett, Alma Godwin.

Saturday afternoon: Mrs. B. S. Courtney, Mrs. Victor Champion, Miss Mary E. Keel and Mrs. N. D. Grimes.

Sunday night: none.

Sunday afternoon: Mrs. J. B. Taylor, Mrs. B. F. Perry, Miss Dorothy Manning and Mrs. Palmer White.

Monday afternoon: Misses Jane Goff, Irene Peel, and Rose Leggett and Mrs. Eason Litley.

Monday night: Mesdames John L. Goff, T. A. Gray, C. B. Roebuck, Geo. Harris, William Manning, G. H. Harrison, Edwin Holding, Billy Griffin, Roy L. Ward, A. R. Dunning, Willis Johnson, W. O. Griffin, Joe Roebuck and Mrs. Cora H. Modlin, and Miss Mamie Clyde Manning.

Crop Outlook Improves After Rains Break Long Dry Spell

The general crop outlook in this section was greatly improved last week-end when fairly heavy rains broke the backbone of an aged drought and offered the first relief to "burning" crops in several weeks. According to fairly complete reports, rains were general in the county last Friday and Saturday. A little flood fell in the Farm Life area, some farmers stating that they believed as many as four or more inches of rain fell there Saturday.

The weather station on Roanoke River here reported 1.74 inches of rain Saturday, Last Thursday, .42 of an inch fell here and on Friday nearly one-half inch or .48 of an inch, to be exact, was reported. And then the real rain Saturday came along to give this immediate section what most farmers referred to as a "good season."

As far as it could be learned the rains have not been excessive, but before the big one slacked up last Saturday, some farmers got a bit uneasy as they thought about their tobacco flopping.

It is generally believed that the rains were too late to make for an ideal season, that while they were of enormous value, the corn crop in many areas was too far gone to be saved. Tobacco is but even then the rains splendidly, but even then the crop in this immediate area is certain to reflect considerable dry weather damage.

Tobacco harvesting is just getting underway on a large scale, those few farmers who started the task a short time back declaring that the weed harvested to date is unusually light and that the quality is poor.

General Armstrong Figures in Daring Raids Over Japan

Native of Hamilton Trained Men for Special Mission In Huge Bombers

Drew Pearson, Washington columnist, recently had some interesting things to say about Brigadier General Frank A. Armstrong, a native of this county. Armstrong, a grandson of the late Jim Hobbs, clerk of the Martin County Superior Court for several years, was born in Hamilton. He spent his early life there and moved with his parents to Hobgood. His mother, Mrs. Annie Hobbs Armstrong, now lives in Nashville. He spent much time when a youth in the home of his grandparents in Williamston, and made his home here when playing ball.

He attended Wake Forest College, married in Richmond and has been in the service a number of years. During the blitz on London, he was sent on a secret mission there.

Mr. Pearson's story, appearing recently in the nation's press, reads as follows:

When U. S. B-29's rained explosives on Japan's steel works, there was a story behind the scenes regarding the officer who trained those expert pilots.

That officer is Brig. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, one of the most daring and best-loved officers ever to fly a plane over Germany. For months, Armstrong, based in England, was in command of raid after raid over enemy territory—and led them himself. At that time, he held the rank of colonel. Several times, planes were almost shot out from under him, but he kept on flying.

Coupled with his daring, "Old Army," as they call Armstrong, had an unusual knack of getting close to his men. They worshipped him.

So General "Hap" Arnold wisely decided to capitalize on this by bringing Armstrong back to the U. S. A.

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Local Youth Writes From Camp Lejeune

Writing in to have his mailing address changed, Pvt. J. S. Gurganus stated that Camp Lejeune is a very nice base and is growing rapidly. He continued, "I might say that I like the Marine Corps pretty well and am proud to be one of its many members."

"With the exception of K. P. duty, I am getting along swell and am scheduled to begin a class in radio school sometime in July. The course will last approximately four months. Upon completion of the course, I will be shipped to another base in the States for advanced training in the field."

"I read of the war bond drive now in progress. I feel and hope that the county will go over the top in the drive."

STILL SHORT

Incomplete reports maintain that very few "E" bonds were purchased in this county during the past few days, that unless there is a marked increase in the purchases, the county will fall short of its quota of approximately \$285,000. Several townships have already reached and passed their quotas, proving that it can be done. Several counties in this area, including our next door neighbor, Washington, have passed their quotas.

It is mighty little for the approximately 25,000 people to combine their efforts and invest \$50,000 between now and July 31 to make certain that Martin County's quota will be subscribed to the last penny. And it isn't asking too much of anyone to postpone his vacation or some of his pleasure trips until the solemn obligation is met.

Wounded County Youth Returns To New York

Walter Thomas Mendenhall, Martin County youth who was seriously wounded in action over in Italy the latter part of May, arrived in New York last week, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Walter Mendenhall, of Bear Grass Township, have been advised.

The young man is said to be getting along very well and is glad to be back in the States. It could not be learned when he will be able to return to his home here soon.

Weaver Boys Write From Invasion and The Pacific Fronts

Frank Speaking French and Bennie Trading Souvenirs Over in New Guinea

Stationed in widely separated parts of the world, the youthful Weaver boys, Frank Saunders who is somewhere in France, and Bennie who is over in New Guinea, recently gave a good account of themselves in letters to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weaver, and to the Enterprise.

Writing under recent date from Foxhole No. 20, Somewhere in France, Sgt. Frank Weaver said that he was in the best of health, feeling swell and has a fine outlook on life. The young sergeant insisted that his parents not worry about him. "Remember that you have a son fighting those rotten Japs on the other side of the world. He's the one for you to worry about because he only had so much training and he's so young and bull-headed," Frank said. He added that he knows how to take care of himself, that all the boys were hoping and praying that this thing will soon be over.

"Continuing, the young man said, "Now that we have arrived here we feel that it won't last long, at least not as long as it has been."

In a later letter, the sergeant said that he was in the thick of things, "but it's comparatively safe." He continued, "Just remember that the more men we get over here the quicker we will get this tough job over. I am now getting a chance to use my French I learned in high school. Never did I figure that I would come to France when I was studying. It's a nice language and very convenient for use around here. This is beautiful country and I like it much better than England. As to the French patriots and countrymen, they're just as you've read about in your French book. I surely enjoy writing to and especially talking to these people. They seem to know we are trying to learn their language but I always have to tell them to talk slower.

"Combat isn't so tough and so far it has had its pleasures. Hope pretty soon we have the V-Day."

In a last letter received by his parents, the young man explained that if they did not hear from him in the course of a week and a half or more, not to worry. "I may be up on the front lines and unable to get mail out. We are only a mile behind the front line now and the bullets are flying around everywhere and artillery shells are landing constantly around us. About killing my first German, when and where, I don't think we are allowed to say."

On the other side of the globe, Pvt. Bennie Weaver, Frank Saunders' brother, had the following to say in a letter to The Enterprise under date of July 5th:

"I've been wanting to write to you to let the folks back home know what it's like over here. Since I've been over here, I have received The Enterprise several times and it really makes me feel good.

"To begin with, it's rugged living over here. If it isn't the rain, it's the heat, and if it isn't the heat, it's the B-19 mosquito they have over here. Although it might seem that we would have lots of malaria, we really don't. If you just got common sense and use it, you'll stay pretty healthy. We have good equipment to keep mosquitoes away from us and we have to use it.

"When I receive letters from home, someone asks me about the native women and whether they are pretty or not. They seem to think that on all these South Pacific islands they are swarming with Dorothy I-mears. But what native women I've seen are all skinny, diseased and really look bad. There are all sorts of skin diseases over here and the natives seem to have them all. We have been to several native villages and we trade them different things. Sometimes you can get some right good souvenirs. Of course, souvenirs are easy to get. If you

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Native Of County Dies In Beaufort

Mrs. Bertha W. Mizelle, native of this county, died at her home in Beaufort County last Thursday afternoon following several years of declining health. She had been able to be up most of the time until Monday of last week when her condition became worse.

Mrs. Mizelle lived in this county for a number of years, rearing a large family and moving to Beaufort some time ago. She was a devoted wife and mother and was a good neighbor.

Besides her husband, S. W. Mizelle, she was survived by Nathan, Daniel, Ashley and Roscoe, of RFD 1, Washington and Roy W. Mizelle, of the U. S. Navy; two daughters, Mrs. Ruth Whitaker of Bear Grass and Miss Annie Mizelle of the home; three sisters, Mrs. Charlie Crisp, Mrs. Bessie Jenkins and Mrs. Fannie Jenkins, RFD 1, Washington; three brothers, Allgood Warren of Greenville, Albert and John H. Warren of RFD 1, Washington, and a number of grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted in the Holiness Church near the home last Friday afternoon by her pastor, the Rev. Mr. Moody. Burial was in the Mizelle Cemetery, near Bear Grass.

Officers Wreck Two Stills In This County

Raiding in Griffins Township along the Beaufort boundary line, ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel, assisted by officers from Beaufort County, wrecked two illicit liquor plants.

One of the plants was equipped with an old 50-gallon capacity copper kettle. There were only two fermenters at the plant and both were empty. The officers found a 5-gallon stone jug with three gallons of sugar liquor in it.

Hardly one-half mile away, the officers found and wrecked a rather elaborate but cheaply equipped distillery. The operators had an oil drum for a boiler, a 100-gallon capacity tin still, a 50-gallon doubler and a big box for a cooler, one of the officers explaining that a barrel was not large enough for the work. There were five empty fermenters, and certain signs that "canning" sugar had been used at the plant.

Local Firm Enters Plumbing Business

Mr. George Harris, owner and operator of the Williamston Hardware Company, announced yesterday that he had purchased the plumbing establishment of Mr. W. E. Dunn. All the equipment and fixtures were included in the sale and an official announcement will be made next Friday by the new owner.

The equipment is being moved to the Williamston Hardware building on Washington Street this week. Just as soon as the war ends or when plumbing materials and fixtures are sold without priority, Mr. Harris expects to stock a complete line of plumbing and possibly electrical equipment and supplies.

The firm has secured the services of an expert plumber and the personnel will be sufficiently enlarged to meet the requirements and needs of the town and county.

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