

Duce, Fascist Leaders Arrested; Italians Celebrate Fall MUSSOLINI AND CABINET QUIT; BADOGLIO IS NAMED SUCCESSOR

U. S. Hammers Axis in Record Daylight Raids

Mightiest of British Bombing Assaults Smashes Hamburg

LONDON, Monday, July 26.—(AP)—American bombers battered four places in Germany and struck a target in Belgium by daylight Sunday in the mightiest single day's onslaught of the war, following up a record-breaking R. A. F. 2,300-ton raid on Hamburg Saturday night.

Nineteen American bombers—all heavies—were lost as the United States airmen made their deepest penetration into Germany, attacking aircraft factories at Warnemunde, near the Baltic seaport of Rostock, Hamburg, the seaplane base at Wustrow, and the shipyards at Kiel.

(Raid map on Page 3.)

In occupied Holland Sunday afternoon also, scoring bomb hits "right across the target," the air ministry news service reported.

Smoke Covers City Escorting Spitfires had cleared a path through enemy fighters, and there was no opposition except for anti-aircraft fire.

R. A. F. Typhoon bombers also blasted air fields at Woensdrecht in Holland and Courtrai in Belgium while United States twin-engined mediums were cracking their targets near Ghent. Three enemy aircraft were destroyed in this raid.

Hamburg, Germany's greatest port, was covered by huge clouds of smoke after the mass assault there.

A United States communiqué said the coke oven on the Ghent-Terneuzen canal near Zelzate, Belgium, was the target of the day medium bomber raid and that all the planes returned safely. This was the second operation of the United States air support command.

Damage Is Great "Preliminary reports indicate great damage was done," said an air ministry communiqué in signaling the resumption with clearing weather of the allies' round-the-clock onslaught on Germany's industrial heart.

The record pounding of Hamburg's base of docks and shipbuilding yards followed Saturday's spectacular daylight raid by American Flying Fortresses against the enemy's far northern naval base at Trondheim and his new war factories at Heroya, Norway, the latter within 100 miles of Oslo.

Saturday night, while Hamburg was trembling to the shock of hundreds of one and two-ton block-buster bombs, R. A. F. Lancaster bombers from north Africa circled over the Italian port of Leghorn on the northwest coast of Italy to blast its installations before continuing on across the Alps to their home bases in England.

The overall picture was one of co-ordinated allied bombing at its best, the type of relentless day and night attack that slowly is sapping the life blood of the axis.

Twelve British bombers were lost in the smash at Hamburg. Other British bombers attacked un-

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Shortly after 2 p. m. Sunday, the axis-busting Flying Fortress, the "Memphis Belle," taxied to a landing here at Tinker field. On hand to greet the pilot, Major Robert K. Morgan, left, were Brig. Gen. Arthur W. Vanaman, commandant of the Oklahoma City air service command, and in the background Capt. Dick Martin, public relations officer.

115,000 Pour Through Gates To Inspect Huge City Air Depot

They came with a curious gleam in their eyes, and they left amazed by what they had seen.

To most of them, it was like a taste of the forbidden fruit. They had seen, watched in action the apparatus and men that are the country's air fighting might.

First of the tremendous, record-swamping crowd, guests for the Sunday afternoon "open house" at the Oklahoma City air depot, began pouring into the heretofore restricted grounds shortly after noon.

By 5 p. m. the total count of visitors had exceeded 115,000, one of the largest congregations of people ever gathered in the state.

Traffic jammed driveways and blocked highways for hours at a time. The state highway patrol reported two lanes of cars more than three miles long, were piled up for two hours along Southeast Twenty-ninth street between the city limits and the air depot.

First Public Inspection It was the first time that the huge \$30,000,000 air service command installation had opened its gates for public inspection. The attraction drew people from all sections of the state.

Despite the enormous size of the crowd, its ranks appeared thinned once the throng was turned loose on the expansive area which forms the post. Accidents during the day were of a minor nature.

Five persons, overcome by the heat, were rushed in army ambulances to hospitals, where all of them quickly recovered. At least a dozen automobiles were damaged, most of them resulting only in bent fenders and scarred paint. One traffic injury was reported.

Like A World Fair The big show of airpower lasted from 1 p. m. until 5:30 p. m., which was little enough time for the men, women, family groups and youngsters to see the "whole works," so vast is the air post outlay.

It's just like a world fair," remarked one man. Probably the focal-point of interest during the day was when, shortly before 2 p. m., the battle-battered Flying Fortress, the "Memphis Belle," soared in over the field. The ponderous craft circled several times over the field, dipped low over a vacant area, then drew up for a flawless landing.

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Three Fliers Killed In California Crash BLYTHE, Calif., July 25.—(AP)—Army officials announced Sunday that three men were killed when a B-24 Liberator bomber crashed and burned a quarter of a mile south of the army air base here Saturday night.

Two men stationed at the base were praised by their commanding officers for heroic rescue work.

Happy Italian Lives To See Country Free DENVER, July 25.—(AP)—Sixty-six-year-old Alfonso Mazza sat grinning broadly at a table in a cafe Sunday.

"Sixty-three years ago a plague swept Calabria, where I was born, and they thought I was dying, but the priest said I would live to see a great day when I was an old man. Today is that day. Italy is free."

Ouster Termed Step to Peace By Rome Radio

Nazis Fire on Mob; Mussolini and Aids Reported in Danger

(Copyright, 1943, by New York Times)

BERN, Switzerland, July 25.—In a proclamation which was broadcast to the people of Italy from Rome at 11 o'clock Rome time Sunday night, King Victor Emanuele announced to the Italian nation that he had accepted the "resignations" of Premier Mussolini and his entire cabinet. He appointed Marshal Pietro Badoglio to form a transitory military government "to continue the conduct of the war."

Rome radio then signed off for 20 minutes, resuming its broadcast at 11:20 to carry the marshal's proclamation to the nation. Before giving this, however, the announcer said:

"With the fall of Mussolini and his band, Italy has taken the first step toward peace. Finished is the shame of Fascism! Viva la pace! Viva la re!"

Following this first information to the people demonstrations broke out in many parts of the country as the populations went into the streets to celebrate "the end of Fascism." A Milan report received here by telephone just before telephone communications were cut at 11 o'clock told of bloodshed there when German anti-aircraft units had apparently fired on the mob.

Mussolini, his entire cabinet and "many Fascist leaders" were rounded up in Rome following the government crisis earlier in the evening. They were taken to a point "outside of Rome" where they are being held under military arrest. Their lives were "feared to be in danger," according to a telephone report from the capital just prior to the breaking off of telephone communications.

With half of the Italian population (Continued on Page 2, Column 8)

10 City Theaters To Ban Children

Ten Oklahoma City motion picture theaters Sunday closed their doors to children as a safeguard against the spread of infantile paralysis.

The attendance ban, which will continue until the "danger time" for polio infection has passed, applies to all 12 years of age or under.

The action was taken by officials of the Standard Theater Corp., which lists 10 major downtown and residential area movie houses among its membership, after consultation with Dr. Grady F. Mathews, state health commissioner.

"The kids are taking it better than some of the parents," said Jack Swiger, public relations director for the theaters' group. "Some parents didn't like it at all when they weren't allowed to take their children inside the theaters with them. As a whole, however, their co-operation has been good."

Keeping children away from crowded places, such as theaters, was one of the first warnings given parents when the polio wave broke out.

The admission ban was imposed at the Criterion, Midwest, Liberty, Warner, Tower, Plaza, Ritz, Capitol, Victoria and Folly theaters.

Bulgaria Sought Peace First in World War I

(By The Associated Press) If Italy drops out of the war, it will be the first break in the axis front after three years and 10 months of war—three years and two months for Italy.

The crack-up of the central powers in the last war came when Bulgaria sued for peace after the war had gone on for four years and three months. Turkey and Austria capitulated a month later. On November 11, 1918—just 43 days after Bulgaria quit—Germany signed the armistice.



Benito Mussolini Out of a job after 21 years of empire-building



Marshal Badoglio Out of retirement



King Victor Emanuele Out of eclipse

Allies Sweep East of Palermo; Campaign Enters Final Stage

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, North Africa, July 25.—(AP)—The campaign in Sicily reached its last and decisive stage Sunday as Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters announced the occupation of Trapani, last of the three major ports in the western part of the island, by the American Seventh army.

While the American forces under Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton jr., rushed through the dust and heat to finish the mopping up of western Sicily, raising to more than 50,000 the total prisoners in their hands, there were indications that the enemy was establishing a strong stabilized line across the northeastern tip where he would make his last big stand in an attempt to block the door to Italy.

The axis front now runs from the Dittaina river three miles south of Catania on the east coast, due west

(Sicily map on Page 2.)

through Catenanuova, which is 12 miles west and slightly north of Catania. From there it turns to Regalbuto, four miles to the northwest, and bends sharply northward to the sea.

(This would indicate that the allies may be in possession of the north coast as far east as Acquadola, approximately 55 miles west of Messina street and 65 miles east of Palermo—or at least that the axis may not be

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King Commands Army; Possible Peace Bid Seen

LONDON, Monday, July 26.—(AP)—Benito Mussolini's 21 years of Italian dictatorship and international bullying ended sensationally Sunday night when King Vittorio Emanuele deposed him and installed Marshal Pietro Badoglio as head of a military government "to stand against those who have wounded the sacred soil of Italy."

A royal proclamation announced Vittorio Emanuele had assumed supreme command of all Italian forces. It was preceded by an announcement that the king had accepted the "resignation" of the man whom Prime Minister Churchill termed Adolf Hitler's "tattered lackey."

Crushing axis defeats in Sicily and swiftly rising allied threats to the Italian mainland supported the belief that Mussolini actually was dismissed by the king.

The 71-year-old Badoglio, called out of retirement to become the new premier, said:

"The war continues."

Mighty allied war fleets roaring over Italy, increasing defections in the Fascist party ranks, rumored disagreements between Mussolini and Hitler, and reports of violence and sweeping arrests preceded the announcement.

World-wide repercussions, especially among the German and Japanese allies, were expected.

Badoglio Given Full Powers A Reuters dispatch from Stockholm Sunday, quoting the Swedish newspaper Svenska Dagbladet, said the Rome radio had announced that German Field Marshal Gen. Albert Kesselring, German commander in Italy, and German ambassador Von Mackenson were negotiating with Marshal Badoglio in Rome.

Badoglio signed a proclamation saying the king, who assumed supreme command of all Italian armies, had given him "full powers" to act at a time when overwhelming allied armies were sweeping across Sicily toward the Italian mainland.

Duce's fall, with the shadow of defeat and disaster hanging over his country, was widely regarded here as a crack in the solid front of the axis.

A British authority said: "It's terrific news, but Italy still is in the war and it must be emphasized that the conditions remain the same—Italy can get out of the war only by unconditional surrender."

Mussolini's resignation—probably forced upon him—after more than a score of years of iron-handed rule, probably means the death of the Fascist party he headed.

Significantly, the Rome radio which broadcast the proclamations by the king and Badoglio did not sign off with the usual Fascist party anthem, "Giovinezza." It played only the royalist hymn.

Nazis Might Send Armed Forces

This sensational turn in Italy's fortunes was a shattering blow to the axis partners, Germany and Japan. There was speculation that Adolf Hitler might march German troops into war-weary Italy where Badoglio warned all Italians that any attempt to interfere with his orders would be crushed.

Rome's announcement began:

"The king-emperor has accepted the resignation as head of the government, prime minister, and secretary of state, submitted by his excellency, Cavaliere Benito Mussolini, and has appointed as head of the government, prime minister, and secretary of state, his excellency, Cavaliere Pietro Badoglio, marshal of Italy."

The announcement was made in German, Spanish and French at various intervals for hours Sunday night by the Rome radio.

The majority view in London is that Italy won't be in the war much longer.

Badoglio, a close friend of the king, came out of retirement to take over the government. Mussolini had dismissed him as chief of staff Dec. 6, 1940, and during 11 Duce's long term the old soldier had been known as a Fascist by compulsion and a royalist by choice.

He told Italians Sunday night to rally around the king and his proclamation added: "The war continues. Italy, grievously stricken in her invaded provinces and in her ruined towns, maintains her faith in her given word, jealous of her ancient traditions."

It was noted here that Badoglio's phrase "the war continues" was open to more than one interpretation. He did not necessarily say how long he or the king intends the war to continue.

Possible Capitulation Seen

The king's proclamation said Italy, "By the valor of its armed forces and the determination of all its citizens, will find again a way of recovery."

The ambiguity of this sentence suggested the possibility of an Italian capitulation after a period of what might be no more than token resistance—depending on how the Germans react meanwhile.

It now is thought that Duce told Hitler last Monday when they met in northern Italy on the day Rome was attacked that he was quitting. A German radio broadcast earlier Sunday said Mussolini had met the Japanese ambassador Sunday morning, apparently to tell him the same thing.

The sensational shift in Italian leadership may be the prelude

War in Brief

Italy Premier Benito Mussolini and his cabinet resigned under pressure of defeat and King Vittorio Emanuele took command of Italy's shattered armies and named Marshal Pietro Badoglio as the nation's premier. (This page.)

Sicily Allies had completed the conquest of western Sicily and American forces rushed eastward along the north coast to corner axis forces. (This page.)

Air War More than 700 British bombers struck the heaviest bombing blow on record at Hamburg, Germany, Saturday and American heavyweights followed up Sunday with the heaviest daylight assault on targets in western Europe. (This page.)

Russia Soviet forces continued the advance on Orel, Nazi bastion, and encirclement of the strategic city appeared but a matter of time. (Page 3.)

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