

Peace Parley at Vatican Reported

Wildly Shouting Italians Parade In Major Cities

Il Duce's Portrait, Fascist Signs Torn Down by Angry Demonstrators

LONDON, Tuesday, July 27—(AP)—A Reuters Stockholm dispatch today said preliminary negotiations for an armistice between Italy and the allies began in Vatican City last night. The Bern correspondent of Svenska Dagbladet was the source of the report. There was no confirmation whatever.

While negotiations were going on in the Vatican, it was said that the German ambassador to Rome, Hans Georg Viktor von Mackensen, was holding a series of talks with Marshal Badoglio. An Italian and German communique on the von Mackensen-Badoglio talks is expected shortly, the dispatch said.

Joy Greet Fascist Fall

BERN, Switzerland, July 26—(AP)—Italians poured into the streets of Italy's biggest cities last night and all day Monday with cries for peace and shouts of joy and spontaneous parades celebrating the downfall of Mussolini, who is reported held under a strong guard at his villa near Rome.

These demonstrations occurred in Rome, Naples, Milan, Bologna, Turin, Genoa, Como, and other cities. Many of these points had suffered heavily through allied air attacks.

Stunned German propagandists offered their Berlin-inspired official attitude that Italy would remain in the war, but allied circles here were increasingly convinced that it was the beginning of the end for Italy.

One Italian source here said the Italian capital expected an armistice with the allies would be asked and possibly obtained by the end of the week despite Marshal Pietro Badoglio's vague assertion last night that the "war continues."

New Party Cleans House

Although the fascist party had not been officially proclaimed dead, Badoglio and his new ministers immediately set about cleaning house, taking over party headquarters and the youth organization, ousting the Italian chief of police and installing a new one.

Newspaper dispatches from Italy now are halted, and Rome radio provides the only direct information from the Italian capital. But political and diplomatic channels still are open, and this is the situation in Italy:

Three fascists were killed in Milan Sunday night, but otherwise there have been no serious disorders, although Badoglio has moved swiftly for fear there will be further bloodshed.

The military has taken over all police stations. Fascist organizations everywhere are disappearing quietly. No blackshirts venture on Italian streets. Mussolini's portraits and fascist signs are torn down.

One crowd on Milan's streets Monday morning carried red flags and shouted "Long live socialism."

Civil War Is Feared

LONDON, July 26—(AP)—Marshal Badoglio and a new cabinet rule turbulent Italy under a martial law imposed to prevent civil war between joyous liberals who want to make peace immediately with the allies and discredited fascists left leaderless by the mysterious and sudden exit of Benito Mussolini and his ministers.

Stockholm and Bern dispatches reported the broken Mussolini had been arrested while trying to flee to German sanctuary from the nation he brought to the brink of disaster after 21 years of dictatorship.

The fascist-appointed chief of the Italian police was replaced by Carmine Senise, Gen. Quirino Armellini was named commander of a "volunteer militia for national security" to aid the military in preventing any revolt.

Crowds Praise King

Crowds paraded in the blacked-out streets of Rome Sunday night, and surged through the empty halls of the Palazzo Venezia from whose balcony Mussolini had stormed and ranted through the years. They shouted long life to king, country and Badoglio.

(The Rome radio in an English-language broadcast to England also said that "enthusiastic crowds" filled the streets of Rome, Bologna, Milan, "and all the other towns of Italy" shouting.)

Flying Forts Batter Nazi Industrial Cities

LONDON, July 26—(AP)—Flying Fortresses returned in force Monday to batter the saturated ruins of Hamburg and attacked three other northwest German cities of Hanover, Wilhelmshaven and Westermunde in widespread daylight raids which cost the Germans upward of 54 planes and the allies 23 bombers and three fighters.

Lesser American and British bombers and fighter-bombers set upon German airbases in France and Belgium by daylight in a torrent of explosive fury which followed up a 2,000-ton assault on the German Ruhr industrial capital of Essen and its Krupp arsenal.

In three days, Europe's greatest port of Hamburg had shuddered under history's most violent assault. On Saturday night, the RAF dropped 2300 long tons of bombs or 2371 tons of bombs on Hamburg in the heaviest air attack the world has known. On Sunday, Fortresses gave Hamburg the heaviest daylight raid in history, and today they followed up that attack.

Assessing the crews "have made history" in the last three days, Brig-Gen. Frederick L. Anderson, head of the US air force bomber command, revealed they had flown more than 3000 miles and destroyed approximately 100 enemy fighters. During the round-the-clock raiding Anderson said the crews had been through five hours of aerial combat, penetrating deep into the heart of industrial Germany "over five of the heaviest flak areas in the world and through the fiercest of enemy fighter opposition without fighter escort."

"They have destroyed the production of a huge aluminum factory, damaged submarine facilities in Norway, brought the threat of destruction to the rubber tire output for the German army and airforce, destroyed considerable capacity of German submarine-building and assembly plants," Anderson said.

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Yanks Press Attack Along Sicily Coast; Reds Gain Six Miles Against Orel Salient

70 More Villages Taken

Foe's Supply Line In Deadly Peril

LONDON, Tuesday, July 27

(AP)—Red armies personally directed by Marshal Joseph Stalin captured 70 villages, gained six miles and killed 5000 enemy troops Monday in their steady semi-encirclement of the big German base at Orel where thousands of axis troops risk entrapment, it was announced early today in Moscow.

With Russian troops attacking Orel within eight miles of the city's northeastern gates, a special communique said that other units had swept across the Oka river directly above the base in a wide wheeling movement threatening to cut the last supply line into Orel. (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

Rome Radio Says Fight Saves Future

NEW YORK, July 26—(AP)—Elaborating on Marshal Pietro Badoglio's assertion that "the war continues," the Rome radio said Monday night in a proclamation broadcast to wounded Italian soldiers that Italians "are fighting exclusively to defend their own respect and save their own future."

Issued as Italy's future role in the war remained obscure, the proclamation, recorded here by CBS, said that "war continues because no condition of inferiority can force resignation upon a people who have a right to justify their own errors."

The import of the proclamation seemed to be that Italy, rallying around Badoglio and King Vittorio Emanuele, was ready to salvage what it can from its present position and perhaps sue for peace.

Russian Relief Passes Million

NEW YORK, July 26—(AP)—More than a million dollars worth of relief supplies a month have been shipped to Russia from the United States during the first six months of this war, officers of Russian War Relief, Inc., announced Monday.

During the six months period in which a total of \$6,249,541 worth of shipments were made, Americans contributed \$5,628,997 in money and gifts for Russian Relief, the officers reported.

War 'Problem' at Adair Like Real Thing



Churchill to Name Terms

Commons Will Hear Aims for Italy

LONDON, Tuesday, July 27—(AP)—The London Daily Mail reported today that Prime Minister Churchill would tell the house of commons "and the world" without delay the terms on which the United Nations are prepared to meet any request Italy may make for an armistice.

The newspaper said these terms probably would include "the unconditional surrender of all the armed forces of Italy, free use of Italian territory by allied forces for pursuing the war against Germany, dismissal of all fascist ministers and disbandment of all fascist organizations."

"It is not the intention of the British and United States governments," the Daily Mail said, "to allow Italy to offer honorable capitulation—which means the same thing as unconditional surrender but sounds nicer—and then withdraw into a state of neutrality. Both governments are determined to insist on the severest terms before granting an armistice."

Vinson Orders Living Cost Probe

WASHINGTON, July 26—(AP)—Economic Director Fred M. Vinson Monday night designated three federal court jurists to make a study of the labor and living cost situation of workers on transit systems of the Pacific coast area, with special attention to the Los Angeles district where wage disputes have occurred.

Italian Rabble Retreats

7th Army Aims for Messina Bridgehead

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, July 26 (AP)—American infantry and tanks swept along the north coast of Sicily Monday in close pursuit of the Italian military rabble falling back with hardly a fight toward the Messina bridgehead.

Marshal Pietro Badoglio's resumption of command of Italian forces under King Vittorio Emanuele caused no pause in the flight of remnants of his Sicilian garrison toward the two-mile-wide strait separating the island from the mainland.

US Seventh army units have captured Termini, 20 miles east of Palermo, it was officially announced, but are already far east of that north coastal port in their dash toward Messina, and have taken 7000 more prisoners, including six Italian generals and one admiral, in their mopping up of western Sicily.

Nazi Field Marshal Gen. Albert Kesselring threw a resurrected 29th motorized division into the hopeless struggles in eastern Sicily, apparently hoping that it and two and a half other German divisions already engaged would be able to delay the allies long enough to establish a new defense line for besieged Europe.

Whether this new line would be in southern Italy despite Mussolini's collapse or be somewhere north in the Po valley, Hitler's headquarters itself may not yet have decided.

The new American advances on the northern flank promised (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

US Traitors Face Death

Treason Trial Hails Seven Citizens

WASHINGTON, July 26—(AP)—Eight Americans accused of turning their backs on their homeland and joining forces with axis radio propagandists in attacks on the American war effort were indicted Monday for treason—a charge that may carry the death penalty.

Attorney General Biddle, describing the District of Columbia grand jury's action as a warning that the US "will not tolerate traitors at home or abroad," promised that they will be brought to trial as soon as they are apprehended.

Seven are alleged to have sounded off regularly on the ether waves from Germany while the eighth—Ezra Pound, 57-year old modernist poet who won some attention in international literary circles—has broadcast from Rome.

The indictments, rounding out more than a year's investigation by the justice department, accuse all of "giving aid and comfort" to the enemy through propaganda broadcasts aimed at persuading US citizens to "decline to support the United States in the conduct of the war."

"It should be clearly understood that these indictments are based not only on the content of the propaganda statements—the lies and falsifications which were uttered—but also on the simple fact that these people have freely elected, at a time when their country is at war to devote their services to the cause of the enemies of the United States," Biddle said. "They have betrayed the first and most sacred obligation of American citizenship."

In addition to Pound, who has spent most of the last 30 years abroad, the defendants were identified as:

Dimout

Tues. sunset 8:47

Wed. sunrise 5:49

(Weather on Page 5)

IT SEEMS HOPEFUL

By Charles A. Sprague

It is just about a year ago that I went over one Sunday to attend the barbecue at Carl DeArmond's place in Polk county. Carl was one of the farmers whose lands were taken over for the cantonment, and he gave this barbecue as a farewell to his friends and neighbors, after living on the farm for several decades and developing it into one of the finest places in the valley. There was a general feeling of regret that this fine farm and others like it were to be taken out of production.

Last Sunday I rode past Carl's former place, saw the weeds growing in its once well-kept fields, and the fine residence empty and boarded up. I rode in an army command car, with other newsmen to a knoll about two miles beyond to witness troops of General Cook's division do a problem: capture of a fortified position, which was the ridge at the head of a junction of two valleys.

At zero hour artillery began to speak, the 105 mm howitzers, 37mm anti-tank guns, and the rattle of machine gun fire. Smoke of explosives on the ridge under attack and the red parabola of tracer bullets made the action more realistic. Then from the carefully camouflaged foxholes in the larger valley footsoldiers emerged, a small group at a time, ran forward, dropped to the ground, got up and ran forward again. Behind them at intervals other squads moved up in support. They passed through barbed wire entanglements of the enemy which had been blasted by explosives, and through log-constructed barricades ripped open by tank destroyers, up to the enemy strong points, which they seized with bayonet work in the foxholes, tossing grenades into the enclosures and using flame-throwers. One after another the strong points were "taken"; then the two battalions of the attacking infantry and two battalions of artillery were grouped on the side of the knoll for the critique by Maj. Gen. Gilbert R. Cook, division commander (cont. on editorial page).

Kiska Takes Air Blasting

Ten Flights Pound Enemy Landing Strip

WASHINGTON, July 26—(AP)—The greatest series of bombing raids aimed in any one day at Kiska, where the Japanese garrison estimated at 10,000 men seems marked for destruction, was reported by the navy Monday.

Roaring over the bleak, rocky island in the North Pacific Aleutians, ten flights of planes blasted principal Japanese positions on Saturday, tearing holes in the laboriously built air field runway and causing much other damage.

Bombs also found their marks in enemy gun emplacements, presumably knocking out more of the steadily decreasing supply of heavy weapons carefully guarded by the Japanese as a defense against invasion.

Army Wildcat fighters, used with increasing frequency as light bombers, carried out the ten Saturday raids. They dropped their bomb loads and swept back over (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Munda Attack Renewed With 500-Yard Gain

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Tuesday, July 27—(AP)—Driving ahead under the support of a heavy bombardment from sea and air, American troops pushed their front line 500 yards closer to the core of Japanese defenses at the strategic Munda airfield Monday.

It was the first general ground advance reported since the beginning of the battle for New Georgia island in the central Solomons. Official reports failed to give any details of what apparently is the start of the long-heralded drive which should bring American troops to grips with the enemy in and along the firmly-established and stubbornly-held perimeter defenses of Munda.

Following a softening-up campaign that probably was achieved by American planes which rained an unslated number of high explosives on enemy positions last week, an unslated number and type of allied warships Sunday afternoon delivered what a spokesman for General Douglas MacArthur described as a "heavy bombardment" against Munda's defenses. Formidable units of United

States navy Dauntless and Avenger bombers covered by Wildcats and Corsairs, joined in the bombardment process Sunday evening, and followed up Monday morning by further Avenger and Dauntless waves which braved intense ground fire to dump 82 tons of bombs on pin-pointed gun positions and personnel targets around the big airbase.

While American naval and air units concentrated on opening gaps in the Munda perimeter for advancing infantrymen, Liberators of the army's 13th airforce, escorted by a strong formation of fighters, attacked the airbase around Buin-Faisi where American airmen reported a concentration of enemy planes.

After fighters had swept the Kahi airfield with cannon and machinegun fire, liberators bombed the dispersal and bivouac areas from a high altitude. Coming on the scene after the attack, 30 zeeros made an unsuccessful attempt to break up departing American formations. We lost one fighter in this engagement.