

Roosevelt Writes Prayer For Victory

(Continued from Page One)

make on the arrival of D-Day because "this is not a civilian undertaking. It is a military operation. It is a great task, and it is a great responsibility. I am sure that you will do it to the best of your ability, and that you will bring us the victory we so justly deserve."

He said the President received steady invasion reports—complete and in detail—from 11:30 P. M. on into the actual hour of the assault.

THE PRAYER

This is the President's invasion prayer:
"My fellow Americans: In this solemn hour, I ask you to join me in prayer:
Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity. Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, steadfastness to their hearts, steadfastness to their faith.
They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. The enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

51 Americans On Gripsholm

NEW YORK, N. Y., June 6.—Fifty-one United States soldiers, who were prisoners of war in Germany, came home today on the Swedish liner Gripsholm.

The ship, which left here May 2 with 700 German prisoners and civilians and carried out an exchange of prisoners between American, British and Canadian captives, is due to return to New York in about two weeks. More than 600 British left the ship at Belfast, Northern Ireland. Among the 331 passengers making the Atlantic crossing were 29 Canadian soldiers, who will be directly to Canada, and 43 officers, including eight United States citizens. The other civilians are citizens of South and Central American countries.

The U. S. soldiers will be taken to Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island. Interviews with them will be permitted later, the Army said. Aboard the ship is Larry Allen, Associated Press correspondent, who was a prisoner of the Italians and Germans for 20 months. He was captured Sept. 13, 1942 when the British destroyer in which he was assigned was sunk during a Commando raid on Taranto in North Africa.

Sink Jap Destroyer

By ROBERT EUNSON

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, June 6.—The sinking of a Japanese destroyer by Liberators ranging toward the Philippines from advanced bases was reported by Allied headquarters today, along with the probable sinking of another destroyer off Dutch New Guinea and a 19 to 1 margin of victory over the enemy's air force.

The reports also told of a successful flanking of Japanese air defenses in the bitter battle for Blak in the Schouten Islands and co-ordinated attacks on Truk by Southwest and Central Pacific commands during which a supply convoy was heavily hit. The bag of 19 enemy planes was added to more than 30 listed in yesterday's communique of Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

VESELS HIT

The destroyers were the first reported caught under the bombsights of Southwest Pacific planes since March 21.

One destroyer was sunk and two other ships were damaged Saturday night off Halmahera Islands at a point 300 miles from the coast. A Japanese submarine bomber was downed, and a Japanese destroyer was sunk. The Japanese kept pouring more planes over the Blak invasion zone. Headquarters said today that Thunderbolt bombers probably a fifth out of 42 enemy fighters encountered Sunday.

Another enemy fighter was bagged over Noemfoor.

Youngsters In High Glee

Charlotte youngsters swung and squealed as new merry-go-rounds were set up on the grounds of the new playground program which got underway yesterday at play centers throughout the city.

Active merry-go-rounds were among the many pieces of equipment purchased with the \$5,000 donated for that purpose last year by the Charlotte Y.M.C.A. Club. These as well as other pieces of apparatus have been placed where they are most needed, according to Miss Mary Blackman Mills, recreation director of the Park and Recreation Commission.

Miss Mills said the new program got off to a flying start yesterday afternoon. Interest was high and the attendance large.

"I'm Excited" Says Wife Of Gen. Eisenhower

(Continued from Page One)

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Post, in a copyrighted story, said today that Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower, wife of the supreme commander of the Allied Forces, greeted news of the invasion early this morning with "Why, that's wonderful! I'm so excited."

A Post reporter telephoned Mrs. Eisenhower at the Thayer Hotel at West Point, where she is to attend the graduation today of her son, John, from the military academy.

Retailers Pick New Officers

RALEIGH (AP)—Election of officers of the North Carolina Merchants Association and the Associated Credit Bureau of North Carolina topped business before the organizations today at their concurrent conventions here.

Also on the program were addresses by merchandising specialists. The Credit Women's Breakfast Club elected Mrs. Juanita Reid Home of Winston-Salem president yesterday. Misses Vivian Galey of Charlotte and Vivian Walker of Kannapolis vice-presidents; Miss Ivoyné Whitman of Concord, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian Powell of Redville, treasurer.

WEATHER

WEATHER BUREAU OFFICE		Charlotte, N. C.			
June 6, 1944					
City	Office	Temperature	Altitude		
8:00	62	7:30	.....	67
9:00	72	8:30	.....	61
10:00	75	9:30	.....	64
11:00	73	10:30	.....	76
12:00	70	11:30	.....	73
1:00	63	12:30	.....	80
2:00	64	1:30	.....	82
3:00	65	2:30	.....	83
4:00	66	3:30	.....	84

High temperature, 84; Lowest this morning, 62; average yesterday, 74; Excess for month, 24; Excess for year, 266.

Total for 24 hours ending at 1:00 A. M. of today: Total precipitation for year, 7.30; Normal for month, 4.22.

Files in progress at Carolina Beach High: 9:00 A. M., 9:23 P. M., 10:05 A. M., 3:00 P. M.

Paratroopers Land Behind Nazi Lines

By HOWARD COWAN

WITH UNITED STATES PARACHUTE TROOPS (AP)—American paratroopers—studded with battle-hardened veterans of the Sicilian and Italian campaigns—landed behind Hitler's Atlantic Wall today to plant the first blow of the long-awaited western front squarely in the enemy's flank.

The Allies' toughest, wisest men of war cascaded from faintly moonlit skies in an awesome operation. Twin-engine C-47s—sisters of America's standard airline flagships—bore the human cargo across the skies, simultaneously towing troop-laden CGA gliders—to merge in a single sledgehammer blow paving the way for frontal assault forces.

Armed with weapons from the most primitive to the most modern, the paratroopers' mission was to disrupt and demoralize the Germans' communications behind the Nazi's own lines.

Cherry Heard By Auto Dealers

ASHEVILLE (AP)—The North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association closed its 10th annual convention here today with election of officers.

Among speakers at the annual banquet last night was R. Gregg Cherry of Gastonia, Democratic nominee for Governor.

Nazi Boats In Action

SUPREMACY HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (AP)—German destroyers and U-boats are rushing into the coastal area off the northern coast of France and "no doubt are being dealt with by the Allies," it was said here just before 1 P. M. (7 A. A. E.W.D.).

An Allied military communique announced that H-hour for the invasion today ranged from 8 to 9 A. M. (midnight Monday to 2 A. M. Tuesday, E.W.D.).

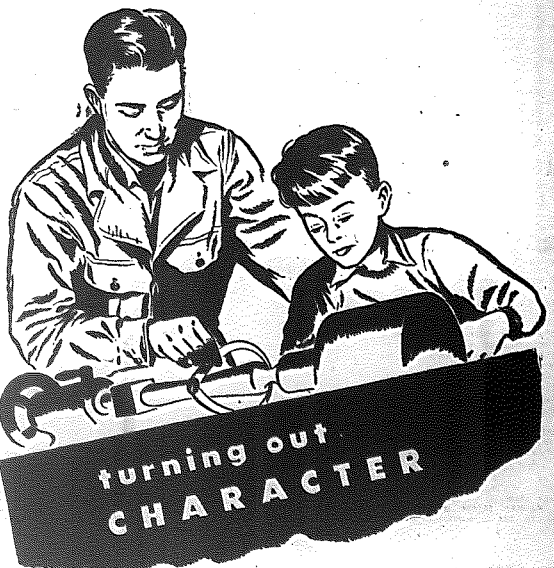
German broadcast said a furious battle between Nazi E-boats and Allied warships was raging off Le Havre.

Births

MERCY—Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence A. Spittle, 305 Marble St., boy, June 4.

FRESHYRIAN—Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Clark, 1921 Parsons St., girl, June 6.

WINTER—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Zimmerman, 1904 Winter St., boy, June 4.



Boys just naturally like to build things, collect bugs or stamps, and monkey around with gadgets of every sort. It's good for them, too, because it keeps them out of mischief and provides a practical education they might not otherwise get.

The "Y" encourages the bug-gathering and gadget-building of youngsters, but is not content to let it go at that. With leaders who shape boys with the same skill that they turn a block of wood on a lathe, the Association builds character while the youngsters build bird houses or model airplanes. Lessons learned in the handicraft class stay with boys all through their lives. A stubborn piece of metal, plus a clever instructor, can teach a boy a good deal about patience and determination.

The "Y" has learned about boys and what they like through a century of service to youth. That is why the Y.M.C.A., which observes its 100th Anniversary this year, is a potent force in building good citizens—in your community and all over the land.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS TO SPEED A NEW WORLD FOR YOUTH

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- MATTRESS • COIL STEEL SPRING
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INCLUDED

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HONOR "D" DAY JUNE 6th BUY MORE BONDS!