



New Nazi Offensive on Bridghead Below Rome Believed In Preparation

Sharp Exchange of Gun-fire Results In No Change In Ground Positions; Allied Airmen Blast German Positions Including Toulon on the South French Coast

Allied Headquarters, Naples, March 8. — Gunfire, mortar and grenade duels raged for the second straight night in shell-torn Cassino on the main Fifth Army front, headquarters announced Wednesday and observers have spotted movements behind the German lines below Rome, possibly indicating a regrouping for a fourth all-out push against the Allied beach-head.

New Zealand siege guns hammered at a German held rail station about a mile south of Cassino while American troops west of Cassino on the beachhead engaged in a fierce machinegun and mortar duel with the Nazis, but there was no change in positions. The Germans made a concerted but futile effort to infiltrate British positions near Carroceto, on the Rome side of the beach-head.

Discussing the German movements behind the lines headquarters said the Nazis "appear to be on the watch for any opening in our forward positions."

Foul weather, however, continued to hamper the ground fighting and the communique declared that "heavy snow in the mountains and deep mud in the valleys have made all movements difficult."

Allied planes flew about 1,800 sorties with heavy bombers blasting the Toulon naval base in southern France and medium bombers striking at rail yards in Rome. Five Nazi planes were destroyed for a loss of five Allied craft.

The operations included heavy bomber raids on rail facilities in the Florence region and on airfields north of Rome. The Rome radio said heavy damage and casualties had been caused in Rome and asserted that a church and an orphanage had been hit.

On the Eighth Army front a Canadian patrol wrecked a house occupied by the enemy in the Tolle area by sneaking up to it and placing a demolition charge next to it.

Only Patrol Activity. Two strong enemy patrols attacked Indian army positions north of Orsoy on Monday night, but were dispersed before they reached the Allied lines.

Medium bombers struck at the docks at Santo Stefano, important German supply point on the Italian Riviera, and night bombers returned to dump more bombs on the port.

Photographers of the Toulon raid showed hits in the munitions factory area and several hits on the dry-docks. War vessels anchored along a jetty were believed to have been damaged.

Twenty-five enemy fighters tried to intercept the Fortresses and their escorting Lightnings 10 minutes from the target. Four Nazi planes were downed in the battle, and none of the American ships was lost.

GRIPSOHM DUE NEXT TUESDAY

New York, March 8. — The first Gripsohm bringing Americans home from Germany, will reach New York harbor late Tuesday and will dock in Jersey City about 9 A. M. (EWT), Wednesday, March 15, American Export Lines announced.

The line, operating the 18,134-ton vessel for the War Shipping Administration, said the disembarkation period was expected to last approximately 46 hours.

Relatives and friends wishing to arrange for meetings with the repatriates were advised in the announcement to contact the American Red Cross chapter here.

Only passengers, officials and newspapermen will be allowed on the pier during the embarkation period, the line said.

Williams-Winstead Clinic Organized

Dr. E. T. Williams and Dr. C. Ashby Winstead have recently purchased the clinic building on Main Street, which is to be known as the Williams-Winstead Clinic. Dr. Williams moved his office to the new location this week.

Dr. Winstead who is in service with the U. S. Public Health Department for a duration is specializing in surgery and when he comes to Farmville will be in charge of the clinic. The clinic will be open for patients but will not accept private patients.

District Governor Robert W. Madry Addresses Club

Rotary Making Generous Response To Appeal For Foundation Fund

Rotarians throughout the 189th District, embracing 53 clubs from High Point to the coast in the upper half of the State, are making substantial contributions to the Rotary Foundation, the endowment fund of Rotary, which is being stressed by President Charles L. Wheeler in this year's program, District Governor Robert W. Madry, of Chapel Hill, said in an address before the Farmville Rotary Club Tuesday night.

Although it was organized in 1927, a concerted campaign for the Foundation is being made this year for the first time, the District Governor said.

The endowment now has contributions totaling more than \$300,000, and the goal is \$2,000,000, he said.

Approximately two-thirds of the 53 clubs in the District already have made contributions ranging from \$25 to \$200, and many Rotarians have made individual contributions, he said. All clubs or individuals making contributions of more than \$10 receive Certificates of Participation, suitable for framing.

Contributions may be made in cash, war bonds, or through wills and insurance policies, District Governor Madry said. Many of the contributions are being made in war bonds, and in this way two purposes are served with one stroke, he added.

"The goal for the 189th District is 100 percent participation, and indications are that it will be reached," he said. "At present our District is leading all other Districts in this country in number of clubs participating, although the sums contributed by some other districts doubtless are much larger. Contributions are deductible from income tax."

The income from the Foundation, he said, is to be used chiefly for the rehabilitation of Rotary in war-torn countries and for post-war expansion.

He said that many clubs are making substantial progress on Rotary's Work File Project, designed to provide post-war employment.

Explaining Rotary's post-war plans he said "the No. 1 project of the 220,000 Rotarians in 5,000 clubs and 50 countries throughout the world calls for an inventory now of potential needs for jobs, repairs, replacements, goods and other services when peace comes."

"Armed with such a survey, industry and government can be prepared to meet intelligently the crisis in unemployment which well informed economists tell us, is certain to come. The Nazis and Fascist organizations were the direct cause of unemployment following World War I. The same thing could happen in this country after this war. But we can't afford to let it happen."

Outlining some of Rotary's other war activities, he said that many of the clubs are participating in the District's War Bond Contest.

Despite the war and attendant difficulties, Rotary is enjoying a substantial growth, he said. "There has been a net membership gain of 125 members in the District so far this Rotary year, an increase over the corresponding period last year, and one new club has already been added," he reported. "The attendance average has also been high, around 85 percent."

GOON GUN

Washington, March 8. — The Army's Army of specialized weapons has been supplemented by the "Goon Gun," a newly perfected 42 mortar battery used with deadly effectiveness in European and Pacific war fronts, the War Department disclosed tonight.

The gun has the general appearance of a stovepipe, supported by a square flat pack the punch of light artillery and can lob a score of 55-pound projectiles two-and-a-half miles in 30 seconds.

The Goon Gun first was used in the invasion of Sicily last July and its power, versatility and accuracy since have earned it the admiration of American forces and the fear of the enemy on all major battlefronts, the department said.

In an account was underscored by a mortar unit in Italy which dropped a round into the open door of a German tank, another and another 12 rounds to knock out a battery of German 88-mm. guns which outweighed it 30 times and had four times its range.

The weapon weighs less than 300 pounds, permitting mobility and ease of operation. Disassembled, it is carried in three separate sections which are readily carried by mules or moved by hand.

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Local Furniture Store Undergoes Spring Dress Up

First and Second Floors Redecorated Through-out; Arrival of New Furniture Adds to Attractiveness of Spring Show

The Farmville Furniture Co., elsewhere in this issue, extends an invitation to the people of the Farmville community and Eastern Carolina to attend their Spring Furniture Show.

The entire first and second floors of their large building, which are used exclusively as display rooms, have recently been repainted and redecorated, and is now ready for an early visit from you and yours.

This firm also announces the arrival of a large shipment of new furniture which has been attractively arranged for your inspection.

This well known and popular firm has, for years, held the distinction of having one of the best and most attractively arranged furniture stores in the State, and today, with its face freshly retouched and lifted, is a show place of beauty, where your every furniture need can be taken care of with satisfaction to all.

RED CROSS KNITTING NOTICE

There is material on hand for two navy scarfs. If you can possibly volunteer your services, call Mrs. H. N. Howard.

The Baptists To Dedicate Church Building May 7th

Announcement can now be made about the Dedication Service to be held at the Baptist Church here on May 7th. The church debt was liquidated last December by the local congregation.

Speakers for the forthcoming "Dedication Day" will be, Dr. H. H. McMillan, for many years a missionary to China but now doing special work for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in the South, who will speak at the 11:00 o'clock service; Governor J. Melville Broughton, who will speak at 3:00 in the afternoon and Dr. J. G. Greer, Supt. of the Baptist Orphanages of N. C., and past president of the Baptist State Convention, who will bring the message at the evening hour.

A word of appreciation is offered here by the pastor and congregation to the people of other churches and of the town of Farmville for their prayers, gifts and moral support in the erection of this church building and in making it free of debt.

These committees have been named to arrange for the day's activities: Program—E. C. Chubb, Chairman; History and Facts—Mrs. Johnnie Joyner, Chairman; Invitation and Entertainment—Mrs. LeRoy Rollins, Chairman.

RATION DEADLINES

Flour: RLM, Mar. 20; AB, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, May 20.

Meat: 22, Mar. 20; AB, 25, 28, 29, 30, May 20.

Sugar: No. 20, in double and quadruple 9-A coupons, May 2.

FEED

Feed ration for hogs and other livestock should be adjusted to meet the needs of the animals during the winter months.

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Merchants Getting Ready For Dollar Days March 16-17

The Old Cooperative Spirit Is Still Alive and Many Attractive Bargains Will Be Offered Shoppers

According to reports from the publicity committee of the Farmville Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, plans are shaping up nicely for Farmville's Annual Dollar Days on Thursday and Friday of next week, March 16th and 17th.

Merchants and other business firms, including garages and service stations, will offer the buying public special discounts for these two big days.

Plan now to round up your neighbors and friends and come to Farmville for this SPECIAL occasion.

Watch The Enterprise next week and check those items that appeal to you. Have your list made out in advance, and note from the advertisements just where you can get same.

Farmville-Arthur Divide Honors In Cage Tournament

All Games Played At Local Gym; Sponsored By Farmville High School

The Invitational Basketball Tournament came to a very successful close Monday night, March 6, with Farmville Boys and Girls opposing the Arthur High School Boys and Girls.

Farmville girls gained the right to play in the finals by defeating Grimesland Thursday night, 39 to 19, and Walstonburg Saturday night, 27 to 22.

In the final game Monday night, Farmville girls played an excellent game of basketball against the highly favored Arthur girls and held an eleven to seven lead in the first half; however, the Arthur team came back in the second half and scored two field goals within a few minutes and at the close of the game the score was 19 to 14 in favor of Arthur. Arthur gained the right to play in the finals by defeating Grifton Wednesday night by a score of 23 to 11 and Fountain Saturday night by a score of 25 to 10.

Farmville boys won their way to the tournament finals by defeating Stokes, Friday night, 35 to 27, and Belvoir, Saturday night, 24 to 18. Arthur defeated Walstonburg, Thursday night, 26 to 23, and Bethel, Saturday night, 30 to 23. Farmville was scheduled to win this game; however, the strong, aggressive Arthur team was in the lead throughout the game until the last one minute and forty seconds, Farmville boys came to life and scored two field goals that put the game on ice. The final score was 21 to 19 in favor of Farmville.

The attendance increased every night and at the finals, people from Farmville, Walstonburg, Fountain, Arthur, Bethel, Grifton, and other communities filled the gymnasium to see two outstanding schools in Pitt County battle for the championship. All of the 666 regular seats were filled, chairs were placed on each end of the court, along the sides and on the stage.

Wednesday Night Games: Walstonburg girls, 23, Stokes 15; Farmville girls, 39, Grimesland 19; Farmville boys, 24, Arthur 18; Bethel boys, 19, Fountain 13.

Friday Night Games: Fountain girls, 23, Belvoir 9; Belvoir boys, 24, Walstonburg 22; Farmville boys, 25, Stokes 27.

Saturday Night Games: Farmville girls, 27, Walstonburg 22; Arthur girls, 25, Fountain 10; Farmville boys, 24, Belvoir 18; Arthur boys, 30, Bethel 23.

Monday Night Finals: Arthur girls, 15, Farmville 14; Farmville boys, 21, Arthur boys 18.

This was a very successful tournament. Players displayed splendid sportsmanship, the officiating was excellent and the spectators cooperated beautifully.

The Farmville High School expresses thanks and appreciation to all for the very fine support given in this "Invitational" basketball tournament.

Comments on Tournament. In a letter received Thursday by Hugh J. H. Moore, J. P. Hooper of Bethel offered congratulations on the fine way in which the Invitational Basketball Tournament was handled.

U. S. Forces Advance On 3 Pacific Fronts

New Landing Reported On New Britain; Americans In Complete Control On Los Negros

Allied Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, March 8. — Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger's Sixth American Army is whipping the Japanese on three fronts around the borders of the Bismarck Sea.

The Allied headquarters communique Wednesday said the Americans have won control of Los Negros Island in the Admiralty group, at the northern approach to the sea, and had buried 479 more Japanese dead.

Marines attached to the Sixth Army made a quick thrust 110 miles east of Cape Gloucester, New British island, and landed Monday with more rifle fire opposition on Williams peninsula, on the north coast of the island. Soldiers on the south coast advanced 24 miles eastward from Arava to Arongorua. New Britain forms the south boundary of Bismarck Sea.

On New Guinea, which limits the sea to the west, 32nd division troops who landed behind the Japanese lines at Yalan, 80 miles west of Saldor, have expanded their positions. The drive here is on Madang, Japanese coastal base.

Aided By Planes. The Sixth Army successes were aided by Allied air and naval action. Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique said.

Solomon-based bombers and fighters continued their hammering of Rabaul, enemy base on New Britain, 170 air miles east of the Marines. Marine landing near Talasea on Williams peninsula.

Allies Leave Berlin Aflame; 350,000 Fire Bombs Hit Capital

U. S. Bombers and 16 Fighters Lost In Third Crashing Attack Made By Americans Upon Reich Capital; 16,000 High Explosive Bombs Dropped by Fortresses and Liberators; Fighters Down 83 Nazi Aircraft

London, March 8. — U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators with a tremendous fighter escort, which made up an armada estimated at between 1,000 and 2,000 planes struck at Berlin today for the third time in five days with what a conservatively worded American communique called "good results."

Out of the huge fleet 36 bombers and 16 fighters were lost, but the escorting planes alone knocked down 83 enemy aircraft; gunners aboard the bombers destroyed others yet untabulated.

The communique named the Erkner hell-bearing factory in an eastern Berlin suburb as one of the primary targets for a "concentrated attack by divisions of B-17 Flying Fortresses and B-24 Liberators of the Eighth Air Force" and said that other industrial and military targets in the Capital area also were bombed.

Nazi Defenses Strained. Ten thousand high explosive bombs and 250,000 incendiaries were cascaded down upon the ruined capital, the communique disclosed, and this devastating load was estimated at approximately 2,000 tons.

In plunging 600 miles into the heart of the Reich again, the American air fleet proved its ability to pound back within two days from the savage battle it fought along the same route Monday, when a record of 68 U. S. bombers were lost and a record of 179 enemy aircraft were shot down.

The fact that today's losses were reduced almost half — 28 bombers out of a force of probably 800 to 1,100 — indicated the strain that the repeated Allied attacks have placed on Germany's air defenses.

The two great American punches at Berlin this week have destroyed at least 250 planes badly needed by the Germans, not counting the toll taken by the bombers themselves in today's raid. Headquarters said this total was not yet tabulated. The bag credited to fighters today was exactly the same as on Monday.

An RAF commentator indicated tonight that the attacks by both the U. S. AAF and RAF were part of a master plan designed to crush the enemy's power to fight.

Close Coordination. The actions of the RAF and American Air Forces are most closely interlocked," he stated. "The targets are selected according to a plan worked out in conjunction with the Ministry of Economic Warfare. Coordination of the two forces could not be closer."

The Erkner factory, it was said, ranked right behind Schweinfurt and Stuttgart in the production of ball bearings.

The Germans again attempted a desperate defense of their capital and groups of Nazi fighters ranged up on individual bombers, but the communique asserted. "Our very strong fighter escort defeated them again."

The Berlin radio said the Americans tried up until the last minute to give the impression that they were not aiming at Berlin, changing their course several times.

The broadcast said bombs were dropped on one rural community north of the capital, destroying half the houses, killing 100 persons and wounding 200.

Another Berlin broadcast claimed that 24 U. S. planes, including 20 heavy bombers, had been downed.

But the American announcement allowed losses on the thundering return visit to Berlin were less than the Eighth Air Force used to lose on much shorter stabs against such targets as Frankfurt, Bremen and Kiel.

The pattern for today's attack was much the same as was followed Monday. The bombers reached Berlin at about the same time, found the air there black with flak again, and had the same bitter fight with enemy interceptors going in and coming out.

Flying through light clouds west of the city, the American armada found clear weather over their targets as some planes straggled in the heart of the capital and others attacked the city's outlying areas.

As on Monday, the Nazis were by the last of their air force. Returning escort combated the enemy but failed to concentrate on any one target, giving at a time allowing others to reach the target almost unopposed. The Berlin broadcast asserted that more than 100 American planes were shot down in today's attack.

Wagner said he believed most anti-aircraft and a growing majority of the people accept price control as an essential part of the war program and added:

"I think it would be admirable if the leaders of both parties could reach an understanding on this legislation."

Senator White (R-Me.) acting minority leader, commented that he thought it was "always desirable for the White House and congress to consult with each other and reach understandings whenever possible; I think there has been too little of that in the past." White added, however, he wasn't speaking particularly of the price control legislation.

A move to attach a food subsidy amendment to the price control bill is mentioned in the House and it is generally assumed that the result will be an omnibus measure.

Seek To Keep Price Control

President Roosevelt To Urge Leaders Support OPA Extension

Washington, March 8. — Reports circulated at the capital today that the White House, in a new gesture of conciliation toward congress, would try to bring leaders of both parties together on continuing the present powers of the Office of Price Administration beyond their June 30 expiration date.

These reports arose as Senator Wagner (D-NY), a Senate administration leader, announced Price Administrator Chester Boyles would meet informally Friday with members of the Senate Banking Committee to discuss the OPA extension plans.

TO SPEAK HERE

Max Meisel, Red Cross Field Director who has returned from actual service in New Guinea, will speak in the Farmville High School Auditorium, during the Chapel period at 9:15 Wednesday morning, March 15th.

Mr. Meisel is a splendid speaker and will bring interesting information on general conditions in the Pacific.

Saving Food Is Everyone's Job

"The average family throws away about 400 pounds of good food annually and to stop most of this waste we must make the saving of food everyone's job," says home demonstration specialist at N. C. State College.

They report that after a modest dinner, attended by 81 people, the good edible food from the plates was saved and weighed. It totaled 17 pounds.

The specialists suggest that more clean-plate clubs be organized and that children in the home be taught to make a game of cleaning their plates and saving food so that there may be more food for our armies and starving people in other countries.

They point out that while food losses occur all the way from the harvesting of the food in the field to the table, much can still be accomplished by making the saving of food a job for every member of the household.

They suggest that housewives give particular thought to the utilization of all the food which they buy and also to the use of leftovers. Many attractive dishes may be easily prepared from food left over from the preceding meal.

They also suggest that children be taught to eat all of the different kinds of food that are put before them and that now is a good time to impress upon them the importance of saving all the food possible.

"We have rationing of food but it has not become necessary to make the wasting of food a real offense as in England," the specialists commented.

WAR UNITS

Oscar Tucker, Negro farmer of Reidsville, Route 2, advertised "Two War Unit Milk Cows For Sale: Mated to Registered Jersey Bull." Said he could have sold fifty cows, had he had them.

Daily Shelling. Meanwhile, American destroyers continued almost daily bombardments of the chain of small islands along the north rim of Saldor harbor. One destroyer closed within 800 yards of Hauer Island and shelled two shore batteries.

Two Japanese 4.7-inch naval guns were captured in their concrete emplacements when Porlana was taken. The Marine landing on Williams peninsula, New Britain, was five miles northwest of Talasea. Hitting the beach without benefit of naval bombardment, but well covered by fighter planes, the leathernecks pushed forward toward Talasea, where there is an airfield.

Aerial attacks on Cape Hoeking, where 22 tons of bombs were dropped on an enemy airfield, and on Japanese targets on Elbeck and Stettin bays, all in the vicinity of Williams peninsula, aided the Marine thrust.

Allied bombers loosed 100 tons of explosives on Japanese troop concentrations around the perimeter of the American beachhead at Cape Turking, on Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island in the Solomons.

Lt. Clay Burnette Is German Prisoner

Greenville, March 8. — Lt. Clay Burnette, 24, son of Mrs. Herbert Burnette, 207 Evans street, formerly of Farmville, is a prisoner of war in Germany according to official information received last night. Lt. Burnette, a Flying Fortress pilot, had been reported missing since a raid over Germany on January 24. His wife and infant son, of Phoenix, Arizona, are visiting his mother here.

A couple is reported to have become engaged while on a last-to-leave trip to Paris. So the dangers of air travel have not yet been eliminated.

expressed appreciation for the many courtesies extended the people from Bethel and said that he hoped the schools of the County would again be invited to participate in another Invitational Basketball Tournament here next season.

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