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Farmville Enterprise

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AMERICANS TAKE REIMS IN DRIVE TOWARD BELGIUM

First and Third American Armies Nearing Belgium; First Army Speeds to Laon as Patton's Third Roars Onward Beyond Reims

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, Aug. 31.—American armored columns rolled through the cathedral city of Reims and streaked on within 36 miles of the Belgian border yesterday in unchacked pursuit of Germans falling back upon their homeland, which British forces, in a 23-mile breakthrough made their first deep thrust toward the Nazis' rocket bomb coast.

Both the American First and Third armies were disclosed to be taking part in the great drive northeast of Paris across First World War battlefields and through the Germans' old Hindenburg line.

The First Army, under Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges, gained 20 miles in a drive from captured Soissons northward to Laon, and early today was believed to have run through this town just 36 miles from Belgium. It also struck nine miles to the east and reached Montaigu.

The Third Army under Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., captured Reims, great siege city of the First World War, without firing a shot, and rolled on beyond. The city fell after the Americans had outflanked it and forced a German withdrawal during the night.

British Advance.

British armored columns, after moving relatively slowly for days, struck north from the Seine and drove beyond the town of Beauvais in a smash of 23 miles from Etrepagny, which carried them to a point only 25 miles south of the big communications center of Amiens on the Somme River. Beauvais is 40 miles south and slightly east of Paris.

The British also reached the town of Gournay, 16 miles west of Beauvais, driving in strength directly for the heart of the robot bomb coast from which the Germans have been attacking southern England in reprisal warfare.

At the same time, Canadian forces outflanked the important Seine ports of Rouen, a city of 123,000 which the Germans announced during the day they had evacuated. The Canadians advanced five miles northeast of the city, which lies near the mouth of the Seine.

First Army.

It was disclosed today that it was Gen. Hodges First Army which had captured Chateau-Thierry and Soissons yesterday, driving on today to Laon. These First Army troops took 1,466 prisoners in the smash to raise their total since D-Day to 115,131, it was announced. The Third Army as of August 28, reported 81,000 Germans killed or captured since the start of the Brittany campaign.

The Third Army, in addition to taking Reims, drove on northward 10 miles and established a new bridgehead across the Aisne in the vicinity of Neufchatel, where these men, like those of the First Army, were only 36 miles from Belgium.

Here, Pattons men were just 45 miles southwest of Sedan, historic city through which the Nazis invaded France in 1940. Hodges' men stood 50 miles from this invasion gateway to the Reich.

Supreme headquarters early this morning was without late news of the American forces east of Chalons, southeast of the Reims area, but the German radio put the Americans on the approaches to St. Dizier, which is only 83 miles from the German border.

Associated Press Correspondent Edward D. Ball, in a dispatch datelined Reims, said that the city's famous Gothic cathedral was found undamaged.

Reims, noted for its wine and champagne industry, was occupied by the Germans for a few days in the First World War and then, after being recovered by the French in September of 1914, remained besieged and shelled throughout the remaining four years of that war.

With the new American crossing of the Aisne and the farther general northward advance, that river has been eliminated completely as a possible defense line for the German 15th Army.

Northeast of Paris the Americans, the Seine in force, expanding and consolidating bridgeheads virtually all the way from Paris to just east of Rouen, with only a small, fast-closing gap between the British and Canadians delaying the formal establishment of one giant bridgehead.

Out of these merged British and American holdings, British armor launched the principal thrust of the day, carrying to a point 25 miles [illegible]

[illegible] highway and the Paris-Diepper railway line.

Lt. Gen. Sir Miles C. Dempsey's British Second Army tanks rolled in high gear and, forming the apex of a gigantic Allied triangle of tanks, troops and transports, they drove into the region from which the Germans have been launching their most lethal offensive against London and southern England.

WAR IN BRIEF

American First and Third armies in France near the Belgian frontier as they smash through Laon and Reims respectively, while British troops at western end of front go into high gear and approach Amiens near the Nazi robot bomb coast.

General Patch's troops in Southern France continue relentless pursuit of Germans up the Rhone Valley, engaging them in fierce fighting at Loriol.

American warplanes sink or damage more than score Jap ships as American submarines add 17 more to their total of enemy craft sent to bottom in Pacific since Pearl Harbor.

Great Russian offensive in Romania achieves one of outstanding victories of war by capture of Ploesti and adjacent rich oil fields, thus depriving Germans of their major outside oil supply.

Romanian armistice delegation arrives at Moscow to sign terms as Bulgarian delegation shows up at Cairo on similar mission. Meantime, Russians take shot at Turkey, charging that Turks are still friendly with Germans despite break in relations.

Secretary Forrestal gives figures to show that Uncle Sam has the greatest Navy in the world.

Secretary Hull says America still insists upon unconditional surrender of Germany and Japan and does not intend to let Nazi leaders escape into neutral havens.

Opening Tobacco Market News Report—Type 12

Eastern N. C. Flue-Cured

The 1944 tobacco marketing season began Monday in the Eastern North Carolina flue-cured area with extremely light sales prevalent. Practically all markets reported auctions completed by noon. According to the War Food Administration and North Carolina Department of Agriculture, growers are still actively engaged in harvesting and curing the crop and have not had sufficient time to prepare offerings for market. Heavy deliveries are not expected for at least ten days.

Demand was strong for the limited amount of tobacco on hand and most grades sold from $2.00 to $3.00 per hundred above last season's opening prices. Lug grades and primings, representing over 70 percent of sales, were up $2.00 to $5.00 and low and fair quality cutters and leaf grades advanced $2.00 to $3.00. Nondescript grades increased from $3.00 to $4.00 over last year. Most grades sold from $40.00 64$ot.c sold from $40.00 to $46.00 and a small number of baskets were reported bid in at $50.00 per hundred. The majority of sales was comprised of low to choice lugs.

The general quality of the tobacco is considered slightly better than the early marketings of last season. The offerings were thinner bodied and lug grades appeared to be of higher color. There was also a slightly larger proportion of cutters on opening day.

More Electric Irons Coming On Market

Raleigh, Aug. 31.—The Office of Price Administration has announced that 20 manufacturers having allocation to produce 1,768,968 electric irons have volunteers to market them at no change from March, 1942, prices.

Thus maximum retail prices will range from $5.80 to $11.70 with the bulk of the irons and automatic models, in the medium price range from $5.70 to $8.75.

The 20 manufacturers will represent 87 per cent of the over two million electric irons to be produced under War Production Board authorizations announced up to July 20. A remaining 6 manufacturers of low priced irons who will produce 12 per cent of the authorization have said price increases from the March, 1942, level will be necessary. OPA will establish their prices later. An additional 1 per cent of the production represents irons for commercial use.

OPA Administrator Chester E. Bowles said it was gratifying that such a large precentage of manufacturers agreed to hold the price line on one of the first items in the consumer goods field to reappear on the market since production was suspended in 1942—especially in view of the fact electric irons are much in demand.

Light Sales Mark The Opening Of Leaf Market

Offerings Have Continued Light Since; Estimated Average This Week Is Between 42 and 43 Cents

Prices ranging from 15 to 48 cents per pound have prevailed on the Farmville Tobacco Market this week, with the daily average between 41 and 43 cents. Lower grades are selling exceptionally well and the few better grades offered have been much in demand. The government ceiling for the flue-cured crop is $43.50 per hundredweight.

Farmville's 40th leaf-selling season got underway Monday with one of the smallest opening breaks in 20 years, which was the case throughout the Belt, as many growers are still engaged in curing their crop and others, having just finished, have not had time to prepare it for market. Labor, has in part, been diverted to the cotton fields and tobacconists are expecting light sales to contniue for the next week or two.

Farmers with offerings have been apparently pleased, according to Sales Supervisor R. A. Fields, especially with the competitive bidding on lower grades.

The usual large crowd of growers and their families were on hand for the market opening Monday, and Farmville took on a gala air as they thronged the streets in holiday attire and mood.

These farmers met the scarcity of manpower in the community, occasioned by war activities, with an almost superhuman effort this spring and summer. After a greatly-delayer growing season, resulting from a prolonged drought, which threatened a total failure of the tobacco crop, ripening proceeded at an unprecedented rapid rate and though farmers toiled day and night, a large amount of leaf was ruined in the fields due to lack of labor and curing barn space.

The present labor shortage in the warehouses and in the factories is being met in part by the use of 40 war prisoners brought in each day from Seymour Johnson Field, Goldsboro.

Farmville Tobacco Market To Employ German Prisoners

Forty-four German prisoners of war, who are confined at Seymour Johnson Field, have been assigned to work on the Farmville Tobacco Market, in moving the leaf from warehouse floors.

Army authorities at Washington, D. C., and Seymour Johnson Field have been contacted; the labor hired, and the action accepted and approved by the local Tobacco Board of Trade. Capt. Lee, of Seymour Johnson, was here Thursday to complete contractual details with T. S. Ryon, who is in charge of arrangements.

The prisoners are due to begin employment immediately and will be under guard continuously. Their work here will be directed by two local men, and supervised by G. E. Trevathan, Secretary and Treasurer of the local Tobacco Board of Trade and R. A. Fields, Sales Supervisor, with T. S. Ryon as advisor.

War prisoners confined in Goldsboro and near New Bern, are being used in factories and plants in New Bern and Kinston and first hand information from A. C. Monk and Co., here, who are employing prisoners at their New Bern Plant, states their experience has been satisfactory and that the workers have proved efficient.

ARMY LOSSES

Washington, Aug. 30.—The Army announced today it had lost a total of 1,279,000 men, chiefly through discharges, from the start of the war through June 30.

Comparable figures from the Navy were not available.

The Army's latest accumulative round figures, the announcement said, showed that 967,000 men, including 17,000 officers and 950,000 enlisted men, had been given honorable discharges.

Total deaths were 74,000, including 16,000 officers and 58,000 enlisted men. This figure included both battle and non-battle losses.

Prisoners of war and missing were 16,000 men, a total of 72,000; while "other separations" were 4,000 officers and 168,000 enlisted men, a total of 168,000.

"Other separations" included men placed on inactive status, but not discharged, dishonorable discharges, and retirements of regular Army officers and men.

The 1945 wheat goal for the U. S. as announced by the WFA is 1,250,000 [illegible] than the crop of this year.

Jap Ship Losses Show New Jump

Warplanes Sink Or Damage More Than Score As Submarines Add 17 To Total

Allied Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, Aug. 31.—Heavy and medium bombers of the Far Eastern Air Force battered Japanese bases on Halmahera Island, 250 miles south of The Philippines, with 113 tons of bombs Tuesday as Allied aircraft ranging over Davao, the Moluccas and the East Indies sank or damaged at least 14 more enemy ships, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

The air blockade against Japanese shipping of all types attempting to move between The Philippines and the Indies took a toll of vessels ranging from a 7,000-ton freighter to small coastal craft.

Bombers striking at Halmahera in a coordinated attack hit coastal defenses and supply and barracks areas on Wasile and Kaoe bays, causing "heavy and widespread" damage to installations on the northwestern peninsula stretching toward Mindanao.

No interception was encountered by the raiding force, MacArthur's communifue said.

Halmahera Again.

Halhamera, midway between advanced Allied positions in northwestern Dutch New Guinea and the Southern Pilippines, was blasted in the heavy raid as part of the neutralization of the important Japanese base. Lack of air interception, MacArthur had announced earlier, indicated that the enemy has withdrawn its air power farther westward beyond the range of Allied aircraft, rendering the sprawling island impotent as a threat to further Allied advances.

Air patrols over the Dutch East Indies destroyed or severely damaged a 7,000-ton Japanese vessel off the Celebes Monday night, MacArthur's communique reported.

Dutch-manned Mitchell medium bombers attacking the Kai Islands Tuesday sank two small freighters.

Patrol planes continued to range over Mindanao in The Philippines and attacked Davao for the 10th time in three weeks. it was announced. A 1,000-ton freighter and a small coastal craft were sunk off the east coast of Mindanao in the attack.

Fighter-bombers striking at Ceram Island south of Halmahera again targeted the important Boela oil port, starting large fires among oil installations, gun positions and bivouacs, while air patrols sweeping over the island sank or severely damaged nine coastal vessels in the area.

AMERICAN SUBMARINES SINK 17 MORE VESSELS

Washington, Aug. 30.—American submarines, in another severe blow against the dwindling Japanese fleet, have sunk 17 more enemy vessels to run their score since Pearl Harbor to 723 ships sunk, the Navy disclosed today.

Two destroyers were among the victims in the new bag, which also included six cargo-transports, two tankers and seven cargo vessel—all needed urgently by the enemy in their desperate effort to keep their outposts supplied with troops and weapons.

The latest catch brought to 52 the number of Jap ships announced sunk during August alone by submarines. During June 50 sinkings by submarines were announced and for July the figure was 48.

Army and Navy airmen also sank a Japanese patrol vessel and damaged three other ships in attacks on shipping near Paramushiro in the Northern Kuriles on Sunday, the Navy announced today.

Meanwhile, the aerial offensive against Japanese island bases in the Central Pacific and in the Volcano and Marianas Islands continued on Sunday and Monday.

Navy Ventura searchplanes spotted several enemy vessels near Paramushiro Island and one of them scored a direct hit on a medium tanker, setting it ablaze, the Navy said. Another Ventura bombed a large cargo ship off Buritachi, causing a heavy explosion. A third enemy vessel, a patrol craft, was attacked during that operation, but no results were given. One Ventura was damaged in a battle with three enemy fighter planes.

The same day — Sunday — two Army Liberators came upon a pair of enemy patrol vessels near Paramushiro, sinking one and badly damaging another.

KEEP FAITH WITH THEM!
BUY MORE WAR BONDS

Pres.-Eps. Team Wins The Softball Championship

Christians and Pres.-Eps. Played Four Game Series Last Week; Final Game Friday Exciting Spectacle With Score Tied Until Sixth Inning

(Commentary by Ed Nash Warren and Charles F. Baucom)

The Softball games which have been greatly enjoyed by players and spectators, alike, this summer came to a close last Friday afternoon with the Pres.-Eps., as Champs.

Monday was the beginning of a 3 game play off due to a tie of 13 games won and 8 games lost by the Christians and Pres.-Eps., during the regular scheduled games. Monday found the old reliable Father and Son, Robert and Harold Rouse, back from Georgia. This pepped up the Christians and they celebrated their teammates home coming with a win of 10 to 5.

The next game was scheduled for Wednesday. This found the Pres.-Eps., with their regular line up and plenty hot. They took the 2nd game 12 to 5. Thursday's game was a thriller and ended up 6 all, the last of the 6th, and the game was called on account of rain—thus necessitating a final game on Friday.

Friday's game was even better than Thursday's as it was anybody's ball game until the 6th inning, when the Pres.-Eps., decided to break the 5-5 tie and went on a hitting and running spree that swelled the score to 10-5 for the Championship of the League.

Every Player who participated in the series won a star; however, flowers, too, should go to Frank Allen who even with a sore left arm, pitched his usual excellent game of ball, and James Monk deserves a bouquet for his timely hits.

The Pres.-Eps., also had a star at each position, with the fielding and hitting of Bailey, the catching of Dr. Gilchrist and the superb pitching of John Carraway featuring the play. (By the way, the Pres.-Eps., played the only no error game, and the Christians, the only triple play, of the season).

A vote of thanks goes up from the general public to the umpires who have done a very admirable job of calling the games throughout the season, in spite of the usual amount of "all in fun" razzing, from all quarters, which we all solemnly promise not to do next year—fingers crossed.

Too, we would not forget Dr. Willis and his assistant scorekeepers who have so faithfully and efficiently served throughout the season.

Softball has been good fun, and its fans hope it will be continued next season.

Labor Day Holiday On Tobacco Markets

Rocky Mount, Aug. 26.—L. L. Gravely, president of the Tobacco Association of the United States, today announced that Labor Day, which falls this year on Monday, September 4, will be observed as a holiday throughout all bright belts where tobacco auction sales are in progress.

Gravely stated that this action is in accordance with a resolution to that effect passed by the sales committee and unanimously adopted by the association.

MRS. GLENNIE E. TURNER

Funeral services for Mrs. Glennie Elizabeth Turner, 28, wife of Moses Turner of near Farmville, wert held Wednesday afternoon at the home with the Rev. Key Taylor of Walstonburg in charge. Burial was in Hollywood cemetery, Farmville.

Mrs. Turner died Monday night following an illness of six months. Surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Reba Cannon, of Talboro; Mrs. F. W. Coron, of New York City, and Mrs. Kellie Demasy, of Homestead; two brothers, Thomas Harris, with the Army in Italy, and Willie Harris, of Norfolk, Va.; one son, LeRoy Turner of the home.

This is a machine age. Even the politics of the country are operated by machines.

Paper-Tin Cans Collected Each 1st Wednesday

Have your waste paper and tin cans ready and placed on your front porch Wednesday morning of next week, as solicitors from the Farmville Rotary Club will call for same some time during the afternoon each first Wednesday in the month until further notice.

GREAT OIL FIELDS SUPPLYING NAZIS IN SOVIET HANDS

Germans Deprived Of Their Major Oil Source; Fall of Bucharest Is Imminent

London, Aug. 31.—The Red Army yesterday captured the great Romanian oil refinery city of Ploesti and with it the richest oilfields in Europe, thus snapping off the German war machine's major source of natural fuel, while other Soviet troops were reported smashing into the suburbs of Bucharest.

Sweeping forward in a 43-mile advance. Russian tank and calvary thundered to within 17 miles of the eastern outskirts of the Romanian capital yesterday, Moscow's war bulletins reported, and made its fall today almost a certainty. Already Soviet troops are smashing into the capital's suburbs, United Press Correspondent Henry Shapiro reported from Moscow early today.

Swiftly-moving Soviet troops captured 15,000 German prisoners, including the commander of the Seventh Army Corps and three divisional commanders, forged a new encirclement threat around the shattered remnants of Germany's Balkan armies and plunged to within 24 miles of the prewar border of Bulgaria as the Romanian campaign rapidly war drawing to a conclusion.

Far-Reaching Victory.

In one of the most far-reaching Soviet victories of the war, Ploesti was captured in a swift, 37-mile advance by troops of Marshal Ridion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian Army on the 12th day of the Red Army's spectacular Romainan offensive.

The center of Romania's oil industry, in prewar days the world's sixth largest and now heavily-curtailed by Anglo-American aerial bombings, fell to the Red Army one year and 30 days after the first daring bombing of the oilfields by American B-24 Liberators from the Middle East.

London observers regarded the Soviet victory as one of the most catastropic for Adolf Hitler since the Red Army turned the Nazi tide at Stalingrad.

The British Ministry of Economic Warfare estimated yesterday that Romania's great oilfields, of which Ploesti is the center, were presently capable of producing 5,500,000 metric tons of crude oil a year, although it was estimated that repeated Allied aerial attacks had reduced Ploesti's output or refined oil to a mere 2,000,000 tons.

Vast Oilfields.

There are at least 16 major refineries and oil storage depots in the main Ploesti municipal area and three in outlying districts amid the widespread 13 major oilfields, several of which were controlled in prewar days by American and British capital.

Marshal Josef Stalin, announcing the Soviet victory, said in an order of the day that "with the occupation of the towns of Buzau and Ploesti, the liberation of the oil regions of Romania from the German invaders has been completed." Buzau was captured Tuesday and Ploesti was seized in a fast dash along the southern foothills of the Transylvanian Alps from the secondary oil center.

Reports from Ankara said the Germans had put the torch to the refineries and oil wells that supplied the German war machine with at least 55 per cent of needed mineral oil.

Reliable estimates said that Romania's oilfields produced at least one-third of the total natural and synthetic oil consumed by Germany.

By taking Ploesti, Malinovsky's forces outflanked Bucharest 31 miles north, and cut the Brasov-Bucharest railroad that, swinging into Hungarian-annexed Transylvania, goes on to Bucharest, capital of Hungary.

This cut off one escape route for any Germans remaining in Bucharest, reported to have been freed of Germans by the Romanians.

Northest of Bucharest, more than 200 towns and settlements were swept up in the Soviet avalanche, Malinovsky's forces seized 15,000 German prisoners in an encirclement bounded by Buzau, Ramnicul-Sarat and Braila. More than 816,000 Germans and their former Romanian allies have been captured in the Red Army's triumphal march through Romania.

POISON GAS?

Unconfirmed reports from London and Stockholm Wednesday said the Germans were getting ready to use poison gas against the Allies as a last resort and that containers of the lethal vapor already had been sent to Nazi positions in Holland on the channel coast, possibly for an attack on Britain.

John Scott, Times Magazine correspondent in the Swedish capital, said in a broadcast reported by the Blue Network that a heavily-guarded train travelling from Germany through Holland to the coast last week was strafed by an Allied plane, whereupon poison gas escaped from pierced cylinders, killing several train guards and causing panic in a nearby Dutch town.

Scott did not give the source of his information.

Earlier, The London Daily Mail reported that the Germans were preparing to use poison gas as a means of forcing the Allies to grant a lenient peace. It said chemical factories in Bohemia and Northern Italy were working on secret orders, while other German plants were operating night and day turning out gas masks for civilians and troops.

Ration Calendar For Period Ending September 3rd

Canning Sugar: Sugar stamp No. 40 good for five pounds of canning sugar until February 28, 1945. Apply to local boards for supplemental rations.

Fuel Oil: Period four and five fuel oil coupons good through September 30. During October unused coupons may be exchanged at rationing boards for new 1944-45 heating season coupons.

Gasoline: A-11 coupons now valid for three gallons each through November 8.

Meats & Fats: Red A8 through Z8 and A5, B5, C5 and D5 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each for use with tokens. Good indefinitely.

Processed Foods: Blue A8 through F5 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each for use with tokens. Good indefinitely. G5, H5, J5, K5 and L5, each worth 10 points, will become valid indefinitely on September 3rd.

Rent Control: All persons renting, or offering for rent, any living quarters whatsoever must register each dwelling unit with rent control office in their rent area. Persons who feel that they are being overcharged for rents may submit complaints to OPA. Complaint forms are available at the local War Price and Rationing Board if your area does not have a rent control office.

Shoes: Airplane stamp No. 1 and No. 2 (Book 3) valid indefinitely.

Sugar: Sugar stamps No. 30, No. 31, and No. 32 (Book 4) good for five pounds of sugar each indefinitely. Stamp No. 33 becomes valid on September 1.

Rationing rules now require that every car owner write his license number and state in advance on all gasoline coupons in his possession.

MRS. NANNIE L. DIXON

Mrs. Nannie L. Dixon, 52, wife of L. C. Dixon of near Farmville, died at her home early Tuesday morning from a lingering illness. She was a faithful member of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Thursday at 3 p. m. The Reverend J. C. Moye, Free Will Baptist minister of Snow Hill, officiated with interment in the Hollywood cemetery, Farmville.

Mrs. Dixon is survived by her husband, L. C. Dixon; two daughters, Mrs. James Combs of Reidsville, and Mrs. Odelle Christman of Newport News, Va.; two sons, E. R. Dixon of the home and L. C. Dixon of Newport News, Va.; also three sisters, Mrs. Hugh Rasberry, Farmville; Mrs. Albert Harris of Greenville and Mrs. Clyde White of Ayden; and one brother, R. L. Jones of Farmville.

NEW ALLIES

Wilson, August. 30. — Liberated Frenchmen like everything American. This was proved on a letter from Sgt. Charles Utley, former theater manager of Raleigh and Wilson, now in France.

Utley told about how the American troops would go through a liberated French town and would hear the natives yelling "Vivi les Americans! Vivi le Eisnhower!".

But this is the payoff: Utley said that a long row of trucks was going through a liberated town recently. On each of the Yankee Army trucks was the word "Prestone," "12," which meant that each truck had been treated against cold weather.

The French people in the village saw these trucks and started yelling as loudly as possible "Vive les Prestone! Vive les Prestone!"

Orthopedic Clinic Greenville Sept. 1

We wish to remind our readers of the State Orthopedic Clinic to be held Friday, in Greenville, Sept. 1st, from 12:30 to 4 p. m.

This Clinic takes all types of cripples, both white and colored, free of charge who are unable to afford private treatment. It is [illegible] though and required that patients referred by a physician or the Welfare Officer, and that the [illegible] bring such note to the Clinic.