EVENTY-SECOND YEAR

MONROE, N. C., UNION COUNTY, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1944

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

Reds Capture Vital Ground

Reach Romania-Yugoslav Border In Big Fifty Mile Push

BULGARIA IS ISOLATED

The Russians, in an advance of more than 10 miles in a day, reached the Romanian-Yugosiav border yesteray, capturing the anacient Danube iver city of Turnu-Severin, while in coland they alogged forward two hardson miles through dense German decreases and seized the Narew river forces of Ostroleka in a new threat to set Prussia.

NAZIS PLOT STRATEGY

Receives Decoration



Sweden Snubs War Criminals

Refuses Asylum To Those Seeking Safety In Their

GIVES AXIS WARNING

Sweden will refuse asylum to war criminals and return to their own ountries for justice any who "slip brough" the Swedish frontiers, Minter of Social Affairs Gustav Moeller declared in a speech last night.

declared in a speech last night.

Nothing that Sweden's frontiers have been open to all refugees, Moeller said "during this war, however, there have been committed terible ideeds of such a nature that hardly anybody previously would have thought them possible in a world calling itself civilized. Such deeds have been committed above all in the occupied countries."

Warsaw, already outflamind at a distance, was all!! the scene of bitted tance, was all!! the scene of bitted the Bussians announcing tangers of the Bussians announced the Bussians of th

Rome-American troops have occupied the important Italian city of Luces, ten miles northeast of Pins pud driven the Germans back to within hen than six miles of the main Goffsie Line defense beyond the town, Allied Headquarters announced today.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS

IN BRIEF

Messow Swit Russian troops were reported fighting within 90 miles of Balgrade today and were believed already to have ferried the Danube and reached Yugoslav soil soits of the Iron Gate gorge where the mighty river cuts through the Transylvanian Alpa.

London-Both the Paris and London radios declared today that Bulgaria had broken off relations with Germany but there was no immediate confirmation of a roundabout report from Ankara that the Seifa Government had declared was upon the Reich. The Paris broadcast said the German Minister in Soila was preparing to return home.

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the Flavor for the Brassle and the Brassle

Finnagan will be in charge of the undering. J. Hamp Price will place the Legion flags about the Honor Plaque. Members of the American Legion and Auxiliary are invited to attend in a group.

Ouptain James P. Morgan, son of the late P. M. Morgan and Pet Truil Morgan, died of a heart attack July 19 in France. Capt. Morgan entered the service with the Monroe Battery of the National Guard in September, 1940. Since Pebruary, 1944, he had been in foreign service in the capacity of Battery Commander with the Field Artillery.

Refore entering the service Capt. Morgan owned a shoe repair shop; later he traveled for Morrow Distributing company. He was a graduate of Monroe high school and attended A and M in Monrye, Georgia.

Captain Morgan is survived by his wife, the former Miss Hallis Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrz. T. S. Lee of Marshville, one brother, Neil Morgan of the amed forces in California, one maternal sunt, Mrs. W. D. Fullenwider of Monroe and one paternal must, Mrs. E. F. Belew, of Gian Allen, Va.

PPC. Joe Lemmond, who recently graduated in the Army Specialized Training school at the University in Cincinnati, Ohio, has come for a ton-days stay with his mother, Mrs. W. O. Lemmond.

Yank Forces **Driving East**

Americans Run Into Stiffest Fighting Since St. Lo Victory

REAL BATTLE STARTS

The swift, Germany-bound drive of the U.S. Third army has been stalled fo ralmost a week by lagging supplies, but in the north, American First army tanks in mass formations were on the move eastward toward Liege after leaping across the Meuse river and breaching the Nazis' Belgian defenses before the Reich, field dispatches dis-

Dr. Robert L. Payne, age 57, prominent Monroe physician, died suddenly at his home on Houston street this morning about 1:15 o'clock, after a short illness. Funeral services will be held at the Harris-Wells Funeral Home Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock, conducted by Rev. J. H. Armbrust, Interment will be in the Monroe cemetery.

T-Sgt. Walter Henderson Reported Safe And Well

T-Sgt. Walter Henderson, Jr., of Monroe, who, since June 24, has been a prisoner of war in Bomanis, was among the cieven hundred flyers who were resound last week, when Bomania broke with the Naxis and came over to the Allied side.

This news was received here Monday evening in a cablegram from Sgt. Henderson, who wired his wife in Charlotte and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Henderson of W. Franklin street, that he was "aafe and well," and was back at his base in Italy.

Sgt. Henderson was an engineer and gunner on a B-24 Liberator and it is thought that while on a bombing mission over the Ploisti oil fields in Romania, that his plane was shet down.

On June 9, Sgt. Henderson, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action.

Climax Battle In Italy Soon

planes.

Some of the filercest fighting occurred around the key town of Coriano, seven miles south of Rimini nad
about two miles from the ses. Allied
shock troops captured an important
ridge running from Coriano to the
coast and sent patrols for a time into
the town itself.

The German First Parachute division, which met the first assault of the Canadians below Rimini and tried desperately for nearly a week to stem the advance, was said to have been so mauled that it was relieved.

For the second day two British destroyers stood offshore and slammed more than 600 shells into German batteries and gunu positions guarding Rimini. An Allied communique said several batteries were allences. Return fire from enemy guns was described as

several batteries were silences. Return fire from enemy guns was described as ineffectual.

Rimini, an ancient Roman port with a prewar population of 65,000, is at the Adriatic terminus of a Po valley highway which runs northwest through Bologna into the heart of the northern Italy industrial regions. Ten miles northwest of the city is the Rubican of Caesar's fateful crossing.

LIONS PLAN ANOTHER SCRAP PAPER DRIVE

Public Urged To Start Saving Non For Second; Will Set Date Later

Announce City School Faculty

All Vacancies Have Been Filled With Exception Of Principal

OPENS SEPTEMBER 18th

The Monroe City Schools will open September 18th. The faculty meetings will be held on September 14th; stu-dent registration on Friday, September 15, Superintendent W. R. Kirkman an-nounced this morning.

nounced this morning.

On Friday morning, September at nine o'clock, all students are a to report to the auditoriums of various buildings. Students in grone through five, inclusive, should port to John D. Hodges or N. Monroe school; sixth, seventh, ele and high school students should re to the high school. Colored stud will report at the Winchester Awaschool.

All high school students, white and colored, will be asked to report again at one o'clock Friday to be issued their

Decisive Engagement Looms
As British Near Key
City

AMERICANS TAKE TOWN

The decisive battle for northern Italy on the broad stretches of the Po river valley appeared near today after Eighth army troops plunged within five miles of Rimini on the Adriatic coast and Americans on the opposite end of the front seized Lucca, provincial capital 10 miles northeast of Pisa.

Once Rimini is captured, Gen. Sir Harold Alexander will pour out onto the fitaliands of northern Italy the greatest armored striking force ever assembled in the Mediterranean area to proceed with the annihilation of Pield Marahal Gen. Albert Kesselring's armies.

Due south of Rimini, Canadian forces crushed all Nazi counteratiadate and carved out new positions only five miles from the city's out-skirts. Other Eighth Army units striking directly up the coast were reported less than six miles from their goal as enemy forces weakened considerably under combined blows by Allied ground troops, warships and planes.

Boung of the filercest fighting occurred around the key town of Coriano, seven miles south of Rimini and about two miles from the sea. Allied shock troops captured an important ridge running from Coriano to the coast and sent patrols for a time into coast and sent patrols for a time into coast and and engage fluories. Halle J. Snell, shock troops captured an important ridge running from Coriano to the coast and sent patrols for a time into coast and sent patrols for a time into work of the filercest fighting occurred around the key town of Coriano, seven miles south of Rimini mad about two miles from the sea. Allied shock troops captured an important ridge running from Coriano to the coast and sent patrols for a time into coast and sent patrols for a time into work of the coast and sent patrols for a time into work of the coast and sent patrols for a time into work of the coast and sent patrols for a time into work of the coast and sent patrols for a time into work of the coast and sent patrols for a time into work of the coast and sent patro

Winey Rooker, Mary Wate Wolfe, and Mrs. Mirlam He North Monroe School

LIEUT. PERCY LANEY KILLED IN FRANCE

Missing In Action Since August 1.

the northern Italy industrial regions. Ten miles northwest of the city is the Rubican of Caesar's fateful crossing.

Lucca, captured by American patrols in the Firth Army's thrust near the western end of the line, is an important communications center with a normal population of \$2,000. An Allied announcement of its occupation did not mention any enemy resistance, leaving the supposition that Nazi troops in that sector had withdrawn into the depths of their Gothic line defenses.

Also taken in the Yank advance was Altopascio, nine miles east of Lucca, on a main lateral hightway to Pistola, a key objective 28 airline miles northwest of Florence. Patrols were reported well past Altopascio, and driving toward Pescia, six miles to the north.

Nazi resistance to the Fifth Army was confined mostly to small groups of enemy rearguards, but Lt. Gen. Mark W. Chark's man had to contend with elaborate minefields and demelitions.