

## WEATHER FORECAST

Partly cloudy and continued warm today, tonight and tomorrow, with scattered afternoon and evening thundershowers tomorrow. Sunset today, 8:30; sunrise Tuesday, 6:05.

SEVENTY-SECOND YEAR

## Big Nazi Army Caught In Trap

U. S. Ninth Infantry Seals Fate Of Germans On Peninsula Tip

### ESCAPE ROUTE BLOCKED

American troops, headed by the Ninth division, blasted a seven-mile wide path across the neck of the Cherbourg peninsula Sunday, putting a stranglehold on 25,000 to 30,000 Germans in and around the prized port of Cherbourg, and then dashed the Nazi 77th division to pieces in a bloody massacre when the enemy frantically tried to break out.

The Allied midnight communiqué, confirming earlier dispatches direct from the field, said the peninsula was cut off from the rest of Normandy when the Americans reached the west coast near Barneville-sur-Mer.

That was the exact point where the cut-off had been planned by officers who worked out the problem on sandtables long before the invasion of France began June 6.

The battle on which the success of the bold American stroke hinged began seven hours after the first troops had reached the sea. It raged for two hours, with the Ninth division laying down the heaviest concentration of mortar fire since D-D and climaxing it with an artillery "serenade"—a thundering chorus of every available gun hurling shells into the point of greatest danger.

The German 77th division, attacking in waves, virtually committed suicide in this inferno. Its remnants finally fled north under relentless assault from Allied fighter planes and dive-bombers that littered the roads to Brisequies with new Nazi dead. American Thunderbolts alone were credited by the Ninth Air force with killing or wounding at least 800 of the fleeing foe.

Following up the Nazi retreat, the Americans steadily widened their salient and rushed up reinforcements and guns in anticipation of new counterattacks from either north or south.

Reports from 21st Army group headquarters had however, that any real rescue attempt by the Germans were unlikely and that the vital port of Cherbourg would not remain long in enemy hands.

The Allied communiqué contained word of no new developments elsewhere on the front but confirmed that in the center of the beachhead area a steady advance had brought the Allies within six miles of St. Lo, a key road junction. On the eastern flank, the British and Canadians still were tightly engaging German armor.

Despite low clouds over Europe, 1,300 flying Fortresses and Liberators—the biggest single force yet hurled against a tactical target in daylight—pounded Germany, while lighter planes ranged the Normandy battlefield in a variety of attacks.

A terrific punch by the veteran U. S. Ninth Infantry division—rolling 12 1-2 miles in two days for the invasion's fastest gain—drove clear across the peninsula and secured the seacoast between Cape Carteret, 18 miles southwest of Cherbourg, and St. Etienne.

It blocked off some 40 square miles of the upper peninsula, and thousands of Germans fled with a possible Sevastopol defense of France's third largest port. The first U. S. spearhead reached the coast at 11 p. m. Saturday night.

Lieut. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's shock troops forged this line 24 miles across the cape—the deepest invasion penetration—to chop off Cherbourg while Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's British and Canadians held four Nazi armored divisions deadlocked on the eastern flank in Normandy.

The Ninth division veterans of North Africa broke out west and south of inland St. Sauveur le Vicomte, clinched a hold on Barneville 10 miles west, then drove on two and one-half miles to occupy Cape Carteret in sight of the channel islands, and fanned south to take St. Lo'd' Curville.

The danger point of their cross-peninsula belt is a sector only four miles wide at St. Sauveur le Vicomte, and the American's likelihood immediate move is to widen it against the peril of counterattacks by smash down the rail and road line to Le Havre du Puits, a funnel for German reinforcements farther down on the peninsula.

## SIXES NAMED CHAIRMAN OF C. E. D. COMMITTEE

VII Form Union County Committee For Economic Development

Olin R. Silks, cashier of the American Bank & Trust Company has been appointed chairman of the Union County Committee for Economic Development. It was announced yesterday by Robert M. Hanes of Winston-Salem. Mr. Silks will begin his new duties today.

The Union County C. E. D. is the most recent of nearly 2,000 similar committees that have been organized in the past 18 months throughout the United States to stimulate and assist private business employers to begin planning now for greatly increased postwar employment and production after the war.

The national committee for Economic Development, Mr. Hanes explained, is non-governmental, non-political and non-partisan. Mr. Silks stated that the C. E. D. work in Union county will swing into action immediately. Various committees will be appointed, composed of business and civic leaders, to carry out definite tasks in executing the C. E. D. program for highest possible postwar employment in Union county.

Mr. Silks indicated that he will concentrate the efforts of business and industry committees in the next future.

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MONROE, N. C., UNION COUNTY, MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1944

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## MONROE MARKET

Cotton, short lb	21c to 21½c
Cotton, long lb	25c to 26c
Cotton Seed, bushel	70c to 72c
Eggs, dozen	22c
Corn, bushel	\$1.50
Wheat, bushel	\$1.50

## HOTTEST WEATHER OF SEASON HITS COUNTY

Local Residents Sweat As Temperature Climbs To 101 Degrees.

Union county sweltered under the hottest weather of the season yesterday when the temperature soared to 101 degrees. Friday and Saturday, the mercury reached 98 degrees, and worst of all, is that the weather man had made no promise of relief. In fact, the weather forecaster says that it is likely to remain hot today and tomorrow.

Local residents who suffered through the heat yesterday, however, were not by themselves, for the temperature also went to 101 in Charlotte, 103 in Columbus, S. C., and 102 in Albany and Bainbridge, Ga.

In some cities the heat wave was aggravated by lack of ice, caused by transportation facilities. Although the high heat record of 101 degrees was not reached until yesterday afternoon, the extreme heat was felt during most of the day.

At 8 o'clock in the morning the temperature was 83 degrees and from that time on, it continued to rise until it had reached 91 at 10 o'clock. From then on, it continued to rise, until it reached 101 degrees.

Would-be-sleepers were mostly walkers, as the night wore on and not until late in the evening, was there any relief from the extreme heat, when the mercury started a slow retreat.

## Bradley Lists U. S. Casualties

Invasion Army Dead Set At 3,283 And 12,600 Wounded

AFTER ELEVEN DAYS

American Army casualties totaled 3,283 dead and 12,600 wounded up to midnight Friday in the first 11 days of the invasion of France, and the death toll has become "absolutely secure," the Germans having "lost their last chance to drive us back into the sea," Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley announced Saturday.

Obviously in good spirits, the tall, weather-beaten Missourian who commands American forces in France, appeared for the first time before a group of beachhead correspondents and gave them a report which confirmed his pre-invasion confidence that the campaign would be carried out without the blood-path predicted by the enemy.

Bradley said casualties on the central beachhead, where the First Division and elements of the 29th had landed, were higher than was anticipated, but that on the other hand, casualties on the peninsula beachhead were lower.

The American casualties in action to date were expected to exceed those of the British or Canadians, not yet announced, a dispatch from London said, because the American First and 29th encountered heaviest fighting when they ran into a German division holding maneuvers on the difficult beach. In 24 hours of fighting they advanced only 100 yards in some places, while on the other hand, both British and Canadians made original landings comparatively easily, encountering their heavier fighting later.

American Naval casualties in the invasion already have been announced as "very light" and it was announced that no American merchant seamen were lost in the operation.

While the beachhead was secure, however, a bitter fight was in prospect for Cherbourg. Bradley said, "Discussing the situation on the Cherbourg peninsula, where the 23rd Airborne division Friday captured St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte and threatened the enemy's final escape corridor, he said the Germans might baffle for the port as long as possible, even after isolation of the peninsula."

He added that Cherbourg has strong all-around defenses prepared, with big guns aiming seaward and strong anti-aircraft batteries. Enemy strength on the peninsula, he said, may run well into five figures, and should the escape route be closed, the Germans might attempt evacuation by small boats in darkness to channel islands and then to Brittany.

The American commander estimated the number of German divisions in France to be in the middle sixties, with 15 divisions or elements thrown against the entire Normandy bridge-head areas.

Bradley said the enemy might be unable to move all his divisions in France against the beachhead, because defenses must be manned in other parts of the country and garrisons must maintain control of a turbulent civilian population.

American troops since landing, Bradley said, have captured or evacuated from the beaches 8,000 prisoners.

R. E. Davis of Lynchburg, Va., and his daughter, Mrs. Frances Davis who is a WAVE and stationed at the Navy Yard in Charleston, S. C., have come for a visit here with Mrs. Davis who has been here several weeks, and also Miss Chetie Stack and other relatives. Mrs. Meade Owen and daughter, Mary Owen of Charlotte, are here and Lee Stack of Boston, Mass., came today for a visit with his sister, Mrs. S. A. Alexander. Mrs. William Galloway, and Miss Chetie Stack.

Ensign Everett Jones who has been stationed at Brownson Field Naval Air Base in Pensacola, Fla., came Friday for a fifteen-day leave here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jones. When his leave is up he will go to Jacksonville, Fla., where he will do operational flying.

Mrs. M. E. Parnell of Myrtle Beach, has come to spend some time here with her daughter-in-law Mrs. F. L. Parnell at the home of her mother, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob C. Brooks.

## Comet Bombs Harry British

Hitler's Secret Weapon Is Described By Victim Of Raid

### MANY HIT LONDON AREA

Adolf Hitler's stubby-winged comet bombs scattered destruction across southern England yesterday, as the trumpeting Berlin radio applied the new tag of "Hell Hounds" to the weird weapons and conjured up fantastic pictures of "horror and devastation" in their wake.

But this weapon no longer was a secret to British ground gunners and fighter pilots who rapidly were getting their sights trained on the ghostly rockets. A number were believed to have been destroyed in flight.

Raf fighters patrolling over the channel and on the watch for the pilotless planes were believed to have engaged at least one during the morning, and during the night the path of the bombs which seemed inland was marked by solar bursts of antiaircraft fire.

Early visible in the bright June sunshine, a number of the fire-spitting, jet-propelled rockets streaked across the straits during the day, causing damage and casualties, but their scatter-gren effect scarcely could match the lurid accounts of destruction which tumbled in an unending torrent from the German radio.

One commentator for Transocean, the Nazi propaganda agency, gave this account, which he said came from returning air combat crews:

"They saw a horrible picture. At many places the night was lit by extensive fires and amid this scene of fire blazing to the sky the tremendous explosions gave witness to the devastating effect of the new German weapon."

One of the pilotless craft plunged into a chapel in southern England, where a Sunday service was in progress. A passing policeman found that "those Yanks are wonderful," after volunteer squads of American troops pitched in and worked feverishly to clear the debris. Only one building of the group was left standing, and 10 persons were killed, including some members of the hospital staff.

German military circles now are saying that even targets on the British channel will be within reach of the pilotless planes, and hinted that Portsmouth and Plymouth were next on the list for attack.

### PLAYGROUND NOTES

Walter Bickett High School

The playground at the Walter Bickett high school is in full swing. A great number of boys and girls are enjoying it each afternoon. Baseball, dodge ball, and volleyball seem to be quite popular. Leslie Everett and Harold Helms are expert ball players.

The playground is for the boys and girls to enjoy, so come on and have a good time. As it grows many contests, games, and races will be in progress each afternoon.

### Bentley Heights

The Bentley Heights play center has been proving very popular with quite a few children. Interest no doubt will increase when the new swings are installed and the arrangements are made for shower baths.

John Mills, Betty Helms, and Joyce Curlee have been rendering valuable assistance in directing the play of small children. A reading center was set up today to be used by the children during the early afternoon hours when the sun is so hot. In addition to the comics, we have use of the following magazines: Nature Magazine, Children's Activities, Junior Red Cross News, Open Road For Boys, Scouting, Newsweek, and House Beautiful. Beginning next week we hope to get a collection of books from the bookmobile so that those who would like to take library books home with them may do so.

During a recent song session Sammy Matthews led the singing.

Bruce Medlin is the best little boxer we have. Joan Mills and Betty Helms excel in horse shoe pitching on the girl's teams while Tommy Curlee and Jack Starnes have been doing right well for the boys.

We are very anxious for the older boys and girls to begin coming to the play center to participate in organized games. All the boys and girls from the Monroe Mill and the Manette Mill sections are urged to make use of the play center each afternoon.

Wheeler A. Young

The Winchester Avenue division of the Monroe Defense War Committee is proud to announce the measure of success which attended its first week's activities. Already more than six hundred have taken advantage of the free playground on the Winchester Avenue school campus.

However, in view of the large negro population of Monroe, we feel that not enough are taking advantage of the opportunity afforded.

The Committee is anxious to have every one get the benefits of these facilities. Games are provided for adults as well as children. Relay, baseball, speed ball, rope jumping, volleyball, and many other games are provided for the enjoyment of all who come to our center.

An attendant is present on the grounds to maintain order and to direct the activities. Parents are urged to bring or send their children. This is a health project as well as a place of recreation.

Mrs. M. E. Parnell of Myrtle Beach, has come to spend some time here with her daughter-in-law Mrs. F. L. Parnell at the home of her mother, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob C. Brooks.

## LATEST INVASION NEWS

ROME—The Allied Government, after debating a week, have approved the cabinet formed by Francesco Ciano Benito at the request of Prince Umberto and it has now begun to function at Italy's new government.

U. S. FLEET HEADQUARTERS—American soldiers and Marines, fighting their way through hot canefields halfway across Saipan Island in the Marianas after repelling Japanese assaults by land and by landing craft, drove down toward the island's principal harbor and naval base at Magicienne Bay today.

MOSCOW—Soviet field dispatches declared today that the Red Army had smashed forward to the threshold of Vilnius, key city in southern Finland, after breaching the Mannerheim Line and capturing Kaliste Fortress at the mouth of Vilnius Bay.

Farther inland on the Karelian Isthmus the Russians were reported to have driven two and a half miles past the Mannerheim Line in the Murka sector.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE—American heavy bomber formations streamed toward the Pas de Calais area of France today in apparent continuation of the campaign against installations from which Hitler launches his rocket bombs against England.

RAF heavy bombers also headed toward France just before dark last evening, but there was no immediate announcement of their targets.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE—American troops laid siege today to the defenses of Cherbourg, third greatest port and arsenal of France, after reinforcing and broadening the assault corridor which had isolated the peninsula.

Between 25,000 and 30,000 Nazi defenders were cut off in the Cherbourg area. Escape appeared impossible. They had two choices—to fight to the death or surrender.

### Men In Service Union County's

Ensign Wade Secret left Thursday for Boston, Mass., after spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Secret, upon completion of his advanced training at Miami, Fla.

Lieut. Carl Secret who is stationed at Chatham Field, Savannah, Ga., spent the week-end here with his mother, Mrs. R. F. Secret and his brother, John Secret and Mrs. Secret.

Pvt. Ben Williams of Cherry Point, N.C., came Saturday night for a week-end visit with Mrs. Williams and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Williams.

Lieut. Carl Secret who is stationed at Chatham Field, Savannah, Ga., spent the week-end here with his mother, Mrs. R. F. Secret and his brother, John Secret and Mrs. Secret.

Cpl. Sam Hudson, Jr., who has been stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., is due to spend a fifteen day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam E. Hudson. Mrs. Wade Pridgen of Raleigh also came several days ago for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson. Her son, Wade Pridgen, Jr., came Saturday.

PFC George E. Whitley, son of W. L. Whitley of R. 2, Monroe, spent a three-day pass with relatives last week. PFC Whitley is now stationed at Port Benning, Ga. He has been in the service two years and has been stationed at Fort Bragg, Camp Parson, and Camp Hale, Colo., and Camp Roberts, Calif. George has two brothers in the service. They are Opl. Carl Whitley and Pvt. Noah Whitley, who are now in England.

PFC William Hinson had as his week-end guest PFC Bruce Warlick of Gastonia. PFC Hinson and PFC Warlick left this morning for White Lake where they will attend a week house party given by Mrs. G. O. Cherry.

Mrs. P. C. Whitaker received a letter this morning from her nephew, Everett G. Irby, who was recently promoted to sergeant. He wrote that Richard Howe, Linwood Marion and Robert English, of Monroe, are