

## WE'LL DESTROY JAPS—HALSEY

Alies Driving Forward to Battle of Japan, Says South Pacific Chief

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all, land and sea warfare. We learned by grim and bloody experience the best manner in which to deal with a crafty foe who appears desperately determined to resist until he is destroyed. We will destroy him."

The statement, issued soon after American capture of Munda, had laid open the enemy's Solomons strongholds to imminent attack, envisaged a constant broadening of the offensive started June 30 under Gen. Douglas MacArthur, supreme commander in the south and southwest Pacific.

A start on reducing the enemy's bases near Munda was made by more than 100 bombers and fighters in an aerial assault on Japanese positions at Rekata bay on Santa Isabel island east of New Georgia.

Rekata Bombed

Sixty-five tons of bombs were dropped at Rekata bay yesterday, shattering all anti-aircraft positions and causing considerable damage to enemy installations, the communiqué reported.

The attack was made less than 24 hours after American occupation of Munda on New Georgia island, where the Yanks were mopping up isolated Japanese remnants and clearing out Bairoko harbor, 10 miles north of Munda, where a small garrison is surrounded.

It was indicated that the Americans would swiftly rebuild the bomb-shattered Munda air base and use it for operations against Santa Isabel to the east, Kolombangara and Vella Lavella in the New Georgia group to the north, and Bougainville, in the northern Solomons.

A dispatch of Frank Tremain, United Press correspondent at South Pacific headquarters, said Japanese positions on these islands may be neutralized by the seizure of Munda but that an enemy garrison of 5000 may have been left for a suicide action on Kolombangara, just across Kula gulf from New Georgia.

Strafe Japs in Water

A troop-carrying barge was destroyed by an allied plane off Vella Lavella and Catalinas strafed enemy soldiers struggling in the water. Sixteen American Corsair fighter planes operating over Bougainville shot down seven of 30 enemy planes in a series of combats for a loss of one.

Gen. MacArthur, over-all commander of South Pacific operations, sent his congratulations to Adm. Halsey for the conquest of Munda. (The British radio reported, quoting a Southwest Pacific correspondent, said it was unlikely that many of the 5000 man Japanese garrison at Munda escaped a blockade around New Georgia by light-armed naval craft.)

The victory extended the eastern arm of a long pincer apparently aimed at Rabaul, big Japanese base on New Britain island above New Guinea. The other arm was developing with the slow jungle campaign through New Guinea toward Salamaua, enemy stronghold on the northeast coast.

## MARION MAN HEADS FIREMEN'S GROUP

HUNTINGTON, Ind., Aug. 7 (U. P.)—Frank King Marion was elected president of the Indiana Fireman's Association at closing sessions of its annual convention yesterday. Mrs. Garnett Green, Frankfort, was chosen auxiliary president. Joseph Willard, East Chicago, and Richard Van Valer, Gas City, were elected vice-presidents of the association. Harry H. Palmer, Indianapolis, was named treasurer. Burley Marshall, Terra Haute, secretary, and Raymond Coon, Gary, chaplain. Mrs. Ada Martin, Ft. Wayne, and Mrs. Thelma Lowman, Warsaw, were elected auxiliary vice-presidents.

## WASHINGTON Calling

A Weekly Szeup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

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is certain that the Frenchmen would turn their weapons in the "right" direction.

On the Hamburg Skillet

WHAT OUR side has been after at Hamburg: Three important railroad marshaling yards, six power stations and gas works, 15 coal and coke plants, seven non-ferrous metals plants, six aircraft plants, six shipbuilding plants, 10 important machinery plants, a tire factory, 13 edible-oils-and-fats plants.

HERE AT HOME, worst production problem now is in aircraft.

Last year the trouble was materials, now it's manpower. West coast plane plants alone need 50,000 additional workers to step up production. In one large bomber plant, labor turnover has averaged more than 100 per cent a year. Workers leave plants (1) for higher pay in shipyards, (2) for more certain draft deferment in farm work (selective service helped on this recently by stopping draft of airplane workers for next few months), and (3) for jobs they think will still be there when peace comes.

Trouble-shooter Baruch, appealed to for a solution, is insisting that WPB, army and manpower commission can solve problem by getting together on policies.

Similar problem arose several months ago in Buffalo area, where plane plants got lion's share of available workers. Other war industries got relief when, after government prodding, local management and labor agreed on plan of allocating new workers according to urgency.

TRUMAN COMMITTEE is on a hot spot. It has built fires under most of the war agencies and now its turn has come to feel the heat. Since committee's blast against Curtiss-Wright, production at its Lockland, O., plant has nose-dived—on a chart it looks like what happened to the stock market in 1929.

War department says what the committee complained about—faulty engine inspections, etc.—had been corrected six months earlier. Committee's only out may be to revisit plant, turn in a new report giving clean bill of health, which present conditions are said to justify. It's needed to restore morale of management, workers, army inspectors.

OPA AND PETROLEUM administration for war are considering gasoline ration cuts for mountain states and far West to equalize coupon values for entire country. Current East-Midwest wrangle over equalization of rationing has convinced agencies that motorists everywhere should be treated alike. First order will equalize rationing east of the Rockies.

'Better Drive Cautiously'

RUBBER DIRECTOR JEFFERS' optimism over synthetic-tire production isn't shared by some of the leading manufacturers. Output of synthetic is coming along all right, transforming it into tires is quite another matter. Processes used with natural rubber won't do, for example, new tires must be coiled in molds, thus slowing production, and special treatment is required to make rubber stick to fabric. Jeffers' estimate of 6,500,000 tires this year (up 30 per cent from original figure) will strain the industry; production of passenger-car tires to date is only about 1,000,000. Some manufacturers doubt whether "tires for everybody" goal can be reached by mid-1944.

It adds up to this: Better drive cautiously, even if you have gas.

UNDER-ESTIMATED threat to civilian transportation is growing scarcity of automobile parts. Repairmen say thousands of cars will be laid up in next year, due to wear and shortage of replacement items. WPB and OPA have already discussed rationing of parts but have found no workable system. Many parts for older-model cars are unobtainable; output of parts for later models has been cut below the rate at which they're wearing out.

MOTTO OF the first troop carrier command of the army air forces is a dressed-up version of the old "git that fustest with the mostest." It's "Vincit Qui Primum Gerit" or "He Conquers Who Gets There First."

There've been no fatalities from glider flying at the Laurinburg-Maxton army air base, where pilots taper off their training by taking part in difficult tactical problems. Nor have there been any serious injuries.

PROFESSORS STILL come. WMC Chairman McNutt has just appointed Dr. Herman T. Briscoe, vice president of Indiana university, as chief of the professional and technical training section of manpower commission, and President Herman B. Wells of the same university is expected to accept an assignment shortly from state department.

OPA WILL DECIDE soon whether to institute "token" rationing, a system under which paper or composition disks would become medium of exchange in food-ration transactions. Idea has been under study by OPA as a substitute for coupon system. Tokens would be reused like money, but system has these objections: (1) Tokens could be exchanged among families, (2) Present time limit on use of coupons would be eliminated. Odds are against adoption and OPA is already working on ration book No. 2.

OFFICIALS HAVE no immediate plans for soap rationing, but shortages, hoarding, may force it. Many cities say supply is short, particularly chips and flaked soap. Present consumption is at rate of 90 per cent of 1940-41 use, but manufacturers have been cut to 80 per cent production.

## 'No-retreat' Order Doomed Suicide Nazis Holding Troika

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by Corps Cmdr. Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley since Calanissetta. He had learned that the Germans had moved the civil population from Troina.

The artillery barrage was at its height at 5:20 p. m., five minutes after the last wave of 36 dive bombers hit the city and the supply roads over which the Germans could be seen rolling up ammunition laden trucks.

The guns boomed for a half-hour. Once three salvos of 155 howitzers set up an explosion in what must have been an ammunition or gasoline dump. At another point the church steeple was toppled. The Germans had been using it for an artillery observation post.

Before the sun went down, Yankee soldiers were scrambling out of their foxholes on three sides of the city. Once a German mortar threatened them, hit two men and their broken bodies were flung into the air.

Directly ahead of me, a regiment was pinned down by machine-gun fire a foot over the heads of the men concealed in shallow holes. On my right was a regiment that had already gone through 18 hours of constant bombardment. They had been shoved off a hill directly south of the town last night but counter-attacked and regained it at 11:30 a. m. today.

Again the Germans threw in a heavy assault which pushed it back down into a gully where they had to stay until the dive bombers went to work.

In the brief period of eerie silence—only 300 seconds of it—before the evening artillery barrage began, I talked to Col. Cobb.

"It is tougher than anything we ever encountered at El Guettar," he said, and reported that his battalion already had lost many men. There is still plenty of fighting ahead for Troina here but the officers tonight are planning another dose of explosives for tomorrow that may do the job.

## SOVIETS SHRED KHARKOV LINES

Early Collapse of Great German Bastion Now Is Predicted.

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get German base on the central front.

Russ Smash Ahead

Advances of three and one-half to six miles were chalked up by the Soviets on the Bryansk front yesterday.

Russian tank and infantry forces were smashing ahead in pursuit of the beaten axis Oreil armies so rapidly that some observers doubted the Nazis would have a chance to dig in behind a new defense line short of Bryansk itself.

The official Soviet information bureau hailed the smashing of the German offensive against the Kursk salient last month and the subsequent successful Russian counter-offensive liberating both Oreil and Belgorod as "exploding" the myth that the summer is the season of success for the German army and Soviet armies during the period are forced to retreat.

German losses in the two phases—offensive and counter-offensive—during the past month were estimated by the bureau at 120,000 Germans killed, 4605 tanks destroyed or disabled, 1623 guns destroyed or disabled, 11,000 trucks wrecked or damaged and 2492 planes shot down.

## YANKS CAPTURE AXIS FORTRESS

Toll of Prisoners Taken Mounts to 125,000 in Sicily.

(Continued from Page One)

and Anglo-American warships, as well as by artillery batteries. Night bombers divided their attention between axis invasion ships masing in Messina harbor and Naples, which was blasted for the fifth time in six days last night.

Enemy transport also was attacked in southern Italy, while the Naples raiders last night concentrated on the docks and railway communications.

Two enemy planes were shot down during the 24 hours ended last night and eight allied planes were lost. (An Italian communiqué broadcast by the Rome radio said allied raids on Naples, Messina and places in Salerno and Cosenza provinces of southern Italy had caused only slight damage.)

British four-engined Liberator and Halifax heavy bombers from the middle-eastern command bombed San Giovanni, Italian mainland ferry terminus across a narrow strait from Messina, Friday night and started big fires near the terminus building and northwest of the railway station. Other fires were observed among railway sidings south of the harbor. All planes returned safely.

PICNIC FOR DEFENSE GROUP SCHEDULED

A basket picnic for district 45 civilian defense workers will be held at 3:30 p. m. tomorrow at Washington park, 30th and Dearborn sts. Games have been planned and attendance prizes will be awarded. Wally Nehrling will be master of ceremonies for the evening program, which will include speakers, music, dancers and movies.

Harry E. Yockey, OGD director, will speak and special guests will include Maj. Herbert Fletcher, chief air raid warden; Officer Kenneth Luke, assistant chief air raid warden; and Addison Parry, zone co-ordinator.

R. Bolander, district co-ordinator, has invited workers of divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 to attend with their families. Walter Deuser is chairman of the planning committee.

CAPT. E. W. CARSON PROMOTED TO MAJOR

Capt. E. Wayne Carson, Indianapolis surgeon who formerly had offices in the Hume Mansur building, has been promoted to major in the army air force medical corps. He entered the air force in June, 1942, and has been stationed at the base hospital, MacDill field, Tampa, Fla. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Carson, 5466 N. Pennsylvania st.

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## Ribbentrop Reported in Rome Claim Count Ciano Arrested

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Additional council meetings were believed to have been scheduled for last night and today.

Ribbentrop was understood to have arrived in Rome quietly yesterday on invitation of the Italian government for three days of conferences. He was accompanied by a staff of German foreign office experts.

In addition to a request for the peaceful withdrawal of German troops from Italy, Gualtiero was said to have asked Ribbentrop at the initial conference yesterday to permit Italian occupation troops to return from France, Yugoslavia and Greece and Italian workers employed in German war industries to go back to their homes.

What Ribbentrop's reply was, or what counter-proposals he may have advanced were not known. Italian frontier reports said, but informed Swiss sources believed Germany might be willing to permit some sort of guarantee that the

allies would not be permitted to use the peninsula for assaults on southern Germany.

Marshall Pietro Badoglio, new Italian chief of government, was said to desire an understanding with Germany before making any clear-cut proposal to the allies.

A possible sign of things to come was seen in the departure of German civilians by special trains from Italy. Madrid estimated that 50,000 so far have been evacuated through the Brenner pass from Rome, Florence and industrial cities in northern Italy.

Strikes and peace demonstrations were reported by Madrid to be continuing throughout Italy, though on a declining scale.

Swiss reports said high officials of the Ansaldo, Birelli, Montecatini, Breda and Fiat corporations, which produced airplanes, tanks, guns and other arms for the Italian government, were among the 23 prominent Fascists seized for profiteering.

## Bootlegging May Force WPB To Ease Liquor Restriction

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In the production of synthetic rubber. Because those plants have not come into production as early as had been expected, responsible officials declare that the stockpile now is adequate to meet current and anticipated war needs.

Armed with this information, the industrial alcohol producers advisory committee of WPB renewed their demand this week that the board permit them to retain a percentage of their alcohol production for use in beverage spirits.

The group last month requested that they be permitted to retain 10 per cent of their output. The WPB chemicals division said at that time that the matter would be studied.

Irritated by what most considered an unnecessary restriction in the face of an adequate stockpile of

industrial alcohol, the distillers reportedly minced no words in reinforcing their demands with a portrayal of the evils growing under the ban.

Reports show that hi-jacking is spreading in the Middle West, bootlegging is on the increase and especially in the states where liquor is rationed and in seacoast towns among sailors; liquor is being diluted and sold at fancy prices, and there are signs that the bootleg bosses of the dry era are becoming interested in the possibilities of the present situation.

Officials of the office of price administration confirmed that reports received by them and surveys by investigators tended to bear out the dangers in the situation cited by the alcohol producers.

Report Hamburg Refugees Are Frightening Berliners

LONDON, Aug. 7 (U. P.)—Refugees from Hamburg and other heavily bombed German cities are so frightening Berliners with the harrowing details of their experiences that a panic, mass exodus from the German capital is under way, the London Daily Mail said today.

The Daily Mail said Nazi authorities had had to resort to severe measures to try to stop the wild rush.

"Mass arrests of refugees who spread raid stories too freely are taking place," the newspaper said, "but authorities are plainly at their wits end to know how to control the

stampede from the capital."

Source of the Daily Mail report was not given.

Neutral correspondents in Berlin have been advised to establish new headquarters outside the capital, another report said. German Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels revealed last night that what he called a "partial evacuation" of Berlin was under way.

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## RACE RELATIONS SERMONS URGED

Request to All Ministers in Indianapolis Made by City Council.

The Indianapolis Citizens' council, an organization formed to improve race relations in Indianapolis, has sent letters to the Indianapolis clergy urging sermons be preached dealing with racial and religious issues.

The letters to the clergymen requested that within the next month "you bring before your congregation a message in which you ask that the good name of our community be protected; that Indianapolis be made a better city in which to live by more tolerance and understanding between racial and religious groups."

The council, representing religious, civic, industrial patriotic and social agencies, hopes to convince citizens that violence and mob hysteria are ineffective in the solution of race problems.

## WOMAN IS BEATEN, TAKEN AWAY IN CAR

Bloodstains on the grass in the 2700 block, E. 29th st., were the only clue to the beating of a woman whose assailants threw her limp body into a car and drove away late yesterday.

Police were called to the E. 29th st. address by William A. Thompson, 2860 Northwestern ave., who said he saw two men drag a woman she reached the porch he struck her down and beat her.

"Then they threw her back into the car and drove away," he said. Police said they found a pool of blood in the grass.

Police were investigating another attack on a woman last night. Miss Virginia Reddick, 27, of 2228 Garvillona ave., said a man followed her home and that when she reached the porch he struck her down and beat her.

A 46-year-old man, who is said to have called at Miss Reddick's home earlier in the day making threats, was arrested as a suspect.

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