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## GERMAN OFFENSIVE SMASHES TO VITAL CAUCASUS GATEWAY

**Nazis Only 25 Miles From Rostov; Volga Basin Also In Peril; Russians Continue To Hold Ground At Voronezh**

Moscow, July 23.—Germany's massive drive against the Lower Don has crashed through the Russian defenses to the Novocherkassk area 25 miles northeast of Rostov, gateway to the Caucasus, and the Tsimlyanskaya region, 100 miles upstream, the Soviet high command announced today.

The most disastrous Red army setbacks of the six-week German offensive were acknowledged officially in a communique disclosing that the menace to the oil wealth of the Caucasus and the Stalingrad industrial heart of the Volga basin had grown enormously.

With the battle raging practically at the gates of Rostov and far up the Don near the easternmost reaches of its Big Bend, the German vanguard had within its grasp the approaches to both the Caucasus and the Volga, and threatened to slice off the southeastern bulge of European Russia.

The new positions represented a German advance of 50 miles down the Moscow-Rostov railroad to the area of Novocherkassk, which is on the line and slightly north of the Don, and an apparent drive of 120 miles southward from the Millerovo region of Tsimlyanskaya.

**German Claims.**  
(The German high command claimed that the Don had been crossed on a wide front above its juncture with the Donets, 70 miles above Rostov, which evidently embraced the Tsimlyanskaya area. It said organized Russian resistance had "collapsed" in the Rostov zone and Axis troops "stand before the fortified bridgehead extending in a semicircle before the city.")

"On Wednesday our troops fought battles with the enemy in the areas of Voronezh, Tsimlyanskaya and Novocherkassk," the high command said in one of its gloomiest announcements of the 13-month-old war.

The Red army apparently continued to fall back on Rostov, since the communique conceded that "in the Novocherkassk area, by order of the high command, our troops retreated to new positions."

The battle was reported raging furiously on the Novocherkassk front, which the German armored and motorized forces were revealed to have reached two days ago.

In one sector, the communique said, "our troops engaged in heavy fighting with superior enemy forces for two days and more than 1,800 of the enemy were killed."

Russian infantry waged a bloody defense of the northeastern railway approach to Rostov also suffered heavy losses, the high command admitted.

Soviet planes covering the retreat before a so far irresistible German onslaught blasted ceaselessly at enemy columns, tanks and infantry concentrations.

Many German tanks, 67 truckloads of troops and supplies and several fuel tankers were destroyed in the bombings, the official report said, while the Soviet land forces "dispersed and partly annihilated a considerable number of Hitlerites."

## CHINESE SUCCESS

Chungking, July 22.—Chinese armies have recaptured Kienchiang, large county seat 55 miles southwest of Hanchow, after a severe five-day battle, and are heavily attacking Wenchow, a Chekiang province seat which has changed hands three times since July 11, a war communique said today.

(The London radio said that United States bombers sank two Japanese river craft on the Fu river, in Kiangsi province, near the Fukien border. Linchuan, Japanese base which American bombers raided Sunday for the second time, is on the Fu about 50 miles southeast of Nanchang. The Americans sank two small enemy vessels on the Yangtze near Kiangsi on Monday.)

RAF bombers over Burma attacked Japanese shipping at Akyah, southwest coastal port, on Tuesday, London said. Ships also were bombed on the nearby Kaladan river. Farther down the coast, at Kynokpyin, docks and buildings were raided. In northwest Burma, bombers attacked buildings at Kalawa, enemy base on the Chinthein river.)

A banner year for American livestock and crop production appears to be in the making as a result of several factors, according to a report from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

## Victory Gardens Should Include Fall Vegetables

War is not a seasonal affair; neither should the Victory Garden be restricted to summer vegetables, declares H. R. Niswonger, Extension horticulturist of N. C. State College. Surveys have indicated that more than 90 per cent of North Carolina's 278,276 farm families planted bigger and better gardens in the spring. "But," says Mr. Niswonger, "a real Victory Garden is one that produces a year-round supply of vegetables and small fruits for the farm family."

With this definition of a Victory Garden in mind, the Extension horticulturist reminds farm people that "now is the time to begin preparing the soil for a fall garden." He says that a fairly wide variety of vegetable crops will grow well in the late summer and fall under average North Carolina conditions.

Crops recommended for the fall garden, and suggested planting dates include: Collards, sow seed now to produce plants to be set in September in most parts of the State; carrots, plant this week and next week in the Piedmont and mountains, and August 1-15 in the Eastern part of the State; snap beans, plant in the East and Piedmont about August 1; leaf lettuce, plant in August in the East and mountains and in September in the Piedmont.

Other crops for the fall garden are: Beets for roots and greens, plant August 1 in the Piedmont and mountains, and August 20 in the East; mustard, kale and tendergreen, plant over the entire State in September and October; winter spinach, August and September in the Piedmont and mountains, and August to November in Eastern Carolina; radishes, August in the mountains, and August and September in the East and Piedmont.

Probably some of those objectors are not so conscientious as they are contentious.

## Grave Russian Situation Brings Crisis to Allies

**Soviet Ambassador Conferences With President Roosevelt; More Aid For China Also Emphasized**

Washington, July 22.—The grave peril confronting Russia was emphasized today when Soviet Ambassador Maxim Litvinov conferred with President Roosevelt, presumably on the imperative need for Allied action to relieve the hard-pressed Red armies.

Litvinov said he could not discuss what he and Mr. Roosevelt talked about and he muttered "No" to all questions relating to a second European front.

His White House visit, however, followed by only a few hours disclosure that he had made new and urgent pleas to other United Nations officials here for Allied operations on the continent, and a blunt assertion by sources close to the Soviet Embassy that Russia's situation is so dangerous the Allies face the gravest crisis since Dunkirk.

These developments preceded a meeting between Mr. Roosevelt and the Pacific War Council devoted to ascertaining that China "put up the best fight that can be put up" against Japan, which reportedly is geared for a stab-in-the-back thrust against Russian Siberia.

**China's Vital Role.**  
Continued Chinese resistance definitely ties in with any second front strategy, since China would be calculated to forestall any large-scale Japanese drive into Siberia and thus prevent a diversion of Russian strength which naturally would enhance Germany's prospects on the Eastern front.

The moves here coincided with mounting speculation in London that momentous second front decisions may be imminent as result of current Anglo-American talks.

Sources close to the Soviet Embassy warned that unless the Allies strike now, it may be too late. They maintain that if the Red armies are knocked out, the United Nations may be defeated; or else, ultimate victory may cost them millions of lives and long years of fighting.

Litvinov himself is understood to believe that now is the time for the United Nations to act if they want to win the war with the least cost to lives and in the shortest possible time.

## R. A. Joyner, Local Manager to Attend REA Conference

R. A. Joyner, manager of the Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation which operates 256 miles of electric lines serving 1070 farmers and 20 commercial establishments in this area will leave July 25 for the National REA headquarters at St. Louis, Missouri, where he will attend the 20th conference of system superintendents and managers during the week of July 27th. More than 50 superintendents and managers from the North and Middle Atlantic seaboard have been invited to attend.

REA Administrator Harry Slattery and other national officials will address some of the sessions, while others will be given over to round-table discussions in which the men attending and members of the REA technical staff will exchange information in the town-meeting style. The part REA systems are playing in the war effort, with special emphasis on the use of electricity in producing food and relieving the farm labor shortage, will be subjects for discussion. With the use of vital war materials curtailed, ideas and plans for home-made electrical equipment adapted to farm use will be exchanged and discussed.

REA systems all over the country are now serving Army landing fields, air bases, naval and marine bases, ordnance plants, a large midwestern aluminum plant, as well as numerous small industries producing war equipment.

"This will be my first visit to the new REA national headquarters since it moved from Washington to St. Louis as a part of the Federal Government's wartime decentralization program," said Mr. Joyner. "While I'm there, I'll be able to discuss first-hand specific problems of the Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation system with REA officials."

The Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation has been in operation four years this past March and during this time, it has met all interest and principal payments when due, has made \$14,000.00 advance payments on its loan to the Rural Electrification Administration and bought \$9,000.00 Defense Bonds, Series F. This speaks for itself—that said cooperative has been operating on a sound basis.

Mr. Joyner has been connected with the Cooperative since its first organization and has been General Manager since April 1, 1940. D. T. Harris has been Distribution Superintendent since July 1, 1940.

## CONSERVATION

War production strength of the Nation's farms was increased last year by application of AAA conservation materials far above those of any previous year.

## FOUNTAIN NEWS (By MRS. M. D. YELVERTON)

Miss Hazel Owens is visiting friends in Winston-Salem.

Earl Trevathan, Jr., a student of U. N. C. spent a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Trevathan.

Mrs. Robert Fountain, Jr., spent Thursday in Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Smith spent Monday in High Point.

Miss Mary Emma Jefferson spent last week visiting Miss Ruby Oden in Washington.

Misses Ann Marie and Martha Harden Jefferson and James Lane Jefferson and Miss Esther Mann Cobb of Pinetops, have returned from a few days stay at Wrightsville Beach.

Gibbs Johnson of Portsmouth, Va. is at home with Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Johnson for a few days.

Frank Owens left Tuesday for Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Merver and Miss Sarah Merver spent several days recently in Western North Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Carter Smith, Mrs. J. W. Redick and Miss Nina Estelle Yelverton spent Sunday in Hopewell, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fountain, Jr., Miss Betty Fountain and Bob Fountain, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Merver and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Baker spent Sunday at Atlantic Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Eagles, Mr. and Mrs. D. Yelverton and Boris Yelverton spent Sunday in Lenoir with Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Eagles.

## POTATOES

The 1942 commercial early crop of Irish potatoes is estimated to be 45,750,000 bushels, a 15 per cent increase over the 1931-40 ten-year average of 42,239 bushels.

A doctor says half the people kill themselves by work. The other half kill themselves doing it.

## A WEEK OF THE WAR

(For Release July 21)

President Roosevelt told his press conference he is considering asking Congress for more effective controls to keep down the cost of living, including wage control. The National situation as regards the cost of living must be kept in line, he said. The one criterion that must be kept in mind is what it costs the average family to live.

The War Labor Board announced a formula for a National wage stabilization policy designed to maintain workers purchasing power at January 1941 levels. The Board said "as a general rule workers are entitled to 15 percent more wages than they had on January 1, 1941, to meet the increases in living costs from that date to May 1, 1942. Workers who have received an increase of 15 percent or more during that period will not be entitled to raises except in cases where their rates are below standard and a raise is necessary to wipe out inequalities."

The WLB ordered an increase of 44 cents a day, retroactive to last February, for 157,000 "Little Steel" workers. The union had asked \$1 a day increase. The Board ruling also provided maintenance of union membership and a check-off of union dues. President Roosevelt, referring to the Board's "Little Steel" ruling said the entire National problem of wages is relative. In production of an article like steel an increase of 5 percent in the wages would not force up the cost of living nearly as much as a comparable increase, for instance, in a canning factory that produces food, he said.

The WPB reported 2,736 trucks truck trailers and miscellaneous vehicles were released to civilian and to holders of Government exemption permits during the week ended July 11. Since March 9, when the rationing program became effective, almost 52,000 vehicles in all categories have been released to these two groups. The OPA authorized local war price and rationing boards to permit use of any reasonable amount of sugar for home canning, providing four quarts of fruit will be canned with each pound of sugar.

**The War Front.**  
A Communique from Cairo, Egypt, reported Maj. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton, formerly commander of the U. S. Army Air Forces in India is now Commander of U. S. Air Forces in the Middle East. Gen. Brereton said American heavy bombers carried out 21 tactical missions in 36 days with the loss of only three U. S. planes. The Navy announced 13 Japanese ships have been sunk or damaged since June 3 in Aleutian waters, and at least seven enemy aircraft have been destroyed. The Navy said U. S. casualties in that theater to date are approximately 44 military and naval personnel killed, 49 wounded and one civilian employee killed.

The Navy reported damage inflicted on the enemy during the Battle of Midway June 3 to June 6 included: approximately 4,800 Japanese killed or drowned as compared to U. S. losses of 92 officers and 215 enlisted men; 20 enemy ships of all classifications sunk or damaged; and an estimated 275 Japanese aircraft destroyed. The U. S. Carrier Yorktown was put out of action and the Destroyer Hammann was torpedoed and sunk. Caribbean defense Commander Andrews said "Measures for action against enemy submarines in this area apparently are proving very effective" and antisubmarine systems are greatly improved in the Panama Canal Zone. The Navy announced the sinking of 20 more United Nations Merchant vessels by enemy submarines.

**Foreign Relations.**  
President Roosevelt formally proclaimed a state of war with Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria, making Nationals of those countries residing in the U. S. subject to regulations governing other enemy aliens. The President announced Lend-Lease War Aid extended by the U. S. from March 21, 1941—when the program began—to June 30, 1942, amounted to \$5,205 million, highest monthly total in the 16 months of the program. The State Department said the U. S. has signed mutual aid agreements with Czechoslovakia and Norway, bringing to nine the number of such agreements. The Department also announced the Vichy French Government has turned down two offers by President Roosevelt to provide a safe haven for the French Naval units now at Alexandria, Egypt.

**Army and Selective Service.**  
The Army Air Force, present accident rate is 66 percent lower than in 1930 and 10 percent lower than the average rate for the 10 years between 1930 and 1940, war Secretary Stimson said. Mr. Stimson said every U. S. soldier going into a theater of operations will receive a package of five grams of crystalline sulfanilamide for wounds in addition to 15 sulfanilamide tablets for internal use. Army Air Force Command (Continued on page 2)

## Mayor Davis Urges Support For Scrap Drive

Urging every man, woman and child in Farmville to hasten the day of victory by salvaging needed scrap materials, Mayor George W. Davis today pledged full support to the local salvage campaign.

"By turning over to the Salvage Committee of Farmville every available pound of old materials, we all can make a direct and helpful contribution to our national victory effort."

"Every 50 pounds of steel means 105 mm. shell; a discarded doorknob will help make dozens of cartridge cases; 25 tons of steel will make another tank."

"I call upon every resident to search his home carefully from cellar to attic, looking for scrap iron and steel, copper, brass, zinc, aluminum, rubber, rope, burlap. Every one of these materials is needed today by American industry for manufacture into weapons and equipment for our armed forces."

"There are many tons of valuable scrap in Farmville. We must collect every pound of it and see that it gets into America's war plants. Our steel mills, tank factories, shipyards, airplane plants and other war industries are already exceeding their former production records. We can help them attain even higher production by sending them all the scrap materials we can find."

"As you search for scrap in your own home, remember that the scrap you are looking for will give our armed forces more weapons to win a quicker victory."

## Bumper Crop Requires Earlier Hog Marketing

North Carolina farmers may face serious hog marketing trouble unless they start their animals to market earlier than usual this year, according to H. W. Taylor, Extension marketing specialist of N. C. State College.

Growers are expected to send a fourth more hogs this fall and winter than they have ever marketed before from October 1 to April 1. If they should attempt to market in December and January the normal percentage of this increased number, packing plants and transportation facilities would probably be taxed beyond capacity.

Taylor pointed out that growers should not depend upon increased plant capacity and more trucks and railroad livestock cars to handle the greater peak marketing. Such increases would require more rubber and tires and large amounts of steel that the Nation needs for its war machines.

For this reason, the marketing specialist explained, farmers should plan now to avoid some of the rush of marketing that normally comes in December and January. They can do this by starting earlier.

However, Taylor continued, in making plans for marketing more hogs early this year, farmers should also plan to market their hogs at good weights. They should sell as early as practicable, but should not ship light, unfinished hogs unless unavoidable.

Government purchases are taking up a large part of the hog crop, so prices should cause little worry to growers. It is probable that for a year beginning next October, the Government will be buying about 30 percent of the pork and half of the lard from the greatly increased number of hogs that will be marketed.

## Vote To Create Rubber Agency

Washington, July 22.—The Senate passed a measure today to create an independent agency for the production of synthetic rubber from grain alcohol despite administration protests against interference with War Production Board control of the rubber program.

The measure now goes to the House where the Rules committee has given approval to an identical measure sponsored by Chairman Fulmer (D-S. C.).

Majority Leader Barkley read a statement from Donald M. Nelson in which the war production chief contended that creation of a separate rubber agency would be a "rash act" authorizing diversion of critical materials from vital war needs to construction of producing plants.

This bill was pushed to passage by a farm block whose spokesmen, Senators Thomas (D-Ola.) and Gilllette (D-Iowa), charged that the WPB program of 800,000 tons of rubber next year was largely confined to production based on "untried laboratory experiments" from petroleum.

Carry packages. Shop for your neighbor and let her shop for you.

## BRITISH LAUNCH OFFENSIVE AGAINST ROMMEL IN EGYPT

### WAR IN BRIEF

German offensive imperils gateway to rich Caucasus and rich Volga basin as Nazis drive to environs of Rostov and threaten Stalingrad. Russian lines hold in Voronezh area.

British Imperial Eighth Army launches general offensive against Axis forces in Egypt. Outcome of fighting not decisive yet. Royal Air Force drives Axis planes from sky.

Gravity of Russian situation emphasized as Soviet Ambassador Litvinov confers with President Roosevelt and clamor for second front grows in Britain.

Royal Air Force blasts vital German inland port of Duisburg with heaviest explosives.

Chinese report new successes in fighting in Central China as Allied planes batter Japanese bases over wide area.

Senate farm bloc wins rubber battle by sponsoring passage of bill to take control of synthetic rubber made from farm products from authority of WPB.

### Gas Rationing Now In Effect

Washington, July 22.—Motorists in Eastern states began purchasing their gasoline today by the new coupon rationing system.

To aid those late in applying for the coupon books, the Office of Price Administration authorized filling stations to furnish gasoline until July 31 to regular customers who agree to turn in their coupons when they obtain their books.

The service stations, however, will be "held responsible" for such sales, said Paul M. O'Leary, deputy administrator, explaining that they must turn in the coupons to distributors in order to replenish their own tanks.

The OPA officially valued the coupons of A, B, and C books at four gallons each, at 1 1/4 gallons in D books for motorcycles and at 5 gallons for S-1 and S-2 books for trucks, buses and taxicabs.

## Royal Air Force Attacks German City of Duisburg

**Fifty Two-Ton Bombs Are Dropped on River Port As Reds Raid Koenigsberg**

London, July 22.—A force of 300 Royal Air Force bombers dumped more than 50 two-ton "block-busting" bombs and other high explosives last night on industrial Duisburg and the world's largest river port nearby while the Russian air force struck at German military power at Koenigsberg, East Prussia.

Giving the Germans little rest from air raids, British Spitfires flew over the channel this afternoon for the fourth successive day's raid on objectives in occupied territory, including Dunkerque and Le Touquet. The planes attacked railway engines, factories, gunboats and barges, the Air Ministry reported.

The ministry said the raid on Duisburg, the heaviest by the British since the 1,000-plane attack on Bremen June 25 and the first night raid on the Ruhr city since July 18, cost the British 13 bombers.

But, the Air Ministry added with a note of satisfaction, "really good fires" were left blazing in Duisburg itself and in the dock area of the river port, Duisburg-Ruhrort, just north of the city at the confluence of the Ruhr and Rhine rivers.

**Attack Successful.**  
"Experienced squadron commanders are confident the attack developed successfully," the Air Ministry said.

Good weather, for the lack of which British bombers have been held back often this month, favored the attackers as they smashed and burned Duisburg's heavy industries and sea and rail communications.

In the Russian air attack far across Germany to the east, the Moscow radio said military and industrial targets in the city area and suburbs of Koenigsberg were raided in difficult weather. Six large fires and four heavy explosions resulted, the radio added.

Russian planes previously struck Koenigsberg last Saturday and reported 35 fires left in the city.

Headquarters of the Royal Canadian Air Force said at least four Canadian squadrons took part in last night's attack on Duisburg.

Anyway the German women won't have to go to the front. Either they'll be there or they won't.

## Quickly Win Entire 'Hill of Jesus' and Make Progress on Other Sectors; Royal Air Force Drives Axis Planes From Sky; Outcome of Drive Not Decisive Yet

Cairo, July 22.—British Imperials launched an offensive all along the 85-mile Egyptian front early today under cover of a Royal Air Force onslaught that has routed Axis planes from the sky, and quickly won the entire "Hill of Jesus" in the north, made considerable headway in the center and gained slight ground in the south despite fierce Axis counterattacks.

Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's Africa Corps was reported resisting fiercely in all three sectors, particularly in the south, near the edge of the Qattara Salt Depression, and fighting raged throughout the day.

The Imperials swung to the attack on the north, central and southern sectors this morning just after the RAF climaxed a week-long assault by strafing a 1,000-truck Axis reinforcement caravan, blasting supply ships and piers at Crete across the Mediterranean and heavily bombing the Libyan port of Tobruk.

In winning all of Tel El Eisa—the "Hill of Jesus"—the Empire forces restored the five-mile northern salient running westward from El Alamein. This was the scene of fierce fighting last week when Field Marshal Rommel's troops won a foothold on the ridge, but failed to dislodge Imperials from the dominating heights.

**All Sectors.**  
Tanks and heavy artillery were reported engaged in all sectors as the British launched their first general attack of the present campaign simultaneously at all points.

Despite the Imperial progress, it was emphasized that it was too early to say a "definite general result" had been achieved or that a full-scale counter-offensive was under way to drive the Axis out of Egypt.

Reports of the battle on the northern sector said that for several hours the tide swung to and fro before Australian troops succeeded in occupying all of Tel El Eisa, including the railroad station just west of the ridge.

In the center, it was revealed, South African and Indian troops took the initiative last night to pave the way for the general assault, and by early morning had progressed "some miles" around the western edge of the strategic Ruweisat Ridge. It was in this sector that the main armored battle was expected to develop.

**RAF Umbrella.**  
The RAF spread an umbrella over the battle area, although hampered until mid-morning by low-lying dust clouds churned up by the ground activities. There were reports of slight enemy air activity in contrast with the absence of Axis planes from the sky yesterday.

The fighting in the south swirled about the El Taqa plateau and Gbel Kalach hill where the Imperials made some progress against the strongest Axis positions.

Only four German Messerschmitt fighters, which fled without a fight, and one Italian bomber, which was downed to pieces over the coast near Sid Barrani, Libya, were encountered by the RAF over the desert front all day Tuesday, it was revealed.

(An RAF communique said two additional enemy planes, in addition to the Italian bomber, were shot down Tuesday. They presumably were encountered on the Crete raid.)

The RAF had one of its biggest field days of the North African war, routing at least three Axis truck columns and creating havoc along the Axis battle positions, desert supply roads and ship routes. In addition to destroying 24 trucks from the one huge caravan, RAF light bombers knocked 14 vehicles out of another column, setting seven fires among the debris, and 30 from a third column encountered near the southern end of the battle line.

**Get To Sea.**  
Carrying the offensive out to sea, RAF torpedo planes scored three hits on a medium-sized Axis supply ship and probably damaged one of its two escorting destroyers.

To days of devastating RAF raids on Rommel's advanced air bases of El Daba, 30 miles behind the Egyptian battle line, and at Paba, 30 miles farther west, in which numerous Axis planes were blown to pieces on the ground, war believers have hoped enemy air power.

Empty is the gas tank, here is the old rim. The Japs we can thank and we can better reward them.