



GERMANS GIVE GROUND UNDER HEAVY ALLIED ITALIAN DRIVE

Americans Nearing Port Of Leghorn; British and Other Forces Moving Up Steadily

Rome, July 5.—Eighth Army troops converging from the southwest and south, have driven within five miles of the important communications center of Arezzo on the road to Florence while American units on Italy's west coast have moved up to the outskirts of Rosignano, less than 13 miles from Livorno, Allied headquarters announced Wednesday.

Both advances were recorded against stiff German resistance and the Nazis gave every indication they intended to battle to retain the valuable port of Livorno as long as possible.

Heavy guns sited on dominant hills opened fire on approaching American infantry and tanks around Rosignano. At the same time heavy road movements westward were seen behind the enemy lines, indicating that reserves were being moved into position.

Strengthened by artillery, the Americans finally broke into the town in strength and reinforced their position, while north of the town tanks established road block against expected German counterattacks.

Knock Out Tanks. American artillery knocked out two Tiger tanks during this fighting while American tanks destroyed two Nazi field guns and 15 vehicles.

By road the advanced troops were only 15 miles from Livorno but an official spokesman declared that only a slow advance could be expected.

"Livorno itself is defended by thick concrete pillboxes, extensive minefields, wire, anti-landing mines and ack-ack," he went on. Further indications of our approach to long-prepared enemy defense lines is seen with the German employment again of heavy 170-mm. guns which have not been used against the Fifth Army since Rome."

In other sectors along the entire front the Germans were being rolled back steadily against the outer fringes of the so-called Gothic line believed to extend from the mountains south of Rimini westward toward the Pisa-Livorno area.

French Advancing. French troops moved more than three miles north of Siena despite fierce resistance and many minefields. Seven miles to the east Eighth Army units fighting through heavy rain captured the town of Castelnuovo Berardenga and the villages of Pianosa and Monte Sansavino astride the Siena-Arezzo Highway.

In the drive on Arezzo the Eighth Army also occupied Santigilio, Fiorentino and villages of Rapollana and Oliveto.

In the mountainous area farther east the Germans fought fiercely to retain key positions needed for safe withdrawal of main forces, who, the Allied spokesman declared, "sometimes are more eager to be captured than to continue fighting."

One column was still thrusting up the Tiber Valley toward Umbertide and to the east, slow progress was made toward Gubbio.

The Appennine town of Carroto, five miles north of Bastia, was taken. The capture caught a party of German troops looting the town.

Disease Resistant Tobacco Now Looks Promising

Several farmers have reported the presence of tobacco diseases on their respective farms this year. Sam J. Weeks, Assistant County Agent, said "There are two major diseases affecting tobacco in Pitt County, namely, Granville wilt and black shank."

The agricultural experiment station, during the past few years, has been developing varieties of tobacco that are resistant to these dreadful diseases. Black shank resistant varieties were released for distribution in 1943. Several farmers in the county who have black shank infested soils have planted part of their crops with black shank resistant tobacco this year. "Granville wilt resistant varieties have not been released but there is a good possibility that a small quantity of seed can be released for distribution in 1944; however, this is not definite," Weeks said.

If wilt resistant seed are released only to those farmers who have had their tobacco damaged by shank from the County Agent's Office and have had soil definitely determined to be infested with the disease.

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Final Rites To Be Held Today For Mrs. C. E. Moore

Highly Esteemed Woman Passes After Brief Illness

Final rites for Mrs. Fannie Lang Moore, 80, widow of the late Dr. Charles E. Moore, of Wilson, one of Farmville's most prominent and highly esteemed women and among Pitt county's oldest citizens, will be conducted this afternoon, Friday, at 3:00 o'clock, from Emmanuel Episcopal Church, by the rector, Rev. J. R. Bountree, assisted by the Rev. J. Q. Beckwith, rector of St. Timothy's Church, Wilson, and the Rev. C. B. Mashburn, pastor of the Christian Church. Interment will be made in Forest Hill cemetery. Favorite hymns will be sung by the Church choir.

Mrs. Moore's death occurred Wednesday, at midnight, in a Wilson hospital, where she succumbed to an illness of only three weeks duration. She had been critically ill for several days and her passing was not unexpected. Prior to this, she had been in good health, was active and had retained her faculties to a remarkable degree.

Mrs. Moore was the last surviving member of her immediate family. She was the daughter of the late William Gray and Annie P. Moyer Lang. Her father was among the pioneer merchants and planters of this section and Mrs. Moore in like manner was connected with the business life here, was a large landowner, and was prominently identified with all worthwhile and progressive movements of this community. She was educated at the Farmville Academy and Greensboro Female College.

Twice married, her first husband was the late Jacob Fullmore Joyner, a native of Greenville. To this union were born three sons, Charles Hubert Joyner, who survives, and the late William Lyman and Roland Joyner.

She married the late Dr. Charles E. Moore, of Wilson, the second time, and resided in that city for 35 years. Following Dr. Moore's death, his widow returned to Farmville to reside in the home of her son and to spend her last years among other relatives and loving friends here. Upon her return, she took her former place in the religious, civic and social circles and was among the most zealous and active daughters of the Major Benjamin May Chapter, D. A. B., of which she was a charter member, and the Farmville Literary Club, of which she was a charter member also. She was a charter member of the Wilson American War Mothers organization and served as a state officer at one time. She manifested a keen interest in the Rebecca Winbourne Chapter, U. D. C., of which she had been a member for 33 years and was serving as president at the time of her passing. She was among the most faithful members of the local American Red Cross organization also.

Mrs. Moore was a life long member of the Episcopal Church and was from early girlhood, a moving spirit in all of the various organizations of the Church here and among its most loyal and faithful members, serving as Sunday School teacher and Auxiliary president and as treasurer for many years. She lived a long and full life and met the end of her service in the Church Militant in the triumph of the Christian faith.

She is survived by a son, Charles Hubert Joyner, of Farmville, three grandchildren, Mary Frances and Jimmie Joyner, of Farmville, and Pvt. William Lyman Joyner, Jr., of Charlotte Field, Ill., a great grandson, William Lyman Joyner, III, of Wilson, and several nieces and nephews.

County Lags On E Bonds

Only Twenty Per Cent Of Quota Has Been Purchased

Granville, July 5.—Some think the war should come yet the fighting has hardly started. The biggest barrier are yet to come," said County War Bond Chairman J. Herbert Hill, as he pointed out the fact that only 20 per cent of the county's quota of war bonds has been purchased.

"It is regrettable that so many citizens are not buying war bonds and that so many are not buying them in the amount of \$10.00 or more," he said. "We are not buying them in the amount of \$10.00 or more."

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Local Marine Returns Home

On Furlough After Two Years of Toughest Kind of Fighting In South Pacific

Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Calif., June 29.—Marine Platoon Sergeant Lenard Elton Ballard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ballard, and husband of Mrs. Dolie Heath Ballard, who lives on Route 2, Farmville, N. C., member of the famed First Marine Division that blazed the trail in the South Pacific in jungle warfare at Guadalcanal and Cape Gloucester, is expected to return to his home on furlough within a few days.

Platoon Sergeant Ballard is at present with the B Company First Tank Battalion. He attended the Maury, N. C., High School, and played on the football and basketball teams. He has one son, Lenard Elton Ballard, Jr.

Many of the men of the First Marine Division have not set foot on native soil for over two years, so engrossed have they been in the all-important job of stopping the Japs in the South Pacific and pushing them back toward Tokyo. To these heroic Americans goes the signal honor of making the first attack after Pearl Harbor, on the enemy, on enemy held ground, stemming the advance of the Japanese prior to that time, in their drive across the Pacific.

In recognition of valor, courage, and heroism, the Presidential Citation was given to the men of this Division, for outstanding gallantry and determination in successfully executing forced landing assaults against a number of strongly defended Japanese positions on Tulagi, Gavutu, Tanabogo, Florida and Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands.

Just as difficult and praiseworthy was their work at Cape Gloucester, New Britain. By the time their objective was achieved and their relief arrived, many had been on the lines continuously for twenty-four days with no shelter against rains such as they had never imagined possible; with no clothes other than those on their backs; without hot food, even coffee.

The homecoming of the men of this great Division marks a brief pause in a most brilliant record of heroic service and accomplishment that has made it possible for their mates to carry on more effectively on other battlefronts.

You may recognize these history-making Marines by the "battle blaze" on the left shoulder in the shape of a blue diamond patch, with the red numeral "1" in the center over which is superimposed perpendicularly in white word "Guadalcanal." Five white stars representing the Southern Cross appears in the blue field.

Busy Invasion Day

An Eighth AAF Fighter Station, England.—Pvt. Robert Curry, son of John W. Curry of Farmville, N. C., was a busy man on Invasion Day. An aircraft mechanic, Pvt. Curry, stuck to his job as the P-51 Mustang pilots flew wave after wave, shift after shift, in support of the invading ground forces.

Teamwork between the pilots and ground personnel of Col. Donald W. Graham's command was demonstrated when the flyers destroyed 102 1/2 German aircraft in 19 consecutive days with 80% of these knocked out of the skies.

A silk mill employee in civilian life, Pvt. Curry entered service Feb. 10, 1942 at Fort Bragg, N. C.

fenses known to a war-torn world. New and fiercer attacks depend on continued bond purchases.

While Pitt county is over the top in the overall sale of bonds in the Fifth War Loan Drive, we have only sold 20 per cent of our quota in E bonds. This region has sold 38 per cent and the state has sold 37 per cent of their E bond quota. Pitt has never failed to go over the top.

E bonds pay more interest than any other bond issued by the government, 2.5 per cent compounded semi-annually, if carried to maturity. They may be converted into cash at any time after 60 days from the date of purchase. They represent purchasing power in the postwar period. We should all buy E bonds to the limit of our capacity. Many people said if it would raise we could sell more bonds. It has raised and we are waiting for the bond purchases.

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Conquest Of Saipan Near; Task Force Blasts Bonins

Seven-Eighths of Island Now In American Hands; Bomb Bases July 4th 700 Miles from Tokyo

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, July 5.—Guns of American warships and rockets of carrier planes shattered Japanese bases on the Fourth of July 700 miles south of Tokyo.

Saipan, on the invasion route to Japan, is seven-eighths in the hands of still advancing Yank Marines and soldiers.

Moorfloo, on the invasion route to the Philippines, is falling in a lightning operation to infantrymen, reinforced by paratroopers.

The latest task force thrust toward Nippon, aimed at the Volcano (Kazan) and Bonin islands, resulted in the sinking or beaching of three Jap destroyers, the sinking of two other ships and the destruction in sky battles of from 64 to 80 planes at a cost of nine American carrier aircraft.

These fast-breaking developments along a western Pacific war front of more than 2,000 miles—from the Bonins to Dutch New Guinea's Geelvink bay—were reported in a series of communiques.

Tokyo radio added to the flaming action the unconfirmed report that carrier-based American planes raided Guam, south of Saipan, Monday.

The enemy air base of Rota, between Guam and Saipan, was shelled by warships and bombed by carrier planes Sunday.

The volcano-Bonin attack was a two-day operation which raised to 36 the number of Japanese ships sunk and to 826 the total of enemy planes destroyed since the Western Pacific offensive opened June 10th. American losses for the same period were listed as 160 planes—and four warships damaged, but none sunk.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said the Fourth of July attack also left an enemy destroyer dead in the water and burning, damaged several small cargo ships and set fire to harbor installations and warehouses.

Carrier planes opened the operation the day before, blasting two Jims in the volcano group, shooting down 39 interceptors for certain, probably bagging 16 more and destroying or damaging 24 on the ground. Three raiders were lost.

On the second day, cruisers and destroyers moved in to shell two Jims while rocket-firing planes attacked both it and Haha Jima in the Bonins. In that attack 25 enemy planes were downed and six raiders were lost.

On Saipan, invaded June 14, Marine heroes of Tarawa and the Marshalls and infantry veterans of central Pacific invasions left the worst terrain behind them as they squeezed the Japanese into the northeast corner. More than 7,000 of the enemy have been slain.

In the southwest Pacific, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Six Army troops which quickly won an airfield on Noomfoor opened a powerful push Monday toward a second drum, backed by reinforcements parachuted to the beachhead.

Tar Heel Flier Wins DFC Award

Capt. James Darden of Farmville, Now in India, Also Awarded Air Medal

From An Air Base in India, June 29.—The awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross presented by Brif. Gen. John P. Egan of Hampton, N. Y., and the Air Medal to Capt. James H. Darden, 26, son of Mrs. J. H. Darden, of Farmville, N. C., was recently announced by the Tenth Air Force Headquarters in India.

The citation to the Distinguished Flying Cross read in part: "For meritorious achievement in aerial flights consisting of bombing, offensive reconnaissance, ground strafing and escort far over enemy held territory resulted in the destruction of much enemy material and installations. He has accomplished with distinction most of his combat missions over the enemy held territory of Northern Burma. These operations constitute acts of extraordinary achievement in aerial flight and reflect the highest credit on the military service of this officer."

Other citations were made, given by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Norman and Pagan Grove Lacey, 150000 points, Mrs. Norman's son.

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Soviets Race To Baltic Borders

Swift Advance Traps Disorganized German Forces Behind Russian Lines

Moscow, July 5.—Two huge armies advancing rapidly Wednesday upon the Baltic republics of Latvia and Lithuania at a pace that may carry one or both to the frontiers within three or four days.

The Germans appear wholly unable to halt these pushes, field dispatches said.

Beating back disorganized German resistance, Gen. Ivan Bagramian's First Baltic Army pressed up the valley of the western Dvina towards Daugavpils (Dinsk), key rail junction in southeastern Latvia, while to the south Gen. Ivan Cherniakhovsky's Third White Russian Army made fast progress toward Wilno (Vilna), in Poland and Kaunas, capital of Lithuania.

The Berlin radio acknowledged that "The Soviet advance is sweeping so fast a considerable number of German forces suddenly found themselves in the rear of the Soviet lines."

Important Railway. (By London estimates the advancing Red Army troops were within 10 miles of the Latvian border and 15 or 17 miles from Lithuania.)

The railway connecting Berlin and Warsaw with Leningrad, a line which runs through Poland hitting Bialystok, Grodno and Wilno and connecting at Daugavpils with the line to Riga, lies immediately before the advancing Russian armies.

This is one of Europe's best railways and is highly important to any German hopes of holding the Baltics or Eastern Poland. Without it either task would be extremely difficult.

The sector where the Red Army is exerting the most pressure toward the route is through the lake-dotted country between Wilno and Daugavpils, the northern prong of this advance carrying westward toward the latter city from Polotok, which fell Tuesday.

(It was believed in London that cutting of the railway would seriously affect the supply, maintenance and retreat of the German 16th and 18th armies in the north, possibly forcing them to retire to East Prussia or face entrapment.)

Key To Baltics. The Wilno-Kaunas sector is the key to the Baltics.

Wilno (sixth largest city in old Poland) stands astride the Warsaw-Leningrad Railway, while Kaunas is an important junction on the route from East Prussia. The cities are 50 miles apart.

Some Red Army units today were reported less than 60 miles from Wilno to the northeast and there were no indications that the Germans were stiffening. A huge fleet of Russian bombers hit Wilno Monday night.

The Nazis appeared strongest along the 66-mile-long highway and railway connecting Wilno with Molo-decno, to the southeast. Hard fighting was reported at numerous sectors along this line, the main route between Minsk and Wilno. The battle for Molo-decno, while in its last stages, was said to be still violent.

Service Men's Center

Visitors at the local Service Men's Center during the past week were: Farmville.—Pvt. John H. Rouse, Camp Claiborne, La.; Robert G. Barrett, Jr., and Henry Skinner, Camp Lejeune; A/C Emerson Smith, Roosevelt Army Air Field, Rowell, New Mexico.

Camp Lejeune.—Pfc. Ed Shalk, Buffalo, N. Y.; Pfc. John P. Kilman, North Tonawanda, N. Y.; Cpl. Robert J. Lane; Pvt. Vaughan Weidel, New York; (guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Tarnage); Pvt. Joseph J. Reedy, Bronx, N. Y.; Pvt. Joseph P. Raddington, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Seymour Johnson Field.—Pfc. Jesse Laing, Cleveland, Ohio, (Saturday night guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Poland and Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. Leslie Smith); Pvt. Clayton Hill, Panama, Cal.

Camp Davis.—1/Sgt. Charles W. Adams, Shelbyville, Ky., (guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Grooms).

Circle No. 3, of the Christian Church, hostess group for the week end, served cookies, potato salad, hard-boiled eggs, tomatoes, lettuce, beef and tea. Acting hostesses were Mrs. Hedy Bryan, group leader, Mrs. F. H. Mison, Mrs. C. H. Masterson, Mrs. Bob Price and Miss Verla Williams.

Other donations were milk, given by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Norman and Pagan Grove Lacey, 150000 points, Mrs. Norman's son.

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UNITED STATES SOLDIERS LIBERATE 17 VILLAGES

Capture of Haye Near As Bradleys Army Drives On In Mud and Bad Areas

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force, July 5.—The American First Army has battled the Germans out of 17 villages and hamlets in its explosive assault down the Cherbourg peninsula during the past 24 hours, driving the Germans back to within one mile of La Haye du Puits, western anchor of Nazi defenses in Normandy.

American troops fighting their way into the streets of La Haye du Puits and Canadians in the Caen sector repel German attacks as fierce warfare continues in Normandy.

General MacArthur announces capture of the second Jap airfield on Noomfoor Island off the New Guinea coast. Meeting Marines and Army regulars close in for final battle on Saipan Island.

Allied warplanes are busy on targets over wide areas, with one American bomber squadron completing a historic shuttle flight from Russia to Italy to Britain. Robot bomb coast hit again.

Gloomy Hitler again says Germany will not capitulate and calls for greater Nazi war production.

War front writers paint Nazis as dirty fighters and say they are using captured Czech and Russian war equipment.

It. Col. Francis Gabreski of Oil City, Pa., is now American fighter ace with bag of 28 Nazi planes downed in combat.

Robot bombs provoke burning issue in Britain, with Prime Minister Churchill due to make statement to Commons today.

Negro Killed Here In Resisting Arrest

Elbert Moyer, 25, Negro, while resisting arrest on a disorderly conduct charge here Saturday afternoon, was shot and killed by Farmville Patrolman J. A. Gregory. Pitt County Coroner Griffin H. Rouse held an inquest shortly after the shooting and a jury found that the officer shot Moyer in the performance of his duty and exonerated him.

According to authorities, Moyer and two other Negroes were in an alley acting disorderly. Patrolman Gregory ordered them to keep quiet and move on. Moyer defied the officer and struck him. Gregory drawing his gun, Moyer grabbed it by the barrel and the officer fired, wounding the Negro, but had to fire again to keep him off, he testified.

Warplanes Busy Over Great Area

American Bombers Shuttle from Russia to Italy in Historic Trip

London, July 6.—In the most impressive offensive since D-Day, Allied air forces hurled at least five strong daylight bombers forces and thousands of fighters at the German front of the channel to the Mediterranean yesterday as American heavy bombers returned to their British bases after shuttle-bombing the Nazis from England to Russia to Italy.

The 7,000-mile circuit clanged tight a series ring of steel around Germany, exposing the whole of Hitler's Europe to the bombs of the Allies.

The shuttle planes, which on June 21 flew from Britain to Russia and then five days later went from Russia to Italy, returned today via Southern France, where they bombed the big railway yards at Biscieux, near Montpellier.

Simultaneously, another fleet of heavies from Italy— Liberators of the 15th United States Air Force—also went to Southern France and gave a fifth pounding to the big naval base at Toulon. That force returned to its base in Italy. First reports indicated that it met no fighter opposition over Toulon.

British-based Fortresses and Liberators followed up the big gunnery night RAF raid on Pau-de-Calais with a daylight blow at the flying bomb launching grounds and also extended their offensive against German air fields in France to include those in Holland and Belgium.

The heavy bombers that completed the German circuit today had bombed of objectives, the first two legs of their journey. The German east they had passed in Belgium and Holland, in the Ukraine.

On a hundred and thirty-four bombers and 10 Mustang fighters made the trip.

Germany reported they saw

Capture of Haye Near As Bradleys Army Drives On In Mud and Bad Areas

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La. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's tireless American doughboys, attacking in a jagged 20-mile arc from Carpentan to the west coast of the Cherbourg peninsula, advanced from one-half mile to 2 1/2 miles in swamp, canal-crossed country.

American columns converging on La Haye du Puits, an important six-road junction, were within two miles of the town on the west, three miles on the north, a mile on the northeast and three miles on the east. Capture of the town appeared imminent.

Progress was far from easy. The Germans resisted heavily in all sectors, and a particularly violent engagement was going on one-half mile south of newly-captured St. Jores, east of La Haye.

The long-quiet Carpentan sector erupted into bloody fighting when the Americans launched an attack down the Carpentan-Periers road. The doughboys advanced half a mile in an attack starting at noon Tuesday.

Each foot of the advance had to be covered with artillery. Swamps and canals channelled the fighting to the narrow area along the road.

On the Carpentan-Tilly-Sar-Soules sector of the front there was only patrol activity.

Night Attack Smashed. East of Gavrus at the butt of the Odon River bridgehead the Germans launched a night counter-attack, but it was smashed by Gen. L. Montgomery's big gun batteries. Another similar attack to the south three hours later also was smashed.

"The Germans have lost a large number of men killed and considerable number of tanks," the Allied Supreme Command said in describing the repulse of a long series of German counter-attacks.

The British advance with captured Veron, two miles below Carpiquet and four miles southwest of Caen, encountered only light opposition. But to the north, where the Canadians captured Carpiquet, three miles west of Caen, the Germans resisted violently and beat back all attempts to capture the airfield.

Dig In Tanks. Field Marshal Gen. Erwin Rommel had tanks dug in on a ridge overlooking the airfield. These tanks swept the field with fire and even rocket-firing Typhoons failed to dislodge them. Digging tanks in to the turret is a device the Germans used with considerable success in Russia and at Cassino in Italy during the past winter.

Latest reports from the front said the Canadians were fighting at close quarters for the airfield, which is only 800 yards south of the town which the Canadians now hold firmly.

However, the British-Canadian advance had placed the Germans north and east of Carpiquet in a dangerous salient where they may be cut off.

British warships standing off the coast supported the fighting in Caen area.

There was an upsurge in naval activity along the coast. After some days of inactivity German E-boats appeared again and tried to attack the eastern flank of the convoys route of La Haye, but were beaten off in darkness.

British light coastal forces engaged two convoys around the Caen area and in one convoy five German ships off St. Malo two were sunk by torpedoes and others damaged. Some British casualties were sustained.

Another convoy off the left of Caen was driven inland under the protection of three battleships.

Killed in Invasion

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