

Allied Armies Pushing Hard Across Germany

German Opposition Crumbling In Most Sectors of the Front

Million Russians Are Moving On Austria; Within 25 Miles of Berlin

The drive for Berlin is on with several armies pushing hard through Germany from west and east. Late reports state that enemy opposition is crumbling, and rumors from neutral countries state that the Nazi military is on the verge of revolt. Marked gains are being made daily by Allied armies in the west while the Russians, one report placing the number at one million, are pushing toward Vienna less than sixty-five miles away.

After meeting with strong resistance during the first two days of its drive across the Rhine, the British 2nd army was said this morning to have crashed the opposition and pushed forward, taking 12,000 prisoners in the first three days and supporting its campaign with eight bridges across the Rhine. General George Patton's forces are moving so fast that the location of their spearheads are kept secret. One report places the Americans five miles east of Limburg, and Patton's advance is believed less than 200 miles from Berlin.

While the British were taking 12,000 prisoners in three days, Patton's men rounded up 18,818 in a single day, boosting the total for the Third Army to over 300,000. Nearly 76,000 Germans have been taken by the Third Army since March 13.

While Patton's men gained 80 miles, General Hodges' First Army sprinted 35 miles from the Remagen bridgehead, and General Patch moved his Seventh Army forces across the Rhine to the south.

Lt. General William Simpson's Ninth Army, slugging deep into the Ruhr, drove into Germany's industrial heart at better than a half-mile an hour and was reported within three miles of Essen.

Allied pilots, withdrawn from tactical bombing, reported a great exodus of German troops and materiel out of Central Germany into the high Alpine ranges near the Swiss border, where the Nazis are expected to make a last stand in prepared mountain redoubts.

All along the battlefield, the great Allied Armies were on the advance. The Germans are falling back everywhere.

No report has come from Hitler's meeting with his party leaders last night, but before the meeting Hitler was said to have warned the Germans to brace themselves for "unfortunate news." At the same time, the Nazi leaders pleaded with the Germans to fight on even though the situation may appear hopeless. The plea apparently is having its effect, for stories tell about small children shooting and killing American soldiers. General Eisenhower ordered that all such civilians firing upon Americans were to be shot on the spot without trial.

Over in the East, the Russians are pushing a powerful drive on Austria, less than 30 miles away. At the same time the Kustrin front reports increased action, and the Red Armies in that sector were reported to be within 25 miles of Berlin. Danzig, isolated far behind the lines, is about to fall.

In the Pacific theater, the Americans are expanding rapidly, according to reports coming from Tokyo. The reports have not yet been confirmed, but it was announced that American warships and planes were bombarding Okinawa Island in the Ryukyu group about 380 miles from Japan proper. The Japs say the Americans have landed on several small islands in that area, while back in the Philippines the Japs say MacArthur's men are invading Cebu, third largest of the islands.

Farmers Of Martin Launch 1945 Program In a Big Way

Coinciding with the big push in Germany, Martin County farmers, favored by unusually good weather, are launching their 1945 program in a big way these days. Despite the limited manpower and machinery shortages there has been much twisting and turning on the farms during the past few days and much has been accomplished. Hundreds of acres of land have been plowed or disked, but as far as it could be learned no spring plantings have been made. With Good Friday near at hand, preparations are being made rapidly for the first of the spring plantings, a task that home and victory gardeners will join in after a hearty fashion.

General reports indicate that about the same acreage will be planted to the major crops this year as were planted in 1944 with a slight increase in peanut plantings in pros-

THIRD TIME



Pfc. Jos. N. Daniel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick R. Daniel, of Farm Life, was slightly wounded in Germany on February 28, according to a message received over the week-end. It was the third time the young man has been wounded since last July. Later reports stated he was in a hospital in France and that he hoped to be able to return to his company soon.

Two cousins, W. Benjamin and Thomas Daniel, were wounded last year.

Fred Hardison Is In The Navy Now

Chief Graeme Stewart, Officer in Charge of the New Bern Navy Recruiting Station, and Recruiter for this area, announced today that Frederick Leon Hardison, of RFD 1, Williamston, had successfully passed the Eddy test, qualifying examination for Radio Technician Training in the Navy.

Chief Stewart added that Hardison was the ideal Navy recruit, plenty of brains and lots of brawn. Hardison will be remembered as the outstanding "60 minute" tackle with the Duke University 1944 varsity. Hardison will receive his basic training at Great Lakes, Ill., and will then transfer to a Navy college for refresher work in math, shop work and physics and will then be sent to a regular Navy Radar and Electronics school.

Stewart added that any seventeen-year-old and all inductees who have been accepted for service in either Army or Navy were eligible to take the test and that interested applicants contact the recruiter at the Washington, N. C., post office each Tuesday.

Returns To Action After Recovering from Wound

Recovering from a slight wound received on December 24 at Liege, S/Sgt. Francis Peel, son of Mrs. Sadie Peel, of Williamston, returned to active duty along the Western Front a short time ago, it was announced by the Public Relations Office, European Theater of Operations.

TRUCK GAS

Beginning today, the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board at its office in the agricultural building will start issuing truck gas rations for the second quarter. Applications received after April 15 will be penalized, it was pointed out.

Applicants are asked to bring their registration cards when asking that their rations be renewed for another period. The rations will not be mailed.

Cpl. Norman White Home From Pacific Area For Furlough

Youth Dangerously Wounded in Peleliu, Says His Mother Saved His Life

Dangerously wounded in the Peleliu Island of the Palau group last September 26, Cpl. George Norman White arrived yesterday to spend a 30-day furlough in the county with his mother, Mrs. W. A. White. Although he carries an ugly scar, which, no doubt, will be remedied in a series of future operations, the young man appeared in the best of spirits during a stay of a few minutes here yesterday afternoon.

Cpl. White, a member of the First Marine Division, did not have much to say about the war and his part in it. But he did say that possibly he owed his life to blood plasma. Under enemy fire he was given two units and later transferred to a hospital ship. "We had pushed forward over a ridge on the island and the Japs closed in behind us. We had to fight our way back for ammunition with the Jap snipers firing upon us from all sides," the young man explained. While crossing a small clearing for the fourth time a sniper sent a soft nose bullet into him, striking him just behind the right ear and plowing through the jawbone and tearing through the side of his face.

During the long journey home on the hospital ship, the young man was able to hobble around some. "I thought I was pretty badly wounded, but when I saw others with limbs torn away, I considered myself fortunate," Cpl. White said. After reaching the States he met some other boys who had been on Peleliu, and they were surprised to see him. They were afraid he could not survive the wound.

After a stay of several months at Norman, Oklahoma, Cpl. White was transferred to the Naval Hospital at Norfolk. He was able to come home for an over-night visit a few days ago, and just recently saw his brother, Cecil, who came east from Missouri on a special detail.

Upon the completion of his thirty-day furlough, he will return to the hospital and undergo several operations.

Local Boy's Unit Earns Great Honor

The 101st Airborne Division of which Billy Biggs, local young man is a member, recently received the Presidential Citation, the first ever awarded an entire army division. The award was made "for extraordinary heroism and gallantry" for the epic defense of Bastogne last December. It is believed that at least one other Martin County young man is in the outfit, but his name could not be learned.

The First, Second and Fourth Marine Divisions have been awarded Presidential Citations for action in the Pacific.

After the veterans had passed in review, General Eisenhower who presented the award, told them: "I am awfully proud of you."

He declared that the tradition established in the award, "therefore, always will be associated with the name of the 101st Airborne Division."

"Yet you men, because you are soldiers of proved valor and of experience, would be the last to claim that you are the bravest. All the way from where Marines are fighting on Iwo Jima, through the Philippines and Southeast Asia, and along this great front and on the Russian frontiers are going forward day by day those battles sustained by the valor of you and other Allied units that are beating this enemy to his knees. They are proving, once and for all, that dictatorship cannot produce better soldiers than can aroused democracy."

Later reports coming from unofficial sources indicate that the 101st went into action a few days ago when its men dropped behind enemy lines across the Rhine.

Miss Mary L. Taylor Enters Nurses' Corps

After faithfully serving the Martin County Health Department for about two years, Miss Mary L. Taylor last Saturday entered the Army Nurse Corps. She volunteered her services some time ago but was ordered to report just a short time ago.

Several nurses have served the health department, and while all of them rendered a valuable service, possibly none was more willing and anxious to bolster the general health and lighten the burden ill health had placed in those homes where opportunities were limited.

Mrs. H. L. Daniels is succeeding Miss Taylor in the department for the present.

WOUNDED ON IWO



Pfc. Lester Harrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Harrell, RFD 1, Oak City, was wounded on Iwo Jima February 25, one report stating that shell fragments tore into the left side of his head, arm, hip and leg. He was the first Martin County youth reported to have been wounded in the bitter Iwo fight.

County Native Dies At Plymouth Home

R. G. Hardison, a native of this county, died at his home in Plymouth early yesterday morning. He had been in declining health for several years. The son of the late Ira and Celia Davis Hardison, he was born in Jamesville Township 60 years ago and moved to Washington County when a small boy. He was employed by a wholesale firm there and was a member of the Methodist church.

Funeral services are being conducted there this afternoon and interment will follow in the Baptist Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife; a son, Jas. Ira Hardison of Norfolk, Va.; two daughters, Mrs. W. H. Mizelle of Charlotte, and Mrs. Bob Winesett of Plymouth; a sister, Mrs. Bettie Mizelle, of Jamesville.

Israel Margolis Dies In Hospital Saturday

Israel Margolis, father of Messrs. F. J. and Irving M. Margolis, local business men, died in a Brooklyn hospital last Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. He had been in declining health for some time, but his condition was not considered grave until a short time before the end. He was 78 years of age.

Mr. Margolis had visited his sons here at various times, making his last trip about seven years ago.

He is remembered here as a humble citizen, firm in his beliefs, and a supporter of his religion and worthy ideals.

Funeral services were conducted at the Brooklyn Chapel Sunday at 12:30 p. m. and interment was in Staten Island Cemetery.

Besides his two sons here, he is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Ida Mann and Mrs. Irving Sigalow, both of New York.

Wounded Boy Home From German Front

Jimmy Manning, wounded in the knee by shrapnel and a victim of frozen feet, returned to the States last Friday and was immediately removed from Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, to Camp Butler, near Durham. His parents, Superintendent and Mrs. J. C. Manning, and his brothers, Asa and Dick, visited him yesterday and found him getting along very well.

WOUNDED

Pvt. Leonard F. Holliday, young son of Mr. Ferd W. Holliday, member of the Martin County Board of Education, and Mrs. Holliday, RFD 1, Jamesville, was slightly wounded in action in Germany on March 10, according to a message received Sunday from the War Department.

In his last letter dated March 7th, Pvt. Holliday stated that they had captured a German town the night before, that while the fight was a tough one, the prize was worth it. He went on to say that they found refuge in a home, slept between sheets and feasted on cakes and candy stored there by the Germans. The young man entered service last July and went overseas the latter part of December.

County Young Men Meet Recently in the Philippine Islands

Cpl. A. D. Johnson County Boys in About Eighteen Months

Writing from a station hospital over in the Philippines, Cpl. A. D. Johnson told about meeting several Martin County boys. His letter, dated March 7th, follows, in part:

"This morning when I went to work someone came to me and said, 'Hello, boy, how are you doing?' I turned around and there before me stood Ben (Sport) Hopkins. It was such a surprise that I hardly knew what to say. Boy, was I some happy to see him, and he seemed mighty happy to see me.

"We went out to his truck and there were James Morris Stalls, Haywood Wynne and Robert James from Robersonville. I have never felt better than when I saw all those good ole Martin County fellows. We talked for a long time about things we had seen and about the folks back home. We even did a little Martin County farming here in the Philippines. After a little while we rode out to see a boy from Farm Life, Joe Elbert Ward. He was the sixth one in the group from home. You can't imagine how it makes a fellow feel when he gets around some other fellows from home. After we left Joe Ward we went to dinner, got a table to ourselves and started talking about things back home again.

"Old Ben (Sport) Hopkins is getting along just fine. He looks the best I have ever seen him. Of course, he is doing O. K. for himself with these Japs.

"James Morris Stalls hasn't changed any at all. He looks just like he did when I last saw him back home. He's getting along just fine and dandy.

"Haywood (the ballplayer) Wynne is as healthy as any one you want to see. I think he has gained some weight since I last saw him.

"I went to school with Robert James. He's not doing bad, but he wants to go home to his wife, and I can't blame him.

"You can see that Martin County is well represented over here in the Philippines. After being overseas for nearly eighteen months, I finally ran into some fellows from home."

Wounded Soldier Is Home On Furlough

Wounded twice, once on the Anzio beachhead in Italy and a second time several months later in France, James Barcliff, nephew of Mr. W. R. Banks of Williamston, is spending a few days here before returning to Battery General Hospital, Rome, Ga., for further treatments.

A native of Perquimans County, the young man worked at the bus station here for two years before being inducted from this county on March 29, 1943. After receiving his basic training at Camp Blanding he went overseas and was in the second wave to push ashore on the Anzio beachhead. He was wounded on April 2 in the chest and on the arm by shell fragments, and was removed to a hospital in Naples. After a stay of one month there he returned to his service company and participated in the invasion of Southern France, and was wounded on December 2, suffering a broken knee cap. He was evacuated to England where he spent almost three months and was returned to the States about three weeks ago.

The invasion of Southern France was peaceful and quiet compared to that hectic period spent on the beachhead, the young man said. "And it is great to be home again."

Leaving here Thursday he will visit his mother, Mrs. James M. Barcliff, in Perquimans County, and return to the hospital about April 4.

Sixty-Three Tires Allotted In County

Sixty-three tires—59 for passenger cars and four for small trucks—were issued in this county last Friday.

Certificates for the purchase of Grade I tires were issued to the following: Geo. S. Haislip, W. L. Brown, Kenneth Harrington, H. P. Mobley, R. S. Edmondson, Wilford Harrison, George Keel, G. P. Hall, Mrs. H. L. Meador, W. C. and R. A. Ange, H. A. Bowen, LeRoy Robertson, Jack Smith, B. F. Roberson, J. Dawson Roberson, Woodrow Tyson, Dr. V. A. Ward, Alton Rogers, E. A. Rogerson, Better Chevrolet Co., Enterprise Publishing Co., Johnnie W. Wynne, W. B. Scott, P. M. Matthews, D. A. Knox, W. K. Ward, H. B. Bennett, Betty Eason, L. L. Whitfield, Garland Jones, Mrs. Alfred Griffin, L. K. Roberson, Willie Britts, J. W. King, J. C. Bullock, Matthew Ores, N. M. Hyman, Stella Rooks, J. N. Chance, Mannings' Laundry, C. O. Edwards, Harry Gurvin, Mack Craft, F. A. Whitfield, Highway Patrol, W. O. White.

Truck tires: R. W. Salsbury, Elbert W. Griffin, E. E. Brown.

Whiskey Sales Nearly Half Milion Last Year

Total of \$1,914,600.00 Is Spent For Liquor Since Stores Opened

Sales last quarter are largest for any period in almost ten years.

Liquor sales, legal or illegal, broke all previous records in this county during the last three months of 1944 when the four county alcoholic beverages control stores did a \$172,526.25 business, boosting the total sales for the year to \$439,477.45 and to \$1,971,860.60 for the approximately ten years the stores have been operated with the blessings of the county and state. The previous high record in sales was reported back in the fourth quarter of 1943 when sales totaled \$137,476.80. But that record figure was topped by more than \$35,000 last quarter, the sales more than doubling those for the corresponding quarter in 1943.

Possibly liquor price increases account for part of the record gain in sales, but accepting the figures at face value it is fairly evident that palates, hard or soft, were well saturated. It is fairly apparent that per capita consumption underwent its greatest increase during the period, that the sales when added to those handled by the beer and wine dealers account for an expenditure that dwarfs amounts spent for education, religion and individual investments for the rainy days predicted for the postwar period. The striking increase in liquor consumption in this county is offered in bold relief when the \$37,379.29 sales for the fourth quarter in 1936 are compared with the \$172,526.25 sales for the corresponding period in 1944.

While sales last quarter were more than double those for the last three months in 1943, profits were not quite twice as large, but they are now the largest on record for any quarter during the more than nine-year legal liquor-selling period. Profits, placed at \$41,479.42 last quarter, now total \$485,991.22. The last quarter profit pie cutting gave North Carolina \$13,681.44; Martin County, \$20,014.54; Town of Williamston, \$1,419.37; Town of Oak City, \$488.03; and Town of Jamesville, \$481.06. Nearly \$3,000, or \$2,779.80, was set aside as a reserve for law enforcement.

Of the \$172,526.25 taken in by the stores last quarter, \$127,639.15 was paid to the distillers in Kentucky, Pennsylvania and several other states.

To operate the system, the board paid \$2,961.07 for direct store expenses and \$1,580.98 for administrative and general expenses.

As of last December 31, the system had \$34,740.51 in cash on hand, \$38,677.26 in inventories, \$257.67 in fixed assets after depreciation reserve and \$876.78 accounts receivable from Foster and Company, boosting its assets to \$74,552.22. Liabilities were listed: \$7,457.57 due distillers, \$6,463.12 accrued taxes, \$229.40 withholding tax, \$25,018.18 due county and towns, \$13,383.95 for law enforcement reserve and \$12,000 surplus.

A comparison of profits for the fourth quarters, 1943 and 1944, follows, by stores:

	1943	1944
Williamston	\$11,349.90	\$21,472.58
Robersonville	6,123.63	11,751.51
Oak City	2,469.98	4,161.43
Jamesville	2,326.29	4,093.90

\$22,260.85 \$41,479.42

Total sales for the two quarters under comparison follow, by stores:

	1943	1944
Williamston	\$41,950.25	\$38,088.10
Robersonville	22,912.79	49,015.15
Oak City	9,484.75	17,844.40
Jamesville	8,982.70	17,578.60

\$83,330.40 \$172,526.25

A review of legal liquor sales and (Continued on page six)

Eleven County Children Look To Easter Seal Sale For Help

Eleven little county children, their limbs warped and twisted, are anxiously awaiting the outcome of the sale of Easter seals now underway. A liberal response to the current call for support of the annual sale of Easter seals means that the little tots will have a chance to have their limbs mended and travel through life without crutches or retarding limbs. Three of the eleven were treated at a clinic in Tarboro this week. Two others are on the waiting list and will take their turn at the orthopedic clinic at Gastonia as their appeals are heard.

This county is being asked to raise \$1,475 for the Crippled Children's Fund, Miss Mary W. Taylor, chairman, said yesterday. Special appeals have been issued by direct mail, and

Total of \$1,914,600.00 Is Spent For Liquor Since Stores Opened

Sales last quarter are largest for any period in almost ten years.

Liquor sales, legal or illegal, broke all previous records in this county during the last three months of 1944 when the four county alcoholic beverages control stores did a \$172,526.25 business, boosting the total sales for the year to \$439,477.45 and to \$1,971,860.60 for the approximately ten years the stores have been operated with the blessings of the county and state.

Of the \$172,526.25 taken in by the stores last quarter, \$127,639.15 was paid to the distillers in Kentucky, Pennsylvania and several other states.

To operate the system, the board paid \$2,961.07 for direct store expenses and \$1,580.98 for administrative and general expenses.

As of last December 31, the system had \$34,740.51 in cash on hand, \$38,677.26 in inventories, \$257.67 in fixed assets after depreciation reserve and \$876.78 accounts receivable from Foster and Company, boosting its assets to \$74,552.22.

	1943	1944
Williamston	\$11,349.90	\$21,472.58
Robersonville	6,123.63	11,751.51
Oak City	2,469.98	4,161.43
Jamesville	2,326.29	4,093.90

\$22,260.85 \$41,479.42

Total sales for the two quarters under comparison follow, by stores:

	1943	1944
Williamston	\$41,950.25	\$38,088.10
Robersonville	22,912.79	49,015.15
Oak City	9,484.75	17,844.40
Jamesville	8,982.70	17,578.60

\$83,330.40 \$172,526.25

A review of legal liquor sales and (Continued on page six)

Eleven County Children Look To Easter Seal Sale For Help

Eleven little county children, their limbs warped and twisted, are anxiously awaiting the outcome of the sale of Easter seals now underway. A liberal response to the current call for support of the annual sale of Easter seals means that the little tots will have a chance to have their limbs mended and travel through life without crutches or retarding limbs.

This county is being asked to raise \$1,475 for the Crippled Children's Fund, Miss Mary W. Taylor, chairman, said yesterday. Special appeals have been issued by direct mail, and