

WEATHER FORECAST

Fair to partly cloudy with moderate temperatures tonight and tomorrow.

Monroe Enquirer

PUBLISHED ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

MONROE MARKET

Cotton, short, lb. ... 15 1/2 to 20

SEVENTY-SECOND YEAR

MONROE, N. C., UNION COUNTY, MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 1944.

3-MONTHS, 75c; 6-MONTHS, \$1.25 SEMI-WEEKLY, \$2.00 A YEAR

Preparing Way For Bad News

German Press Lays Groundwork For Giving News Of Retreat

THE RESISTANCE IS WEAK

The Nazi press began preparing the homeland today for wholesale withdrawals from France as the German High Command reported American tanks had slashed across the Seine northwest of Paris with the aid of airborne troops and infantry rushing in to contain the beachhead.

The report that Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's tanks had crossed the Seine, presumably about 30 miles northwest of Paris, first came from the German agency DNB, which said powerful airborne forces were landed on the east bank to knock out German defenses.

FIVE DAYS OF MISERY SPENT IN JUNGLES

Capt. Pussar On Visit Here Relates South American Experiences

Five harrowing days and nights last in South American jungles was the recent experience of Captain J. W. Pussar, Jr., who is spending a sick leave here with his wife, who was Mrs. Virginia Triplett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Triplett.

"After we got back together we held a consultation. Day was barely breathing when we jumped. We decided to go north and started out. After about eight hours hacking with our machetes we came to a swamp and had to turn back. We hadn't gone more than a couple of miles.

SWIMMING CONTEST TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY

Interesting Program Planned By Park And Recreation Committee

Monroe is again invited to meet Camp Station at the Country Club and swimming pool Wednesday afternoon.

Five 11-Year-Old Girl

Armed Island Girl - Charles Whipple, 9, of New Manchester, Kan., recently made a trip of nearly 100 miles from his home in order to see his father here.

PFC. OSCAR W. MULLIS IS CASUALTY OF WAR

Had Previously Been Reported Missing In Action In France

Pfc. Oscar W. (Bill) Mullis, was killed in action in France on July 21st. The news of his death was received Wednesday, August 16th by his father S. O. Mullis, of 23, Monroe.

Pfc. Mullis had previously been reported missing in action according to a message received on August 6th. Nothing more had been heard as to his whereabouts until the message, telling of his death, was received Wednesday.

40 Basic Food Items Picked

OPA Lists Ceiling Prices To Be Charged By Eating Places

MUST NOW POST PRICES

Selection of 40 food items, constituting a list which, with the lawful ceiling prices, must be posted in "eat-ing places," by the Charlotte district of the Office of Price Administration, which includes Monroe, it has been announced.

"If you own or operate an eating or drinking establishment," an order issued by James J. Kilroy, deputy chief director of the OPA, stipulates, "you must, on or before August 16, 1944, show on a poster, to be supplied by the Office of Price Administration, your lawful ceiling prices for 40 food items, and meals, as set forth in this order."

"Although the setting establishment is required to have its completed poster on display by August 16, 1944," George F. Thacker, district price executive, in a memorandum subsequently issued at Charlotte district headquarters of OPA, said, "no enforcement action will be taken until August 23 because of the delay in printing and distributing the poster."

Included in the instructions is one directing the restaurant operator, upon receipt of the order and the poster, to fill in the poster "with as many of the 40 basic items as he serves, and as many additional items as are necessary to constitute a total of 40, together with the lawful ceiling price for each item. Within one week of receipt he shall place the poster in a conspicuous place in his establishment, in plain view of his customers, usually near the main entrance, or at the cashier's desk if the checks are paid there. The items should be legible at six feet or more."

ELECTRIC CO-OP AND FARM GROUPS MEET

300 Attend Joint Meeting Held Last Friday In Wednesday

A joint meeting of the Pee Dee Electric Co-operative, which has a membership of 1,400 in Union, Abbeville, Bladen, Montgomery, Richmond, Scotland, and Vance counties, and the Anson County Farm Bureau was held at the Wadeboro Country Club Friday.

The meeting was presided over by U. B. Blacklock, president of both organizations. Reports of the past year's activities were given by officers of the corporation and directors for the ensuing year were discussed.

Gwyn Price, North Carolina chairman, gave an informal talk on rural electrification in North Carolina.

The main address of the meeting was given by A. Wade Shaw, executive director of the N. C. Farm Bureau federation, who discussed the agricultural program and its future needs.

A rough paper number would have been in attendance but for a recent cyclone against polo in this county.

At the close of the meeting barbecue was served to the 300 delegates and guests in attendance.

Bomber Stock Is Excessive

General Echols Tells Senate Group U. S. Losses Are Light

MAKE PRODUCTION CUT

America's losses in heavy bombers have been so much less than anticipated, that production is being cut back gradually, and 200,000 workers will be laid off in the aircraft industry by next July, Major Gen. Oliver P. Echols said Saturday.

At the Ford Willow Run plant in Detroit a reduction of 50 per cent will be effective by December, said Echols, who is assistant chief of Aircraft Production Administration.

Justifying before the Senate national defense committee on disposal of surplus war property, he said that more than 1,000,000 aircraft workers are now employed, and that "we figure approximately 100,000 will be cut off by the first of the year."

POLAND IS ASSURED OF FAIR TREATMENT

Stalin Says Russia Will Not Interfere With National Internal Affairs

Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk of Poland's exiled government has obtained personal assurances from Premier Joseph Stalin of Soviet non-interference in Poland's political and internal affairs, Polish headquarters in London has announced.

While the exiled cabinet gingerly approached a decision on relations with Russia, a source close to the government who has been reliable in the past, said an accord with the Soviet and agreement with the National Liberation committee is not only possible, but quite likely, within a few days.

The informant said if everything goes well, Mikolajczyk would go directly to Warsaw to present plans for bringing representatives of the rival group into the government and for going ahead with the country's rehabilitation.

Wounded In Action In France

Mrs. Betty Eaton received a telegram, August 17th, stating that her son, Private First Class Charlie W. Mullis was seriously wounded in action in France, July 20th.

Those who wish to write him may secure his address from his mother.

First Lieut. J. C. M. Vann, Jr., was among a group of officers who received certificates of proficiency at graduation exercises recently at the AAF Guard Officers' School of the Military Police Training Center at Fort Belvoir, Ill. He is stationed at Camp Peary, Va. where he is assistant Provost Marshal.

Ensign Don Willis of the U. S. N. R. came last week for a two weeks' leave with Mrs. Willis and little daughter, Elaine, at the home of Mrs. Willis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Holloway.

Pvt. Tom P. Lowery and Pvt. John W. Lowery sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lowery of Virginia, were inducted into the army July 26th at Fort Bragg, and have been transferred to Camp Peary, Va. Mrs. Tom Lowery spent the week-end in Florida with her mother.

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THE LATEST WAR NEWS IN BRIEF

Rome - Hard driving French troops virtually encircled Toulon, breaking through to within three miles of the naval base while American infantry, within fifteen air-line miles of Marseille, fanned out today through the Rhone valley and headed for the Rhone against disorganized enemy resistance.

General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, Japan is withdrawing her planes from the Moluccas and signing up the abandoned bombers leaving that island cluster below the Philippines wide open for Allied invasion.

Moscow - Soviet forces have smashed three Nazi divisions in the Sandaners salient below Warsaw while other Red Army units have yielded slightly before enemy German attempts to recapture possibly 500,000 troops isolated on the Baltic front, a Russian communique announced today.

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force - American armored divisions firmly established a bridgehead over the Seine River at Mantes, 25 miles northwest of Paris, today, opening a path to the Nazi flying bomb coast 30 miles farther north. This advance came as other elements of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's U. S. Third Army sought German elements in the vicinity of Evreux, within ten miles of the heart of Paris, and established themselves along the Seine south-east of the French capital. Paris itself was said to be seething in revolt in anticipation of liberation from German rule.

Union County's Men In Service

Jack Wallenstein of the Merchant Marine in command of his own ship, arrived Friday morning to spend a leave with his wife, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Beasley. On a recent trip to England he was hit by a rocket plane (buzz bomb) which picked him up and carried him 15 feet, and bruised his shoulder.

Pvt. Conley C. Aycott, who has been stationed with the infantry at Camp Fanning, Texas, is spending a 12-day furlough here with his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Aycott of Mt. Vernon, and is being transferred to Fort Meade, Md. He has been overseas since 20th.

PFC. JOHN H. DAVIS IS KILLED IN FRANCE

Message Received Yesterday Morning States He Died In Action July 28.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Davis of 21, Monroe, yesterday received a message from the War Department stating that their son Pfc. John Hayne Davis, had been killed in action in France, Friday, July 28th. No other information was contained in the message.

Pfc. Davis was twenty-three years of age and had been in the service two years serving in the Infantry. He had been overseas for about four months and in France six weeks.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Davis; three sisters, Misses Nell Dean and Annie Lee of the home and Mrs. Mary Frances Williams of Unionville; one brother, Howard, with the U. S. Army at Camp Croft, S. C.; two grandsons, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Baucum, well-known residents of the Mill Creek section; a number of uncles and aunts, including Harvey Baucum of Monroe and Harvey Baucum of the Mill Creek community.

Allen S. Simpson, Waxhaw, recently graduated at the naval training school at Iowa State College as a fireman, second class, and is now eligible to qualify for the petty officer rate of electricians mate third class.

Roy Wilson Hunter, Aviation Mechanic's Mate, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. S. Hunter of 23, Waxhaw, is stationed at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Memphis, Tenn. He enlisted December 21, 1943 at Spartanburg, S. C. and took his boot training in Jacksonville, Fla. He is a graduate of Waxhaw high school, and started Aircraft Inspection at N. C. State College. Prior to entering service he was Aircraft Inspector for Patchfield Aircraft Corp., at Hagerstown, Md., and Burlington, N. C. for one and a half years.

John E. Phifer, Jr., Seaman 2-c who is stationed at Camp Peary, Va., has returned to camp after spending a ten-day leave with his family. Seaman Phifer entered the service May 29, 1944.

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Aldridge, of Rt. Monroe, received a letter Thursday from their son, Ensign H. Thompson, of the U. S. Navy, who is now in England. This was the first news they had received from him since the early part of June. Ensign has been in the Navy three years and has been active in most of the theater of war. His last leave was in September, 1942.

Lieut. Wade A. Hinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hinson, on R-1, Monroe, has received his commission and wings at Pensacola, Fla., and is spending a several days leave with his parents before going to Miami, Fla. He further training.

Pvt. Harry Williams, who is with the Navy Supply Department at Camp Peary, Va., spent the week-end here with his family and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Williams.

Pvt. Louis E. Erbe, Jr., who is stationed at Camp Peary, Va., has returned on a 10-day leave from his duty station at Camp Peary, Va., and is spending the week-end here with his family and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Williams.

Japs Back Up Before Allies

Although In Retreat, They Announce Plans For Three World Regions

ENEMY PLANES BLASTED

Japan was backing up on most of her many fronts Saturday but her postwar planners came out nonetheless with a fresh plan for the 'toprosperity of nations' as part of their projected 'new world order.'

Domestic news agency said Imperial Japan, deep in deliberations on postwar problems, planned the creation of three regional blocs of nations, East Asia, Europe and the Americas.

MacArthur's bombers wiped out at least 14 aircraft, nine of them in an air battle in the Ambon-Ceram area of the Moluccas, and sank or damaged three enemy merchant ships, one of them in Davao gulf in the southern Philippines.

An oil field near Sorong at the western tip of Dutch New Guinea was bombed. Numerous airdromes were cratered along Japan's lengthy southern defenses.

The Japanese reinforced their troops occupying Hengyang, important Hunan province rail center, while the Chinese are striving to retake, and were shifting considerable strength westward in an apparent push toward Kweilin, provisional capital of Kwangsi province.

Japan's overseas supply route from Hankow was endangered, however, by Chinese drives against Kinseng, Nippon strong point 85 miles northeast of Ichang in Hupeh province.

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Washington Is Upset Over Lt. Laney's Fate

The news that First Lieutenant Thomas Percy Laney, of Monroe, is missing in action was received among members of the North Carolina delegation Saturday with deep sorrow.

One of the first congressional secretaries on Capitol Hill to resign his post in volunteer for service with the Army, Lieutenant Laney is also one of the first reported missing, and is the first casualty among North Carolina secretaries.

Lieutenant Laney's wife, Mrs. Martha Laney, was notified by the War Department that her husband had been missing in France since August 1. He was an officer in the 230th Field Artillery, attached to an infantry division and had been in the thick of the battle in France. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Walter Laney live in Monroe.

Lieutenant Laney was a member of the secretarial staff of Senator Josiah W. Bailey when he volunteered for service in 1942. Before that he was connected with the office of former Congressman Walter Lambeth of the Eighth district for several years. He was one of Monroe's most popular young men, and has many friends here and elsewhere, who have heard the distressing news with deep regret.

Nazis Fleeing French Capital

Germans Abandoning Equipment In Wild Race To Cross Seine

REPORT STREET FIGHTS

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's armored powerhouse raced eastward through France on a 100-mile front yesterday, reaching the Seine on both sides of Paris. One column straddled within 10 miles of the French capital where street fighting raged between Parisians and the retreating Germans.

Near Mantes, 25 miles above Paris, the Americans smashed in a force to the Seine, forcing the huddled, retreating remnants of the German Seventh army. (The German radio said the Americans already had crossed the Seine with the air of paratroopers.)

American columns also reached the Seine at Verpont, 45 miles above the capital and in the vicinity of Fontainebleau, 25 miles southeast of Paris, as well as driving to the vicinity of Versailles, 10 miles from the heart of the city.

Others were around Corbeil and Meulan, 15 and 25 miles respectively southeast. Further south another force reached Montargis after a swing from the east to the Loire river, 20 miles east of Orleans.

As the onslaught bulged unchecked 65 miles beyond Chartres through the Orleans gap, threatening a great encircling sweep south of Paris, Berlin dispatches indicated the German people were being prepared for a wholesale withdrawal from France to the Reich borders.

There still were no reports of any great stiffening of German defenses and from Paris itself came the sound of demolitions. The Paris radio was silent through the third day.

At Fontainebleau a patrol near the American patrol near the city that street fighting was raging in Paris between students and Patriots on the one hand and Germans on the other. He said there were numerous fires in the city and urged that Americans quickly come to the aid of the Parisians. This resident said a hand-to-hand fight in Paris only two hours previously.

The time of liberating Paris appeared a matter of Allied choosing, but there was more at stake than Paris itself.

Although the capital in the public view is one of the biggest plums of victory, one Allied officer commented, "We are shaking the tree to uproot the German army, not primarily to get the fruit."

Nevertheless, in anticipation of possible early Allied occupation of the capital, Gen. Charles De Gaulle and Brig. Gen. Joseph P. Perry, commander of the French Liberation forces, flew to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's headquarters Sunday for a half-hour conference. No news of the decisions was given out but De Gaulle emerged smiling.

Union's formidable battle array was in a position to smash through on either side, north across the Seine toward the Pas-de-Calais or on through the gap around Paris to the south—or both. There was no indication among the staff officers to disclose which way he would strike.

Above Paris retreating German Seventh army soldiers under Allied air attack were swimming and ferrying across the Seine to escape being hemmed in by the Americans.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army plunged to the Seine at the river's above between Meulan and Verpont at the very point where the Germans were frantically assembling barges in an attempt to save Field Marshal Gen. Guenther von Kluge's Seventh army and parts of the 19th from destruction.

Cpl. Bill is Rescued

Make Plans For Salvage Drive

Arrangements Completed For Collection Of Scrap Paper Sunday

DRIVE IS COUNTY-WIDE

Plans have been completed for the big scrap paper drive to be conducted here Sunday afternoon August 27th, according to W. T. Wall, president of the Lions Club, sponsors of the drive.

Beginning Sunday afternoon at two o'clock the city trucks, accompanied by members of the Lions club, will cover the city in a city-wide collection of scrap paper, while in various sections of the county, collections will also be made or collection stations will be set up.

In the rural sections where no collections have been scheduled, residents are requested to take their scrap paper to the nearest collection station, where it will be collected and brought to the central collection station in Monroe. Trucks will call for it at Monroe, from whence it will be taken to the mill for reprocessing.

People are asked to leave the bundles of waste paper, including newspapers, magazines, paper bags, etc., on the sidewalks, in front of their residences so that the trucks can pick it up.

In Monroe, a large tent will be erected on the vacant lot in front of the Quality Chevrolet Co., and people in the country are asked to bring their bundles there any time on Saturday. Local residents who expect to be out of the city on the day the collection is made, can leave their bundles at the Quality Chevrolet Company this week, and it will be turned over to the proper authorities.

At Marshville, trucks furnished by R. P. Stegall and manned by Boy Scouts, will cover the town beginning at 2 o'clock. Folks from the country are asked to bring their bundles at 10 a. m. on Saturday to the Stegall warehouse in Marshville and the T. K. Nicks warehouse at Waxhaw.

In Wingate, the collection station will be at the Perry Mill Company under the direction of Sam R. Gaddy.

At Mineral Springs, the collection station is located at County stores of the Quality Chevrolet Company are requested to leave their bundles at the above named places.

There is a great need for salvage paper and it is highly important that Union county residents respond to this critical call. This is the first such drive by the county officials of the Lions Club and reports of exceeding the goal of 50,000 pounds.

UNDEBRELLEDY STORMED WITH AMAZING EASE

Coastal Defenses Failed To Materialize In Southern France

Until a few hours before troops started ashore last week in southern France, the coast defenses of the underbelly of Hitler's Europe appeared almost impenetrable.

I watched the landings from a B-35 Mitchell bomber 1,000 feet above the beachhead, states Kenneth L. Dixon, American Press correspondent who accompanied the landings.

As far as 30 miles inland there was a constant lack of any sign of struggle to mark the entire rugged landscape. From my vantage point, it appeared that the new Allied blows to liberate France were meeting almost no resistance in the first stages.

Preliminary reconnaissance indicated some defenses would form a hard shell, not too well supported from behind. Twice during recent days I had flown over those defenses in reconnaissance planes. They were bristling with guns behind heavy emplacements. However, I saw few indications of strong defenses farther inland.

It still seems incredible that we were not fired upon as we flew in with the gliders and parachute troops. It is also strange that the naval ships and landing craft unloading their cargoes of men and equipment should not be shelled with enemy fire.

Apparently both the Air Force and Navy did a powerful job of neutralizing those shore defenses during the thundering three-hour bombardment before the landing assault.

Along the entire coastal sector anti-aircraft batteries were so densely packed a few days ago that gliders were shot down by enemy fire. Yet no one seemed to notice the single shot fired or any sign of activity at the glider landings.

Folks who carried parachute bags over also commented they encountered no fire and no gliders apparently returned safely.