

## Americans Plunging Forward with Paris As Their Next Goal

### American Planes Attack Jap Bases on Mainland and in Philippines

Reversing the order followed by the Germans four years ago, Americans are literally running wild in France today, late reports stating that the Yanks are plunging forward with Paris as their next stop. Positions are changing so rapidly that reporters are hardly able to determine the lines of advance, but it is fairly well established that the Americans have pushed well beyond Le Mans and are now between forty and seventy miles of Paris. To the south, the Yanks, according to unconfirmed reports, have taken Nantes and Angers and are crossing the Loire River. If the Americans hold Nantes they can soon be expected to take Bordeaux, and from then on the advance, some believe, will be similar to falling duck pins.

While American tank forces are fanning out over a wide area, causing confusion for the Germans along a broken line about 150 miles long, other American forces are having a stubborn fight in the Mortain sector where the Germans are still trying to batter the corridor leading from Normandy to the Breton Peninsula. At the same time, other American forces are battling a fanatical enemy resistance at Lorient and Brest. The Canadians and British are still battering the Germans in the Caen area.

While much talk is being heard about the drive toward Paris, it is fairly apparent that the Allies are advancing a pincers movement to trap the German 7th Army. The pincers is hardly sixty miles apart today.

It is becoming more evident that the Hitler gang plans to battle to the last man or until they cave in under their own weight. On the Eastern Front, the Russians have scored large gains around Warsaw, but increased German resistance, supported by several divisions drawn from other areas, have slowed the great push in that area, but the Russians are launching a new drive toward the Prussian border, less than ten miles away.

The situation in China continues to grow steadily worse following the fall of Hengyang earlier in the week. However, American plane attacks on the Jap mainland and on the Philippines are welcomed news. The Dutch East Indies felt the sting of the B-29 yesterday when a vast oil refinery center at Palembang, Sumatra, was fired.

Guam has been subdued, an American coming out of 31 months of hiding to tell his experiences on the island. Meeting in Pearl Harbor the latter part of July, President Roosevelt, General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz are believed to have formulated plans calling for an increased tempo in the Pacific War.

The drive in Italy hasn't recovered from its stalemate, the Allies encountering all kinds of trouble in the Florence area. In addition to the developments on the battlefronts, the Allies have just announced that a great airborne army has been formed by the Americans and the British and that it can

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## Returns Home From Mediterranean Area

After more than twenty-one months in North Africa and the Mediterranean Theater, Harry Martin returned home this week for a well-earned furlough. He plans to spend about two weeks with relatives in Jamesville before going to Fort Bragg for reassignment.

Landing in Casablanca in early November, 1942, the young man went through the North African and Sicilian campaigns and then moved on to Italy where he operated a large amphibious truck.

He was one of several thousand to return from the Italian area, it is understood.

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OLD GLORY, torn from its mast by the Japs in December, 1941, now flies again over Guam, following the successful reconquest by the U. S.

## Much Damage Done To Peanut Factory By Fire Last Night

### Fire Damages Machinery and Stock on Third and Fourth Floors

Its origin not definitely known, fire last night caused considerable damage to the plant of the Williamston Peanut Company. No estimate could be had immediately, but it is fairly certain the loss will run into several thousands of dollars. While the fire was confined mainly to the third and fourth floors, water damage resulted to stocks on the second and first floors.

The alarm was sounded at 9:30 o'clock and firemen and volunteers battled the fire for almost two hours before it could be checked. Throwing off a choking smoke and fumes, the fire burned into the elevators, placing it out of reach of the sprinklers and making it difficult for the volunteer firemen to reach it. The building exterior shows no sign of fire, but it is believed that several weeks will be required to repair the damage and place the plant back in running order.

Operating only a single shift, the plant was closed down about five o'clock yesterday afternoon. It is believed by some that a spark, possibly from a belt, landed in the peanut dust and smoldered for several hours, finally breaking into an open flame.

Handling a record business since early last fall, the company had milled down to its last 5,000 bags of farmers' stock peanuts, and was planning to complete its work for the season about the middle of next week. Orders were based on that tentative schedule and the plans

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## BANDAGE ROOM

Receiving material yesterday, the local Red Cross bandage room will reopen on the second floor of the store building next to the Guaranty Bank tonight at 8 o'clock, it was announced today by the chairman. Approximately 500 yards of material were received, and apparently the quota, including a delayed July shipment, is quite large.

The leaders of the project are asking all women in the entire Red Cross chapter to volunteer their services and co-operate in meeting the quota as quickly as possible.

A schedule for opening the public schools in the county is still pending. The board of education was to have considered the matter further at a meeting yesterday, but the session was postponed until next Monday when a delayed opening will be considered. The schools were first scheduled to open on August 31 in this county as a result of action taken by the board about two weeks ago.

No polio cases have been reported in this county so far, and possibly the disease is subsiding in those areas where it approached the epidemic stage.

ed attendance drops were reported by several of the schools last Sunday, and it was pointed out that the full attendance of adults will hold the figures to a fairly respectable level.

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## Frank S. Weaver Is Patient In Service Hospital In England

### Says Infantry, After All Is Said and Done, Is Winning the War

Frank Saunders Weaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weaver of Williamston, is back in a hospital somewhere in England for treatment, according to information reaching the family here this week. It is understood that the young man is being treated for combat fatigue, and that he is improving.

Weaver, while receiving no body wounds, was rendered unconscious several weeks ago by a bursting shell on the French front. He was hospitalized for a few days and returned to action.

He has a brother, Bennie Weaver, who is now somewhere in New Guinea.

In a letter dated July 31, Pvt. Weaver had little to say about himself, but he did point out the part the infantry is handling in the current war. He said, in part:

"... in this war, it takes everything from artillery to quartermaster, but of all these branches the infantry deserves the most credit. Sure, the other guys are doing a good job but the infantry is what meets the enemy face to face with bayonet and rifle. We're the guys who go at them, and I'm not kidding when I say go after them.

"I've heard fellows write home and complain about the European Theater of Operations, but since I've been over here I've been treated swell. I have no kick coming. We have eaten well, had plenty of rest, sleep and also work, but all our training has paid dividends. We are meeting and defeating the enemy because we paid attention to the instructors. We see now it pays to listen.

"There are a few fellows in the 83rd (my outfit) infantry division from home and in the States. I used to see them quite often but frankly I haven't seen one person from home since I hit England. I am in the hospital recuperating from shell-shock. Yesterday, I went to the Red Cross center here and saw where Bennie Bolland had signed the register, but I found out he had left a short time before I arrived and I missed seeing him.

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## Lewis Thos. Taylor Seriously Wounded

Lewis Thomas Taylor, young son of Mrs. Maniza Taylor Writaker, of Cross Roads Township, and the late Sam Taylor, was seriously wounded in France on June 11, according to a message received by his mother from the War Department last Tuesday noon. No details were offered in the message, but in a letter written by the young man on July 26 it was stated he was improving.

Young Taylor said in his letter addressed to his mother and sister, "Hope you haven't been worrying too much because I haven't written in such a long time. I guess you have already heard about me getting hurt in France on June 11. I have been pretty sick, but am getting along just fine now, and don't you worry too much for I'm O. K. The way things look now, I don't think it will be very long before I get to come home."

Expressing the hope that everyone was well at home, the youth stated that he was anxious for some mail from home, adding that he had not heard from anyone since May.

Just 24 years old last June 1, Taylor entered the service about three years ago and has been overseas about five months. A brother, Willie L. Taylor, has

been overseas about five years. He was in Italy the last time his mother heard from him. Another brother, Charlie Vernon Taylor, is now serving somewhere on the high seas. He volunteered for service about four years ago.

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## Martin County Farmers are now in the midst of the busiest season of the year. Tobacco harvesting is now being advanced on an extensive scale, reports declaring that some farmers are sleeping in their work clothes during the hour or two between harvesting and curing work.

The tobacco crop is now considered very promising for the county, as a whole. A few farmers have better than usual crops while a few have not yet started harvesting their crops.

The early curings are only fair but the quality is improving for the most part.

Rains in late July and early August were of great material aid, and the poundage will likely exceed early estimates, one report going so far as to say that the crop will be so large that a shortage of tobacco sticks is to be expected.

## Make Supreme Sacrifice



Colan Gray Perry, left, was killed in action on the battlefields of France on July 11. The son of Mr. Joseph H. Perry of Williams Township and the late Mrs. Inabell Roberson Perry, Cpl. Perry was the second Martin County man known to have given his life for his country in France. Pvt. Dennis H. Whichard, son of Mrs. Edith Whichard of Williamston and the late D. B. Whichard, was killed in action in Italy on July 11. He was the sixth Martin County youth to make the supreme sacrifice in Italy.



## WOUNDED



Jerry Langley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Langley, of Williamston, was wounded in France some time between the latter part of June and the middle of July. In a letter received by his mother yesterday, the youth stated that he was still in a hospital in England but was improving rapidly.

## Judge Calvin Smith Calls Nine Cases in The County's Court

### Tragedy Results in One Case Being Not Pressed in Court Monday

Judge J. Calvin Smith called nine cases in the county Recorder's Court last Monday, the jurist holding the tribunal in session less than two hours. Only a medium-size attendance was reported.

Cases have been removed from the court dockets for various reasons, but one was cleared Monday as a result of a tragedy. John D. Daniels, colored man, was charged with not supporting his three children. The three little tots were burned to death in a shanty fire on Williamston's East Main Street some months ago, their tragic deaths relieving him of further obligation. He was required to pay the court costs and the case was not pressed.

A continuance under prayer for judgment was allowed until the first Monday in next October in the case charging Allen Warren with an assault with a deadly weapon. The defendant pleads not guilty.

The case charging Wilson Staton with an assault with a deadly weapon was continued until September 11th.

George Thomas Fisher, charged with reckless driving, failed to answer when called and papers were issued for his arrest.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with non-support, Sam Rogers was directed to pay \$8 a week for the support of his four children during one year, and to report back to

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## Two Tobacco Barns Are Lost By Fire In County

Farmer C. C. Whitaker of Cross Roads lost a curing barn and a large number of sticks of tobacco by fire last Thursday. It is believed his barn was the first to burn in the county this season.

Farmer James Russell Cherry was reported to have lost a barn and its contents by fire in Bear Grass Township Sunday.

## Mrs. Samuel Brown Passes In Hospital After Long Illness

### Funeral Services Will Be Held In Baptist Church Here Saturday Afternoon

Mrs. Samuel S. Brown, well-known and greatly beloved local resident, died in a hospital here last night at 9:35 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Despite her advanced age, she was able to be up most of the time until about three weeks ago, and then her condition was not regarded serious until about ten days ago when she was removed to the hospital for treatment. Although her condition gradually grew worse, she recognized members of the family up until a few hours before the end, death coming peacefully.

Miss Dora Lilley before her marriage, she was born in Jamesville Township on October 26, 1871, the daughter of the late William B. and Martha Manning Lilley. She spent her early life there and was married to Mr. Brown of Jamesville on February 10, 1891, moving a few years later to Williamston where Mr. Brown entered business and later was elected register of deeds of Martin County, an office he held for twelve years. Following his death two and one-half years ago, she had made her home with her daughter, Mrs. J. Sam Getsinger.

In early life she joined the Baptist Church at Cedar Grove, later transferring her membership to the Baptist Church here. Faithful in its service, Mrs. Brown exemplified the teachings of the church down through the years, her character radiating goodness and friendliness, her simple and most sincere way of life often brought encouragement and hope to others.

Few could be more appreciative of a kind deed or a thoughtful act, and there could be no greater devotion than that shown for her loved ones and friends. She possessed that perfect gift to see the good things in life, to look on the bright side, and with a kind and understanding heart overlook the errors of others. In her home she made and wanted her welfare to be secondary to that of her children, always finding happiness in doing for others. Hers was an unselfish life, and her acts of kindness and understanding will live for years to come.

Funeral services will be conducted in the local Baptist Church Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock by her pastor, Dr. Wm. R. Burrell, and interment will follow in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

She is survived by five daughters, Mrs. Mary B. Shute and Mrs. Sallie Gurganus of Norfolk, Mrs. J. Sam Getsinger and Mrs. John A. Ward of Williamston and Mrs. E. L. Lowie of Gastonia; a son, Samuel S. Brown, of Norfolk; a half-brother, Bennie Lilley, and eight grandchildren, Mrs. Alton Harrison of Plymouth, J. Ben Hopkins of Suffolk, Pvt. John A. Ward, Jr., stationed with the armed forces at Fort Jackson, Lt. James Willis Ward of the U. S. Air Force overseas, Miss Shirley Gurganus of Norfolk, Pvt. Conrad Getsinger of Sheppard Field, Texas, Chas. Spencer Brown of Havelock, N. C., and Nicholas Brown Lowie of Gastonia, and three great-grandchildren, Misses Jessie Dare, Judith Lynn and Katherine Stephanie Harrison of Plymouth.

## Add New Books To The Local Library

The following new volumes were recently placed on the local public library list:

Juvenile: Here Comes Pete, A Ring and a Riddle, The Land We Live On, So Long, See You Again, The Tengren Tell-It-Again Book.

Adult: Hotel Berlin '43, The Sword Is Drawn, The Star Gazer, Eddie and the Archangel Mike, Plain Clothes Patricia, Storm Canvass, Jill Movie Maker, Flint, The Razor's Edge.

## Whitfield Boy Returns After Hectic Period In Battle Area

Staff Sergeant Melvin Whitfield is back in this country after two hectic years in overseas service. The young man, believed to be one of several thousand to have returned from Italy just recently, was reported to have reached Fort Bragg just a few days ago. He is expected here shortly to visit his sisters, Mrs. K. D. Davenport and Mrs. Walter Jones and other relatives in the county.

Whitfield has traveled an unusual course in the current war, doing disappearing and bobbing-up acts at more or less regular intervals since about the middle of February, 1943. Up to that time, life for him was similar to that led by millions of other G. I. boys. It was about the time that the old desert fox, Marshal Rommel, stormed Faid Pass in North Africa that Young Whitfield was reported missing. That was on February 14 and six weeks later he bobbed up, the International Red Cross

reporting that he was held prisoner by the Italians. Seven months later he was reported missing again. Just where and how he disappeared, if he disappeared at all, is not yet known.

On July 10, this year, he was reported by the War Department to have been found, the message received by his mother, Mrs. Pearl Whitfield, adding that he was returning to active duty, presumably in Italy. Relatives went for months without hearing a word from the young man, and it is fairly certain that he alone can fill the gaps.

The Fourth Service Command, announcing his return to this country, explained "To the extent that shipping space is available, the War Department will increasingly endeavor to return to this country under a rotation furlough plan men and women who have already served long tours of duty overseas."