

**General Drum Bans Flying in East Area**

Includes Civilian, Military Training Flights In Defense Section  
**FIRING PROHIBITED**  
New Restrictions Extend From Maine To The North Carolina Capes

**GASTON LAUNCHING SCHEDULED TODAY**

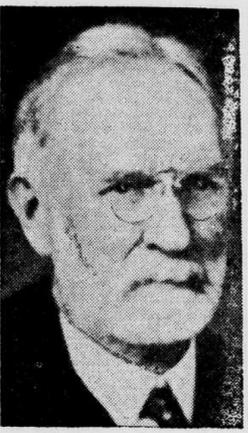
Will Be 21st Freighter To Slide Down Ways Of N.C. Shipbuilding Co.

The S.S. William Gaston, twenty-first Liberty freighter to be launched at the yards of the North Carolina Shipbuilding company here, will be christened with appropriate ceremony at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon.

**WEATHER**

FORECAST:  
NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA—Continued hot Sunday.  
Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday:  
(EASTERN STANDARD TIME)  
Temperature:  
7:30 a. m. 79; 7:30 a. m. 80; 1:30 p. m. 86; 7:30 p. m. 87; maximum 98; minimum 79.  
Humidity:  
7:30 a. m. 67; 1:30 p. m. 77; 7:30 p. m. 65.  
Precipitation:  
Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. 0.09 inches, total since the first of the month, 2.44 inches.  
TIDES FOR TODAY:  
From Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey:  
Wilmington High 1:30a. 8:44a.  
Low 7:20p. 5:31a.  
Hatteras Inlet High 1:48p. 5:56p.  
Sunrise 5:14a. sunset 7:22p. moonrise 11:22p.  
Cape Fear river stage at Fayetteville on July 18, at 8 a. m., 9.08 feet.  
(Continued on Page Five; Col. 3)

**Dies**



**FORMER JUSTICE SUTHERLAND DIES**

Was Member Of Court's Conservative Bloc In Early Days Of New Deal  
STOCKBRIDGE, Mass., July 18.—George Sutherland, a member of the conservative bloc of the Supreme Court in the "5 to 4" decisions of earlier new deal days, died in bed during the night.  
The 80-year-old jurist, who retired in January, 1938, after President Roosevelt's unsuccessful attempt to enlarge the high court, had been in failing health for some time, but was able to be up until yesterday.  
He came to this Berkshire Hills town a month ago and with Mrs. Sutherland spent his days walking on or short motor trips. He was found dead in bed this morning by his wife. Death was caused by coronary thrombosis.  
The body will be taken to Washington. Funeral arrangements have not been completed yet, but burial is expected to be in the capital.  
The gray-bearded, British-born Sutherland was known throughout his 15 years on the Supreme court as a strict constitutionalist, who maintained that it was the duty of the court only to rule on the constitutionality of laws and not whether the legislation was wise or unwise.  
"If the provisions of the constitution be not upheld when they pinch as well as when they comfort," he once asserted, "they may as well be abandoned."  
He voted to uphold the new deal in the limited approval given the Tennessee Valley authority, but in most of the major other administration-sponsored measures he dissented.  
Born in Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire, England, Sutherland was the only Supreme Court Justice foreign-born of alien parent since 1794.  
He was brought to this country when only 18 months old by his parents.  
(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 5)

**SOLONS APPROVE FLORIDA CANAL**

Attempt May Be Made To Obtain Action On St. Lawrence Project  
WASHINGTON, July 18.—(AP)—Final congressional approval to day of the Florida barge canal and pipelines bill brought predictions from opponents that an attempt would follow to obtain legislative action on the proposed St. Lawrence river seaway and water power development.  
The house completed legislative action on a \$93,000,000 authorization bill for the barge canal, Gulf waterway improvement and construction of two or more pipelines. Its acceptance of minor Senate amendments sent the measure to President Roosevelt who had indicated his support for the project.  
(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

**Red Reverses May Prompt Second Front**

Channel Drive Is Not Expected To Be All-Out Invasion, However  
**FACE BIG PROBLEMS**  
London Watches Tide Of German Successes Against Russians

LONDON, July 18.—(AP)—The seriousness of the German advance in the Don basin may prompt the U. S. and Britain to drive across the English channel soon to open a second front, but the tremendous shipping and training problems confronting the Allies made it unlikely that such a drive would be an all-out invasion.  
Such an attack would differ appreciably from the grand war-winning operations for which American, British and Canadian armies are training, said military experts who will not be quoted by name.  
But whatever the scale of attack, the Allied armies approaching France or the low countries would confront veteran German generals, stout coastal defenses, numerous airdromes for planes which could be dispatched from the Russian front and most important of all—an army operating on short interior lines of communications.  
**Watches Nazi Successes**  
As this island grimly watched the tide of German successes in Russia, the Minister of Production, Oliver Lyttleton, declared that the German army was "committed to the grip of a second paralyzing winter which may well prove to be its last" if Hitler fails to crush the Red army in the 90 remaining fighting days.  
The Allies, pledged morally at least to opening a second diversionary front to relieve Russia lest its millions be lost forever to the Allied cause, face tremendous tasks in reopening a western continental land front.  
First, is the selection of an invasion site. Northern France is  
(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

**FOUR MORE SHIPS SUNK BY U-BOATS**

American Vessel Sent To Bottom Off Coast Of India By Jap Sub  
(By The Associated Press)  
Four more cargo vessels were destroyed in the Atlantic and Indian oceans by enemy warcraft, the Navy announced yesterday.  
A Japanese cruiser operating off India's southern coast sank a medium-sized American merchant vessel, while Axis submarines in the Atlantic sank small British cargo ship and two more medium-sized United States merchantmen.  
A total of 383 Allied and neutral merchant ships have been destroyed by enemy action in western Atlantic waters since Pearl Harbor, an unofficial Associated Press tabulation disclosed, and at least 25 United States cargo vessels have been lost in the Pacific.  
An enemy cruiser shelled, bombed and sank the American ship in the Bay of Bengal more than two months ago. Eighteen survivors recently were landed safely at an east coast port. Twenty-four others were lost in the attack which began with a bombing foray in which two Japanese planes participated. Fires which broke out following bomb hits had scarcely been brought under control by crew members when the cruiser steamed into sight and opened fire at a range of about a mile.  
Survivors dived overboard and clambered onto two rafts, later changing to a lifeboat sighted floating nearby. The next morning found them safely within sight of the Indian coast.  
Survivors of the small British merchantmen sunk in the south  
(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 3)

**MAYER EXTORTION ATTEMPT BLASTED**



Two Held On Charges Of Demanding \$250,000 From Movie Executive  
LOS ANGELES, July 18.—(AP)—A former boxer who writes lyrics and a filling station attendant who composes music were charged in federal court today with attempting to extort \$250,000 from movie maker Louis B. Mayer, the nation's highest paid executive last year.  
Their arrest was disclosed only a few hours earlier by Director J. Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington.  
The prisoners are Meyer Philip Grace, 39, who fought as young Jack Dempsey, and Channing Drexel Lipton, 25, filling station employe. Both confessed having demanded \$250,000 under threat of death in a letter mailed at suburban Beverly Hills on June 25 and to having picked up a dummy package July 13, said J. W. Vincent, assistant special agent in charge of the FBI here.  
Vincent said they hinted personal ill feeling toward Mayer but added merely that Lipton's father, Lew Lipton, was a title writer at M-G-M in the silent days when titles filled in for lack of conversation. Talks eliminated such work. Mayer's secretary said the executive never had heard any intimation of such an attitude by the Liptons.  
Mayer received the letter the same day it was mailed and immediately notified the FBI. As instructed, he conducted his business in his regular way, employed no special guard and took no precautions at his Hemet, Calif., ranch.  
A postcard repeated the demand a week later and gave instructions for leaving the money at a hotel desk.  
Vincent said that although the demands were signed "spokesman for six" he was positive no others were involved.  
"That was a ruse," he explained.  
Mayer, unlike many of the movie industry's biggest executives, was active in Los Angeles civic life. He has been chairman of the industry's community chest campaigns several years, is national vice chairman of the United States organizations and gives liberally of time and money to other causes. He was president of the motion picture producers association seven years.  
(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

**NEW GAINS MADE BY WRIGHTSVILLE**

Assessed Value Of Property Increases To \$1,899,401 In Year  
During the past fiscal year, the total revenues of the Town of Wrightsville Beach climbed to \$9,935 over the total for the previous fiscal year while the total assessed value of beach property increased \$209,169 during the year to amount to \$1,899,401, Mayor Dan J. Herin said yesterday in presenting a recapitulation of the financial operations for the fiscal year.  
The town's total indebtedness was decreased \$9,000 during the year by the retirement of \$5,000 in bonds and \$4,000 in notes, thereby paying off all current debts.  
Tax collections increased from \$21,855 to \$27,733 for the past fiscal year while water and sewer revenues increased from \$14,184 to \$17,547 and income from other sources from \$6,487 to \$7,781.  
The town ended the year with an increase of cash on hand to \$5,099 from \$2,840 on hand at the beginning of the year.  
Expenditures for the year, including \$14,470 applied on debt service, were \$45,505.14. The total indebtedness of the beach resort is now \$167,000.  
In commenting on the results of the year, Mayor Herin pointed out that there are only 10 delinquent tax payers of four years standing or over of a total of 425 tax payers.  
During the past year, a great many changes have taken place at the beach, the mayor said, including the fact that now a majority of the homes and cottages are occupied on a year round basis.  
Despite the fact that the beach  
(Continued on Page Fifteen; Col. 4)

**Curtain Falls On CCC In Smoky Mountains**

GATLINBURG, Tenn., July 18.—(AP)—The final curtain fell on the Civilian Conservation Corps in the Great Smoky Mountains National park today.  
Superintendent J. Ross Eakin, of the park, said the three remaining CCC camps within the park—at the Sugarlands, at Cade's Cove, and at Kephart Prong—would be closed today and that all CCC activities would cease.  
(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

**REDS DRIVE WEDGE INTO NAZI POSITIONS IN VORONEZH AREA; U.S. AIR FORCES RAID TOBRUK**

**AIR WAR BOOSTED**

British, Axis Battle For Possession Of Ridges West Of El Alamein

**U. S. PLANES ACTIVE**

Set Fire To Tanker And Score Direct Hits On A Large Motorship

By EDWARD KENNEDY.  
CAIRO, Egypt, July 18.—(AP)—Disclosure of new, hard-hitting raids on the Axis supply ports of Tobruk and Bomba by United States Army Air forces under command of Maj. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton marked the rising power of air warfare over the western desert today.  
On the ground, British Imperial and Axis land forces battled back and forth in bitter but inconclusive conflict for possession of the barren ridges west of El Alamein and about 75 miles west of Alexandria.  
General Brereton, whose assumption of command over the American air forces in the Middle East was made known only today said that in 36 days of operations the American Liberator and Flying Fortress bombers — both large super-charged four-engined types—had conducted 21 missions and lost only three planes in combat.  
**Hit Motorship**  
In the newest of these assignments they set fire to an Axis tanker and scored direct hits on a large motorship at Tobruk last night, added to the fires which the RAF already had set raging around the harbor, and reached on farther west into Libya to pound small ships in the Gulf of Bomba, where the Italians once had a seaplane base.  
"They put up a damned good show," said the British in praise of the American airmen, who are concentrating primarily on the shipping Nazi Marshal Erwin Rommel must have to maintain his threat against the valley of the Nile.  
The British noted that Rommel himself was using air power on an increased scale and was using more Italian planes than ever before. For the first time in several weeks Axis planes operated yesterday over British landing grounds in the Burg El Arab region some 40 miles west of Alexandria, behind the land battle lines.  
**Bringing in Planes**  
(Informed British sources in London said this use of Italian planes indicated that Rommel was having to bring them in from Sicily.)  
(Continued on Page Fifteen; Col. 4)

**THEY BOMBED BENITO'S FLEET**



These crew members of a U. S. Liberator bomber are shown giving the thumbs up sign after returning from the recent raid on the Italian fleet in the Mediterranean in which one 10,000 ton cruiser was sunk, and two battleships and several smaller cruisers damaged. They are (l. to r.) L. H. Whitley, Rockingham, N. C.; J. N. Petersen, Thatcher, Arizona; A. T. Patrick, Piedmont, Va., and R. J. Contrie, Chicago, Ill.  
(Central Press)

**Japanese Troops Blasted Out Of Wenchow Sector**

**OTHER SETBACKS**

Generalissimo Chiang's Troops Are Chasing Invaders Toward Juian  
By SPENCER MOOSA  
CHUNGKING, July 18.—(AP)—The Japanese have been blasted out of Wenchow after holding that southern Chekiang province seaport less than a week and additional setbacks have been inflicted upon the enemy on three other active fronts, the Chinese announced tonight.  
The official central news agency said the Japanese were retreating southward from Wenchow toward Juian, 13 miles away, and that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces were re-entering the city which thus becomes one of two of the larger seaports still in Chinese hands.  
**Threat Averted**  
A threat to the other major port, Foochow, further south in Fukien province, was averted last week when the Japanese were driven from a nearby island.  
The news agency account supplemented today's high command communique, covering operations up to last Thursday night, which said a Chinese column then had pushed back to the city's suburbs, inflicting heavy casualties upon the invader.  
Earlier in the week the high command had acknowledged the Japanese capture of Wenchow last Saturday by a force thrusting a second avenue of conquest across Chekiang. The first enemy drive was completed last month along the line of the Chekiang-Kiangsi railway, from Hangchow, Japanese-held capital in the north, into Kiangsi.  
The high command said today that Chinese units had gained the upper hand in fighting south of Juian and that other troops, following up recent successes in Kiangsi, again were in possession of Kinki, town 80 miles south of  
(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

**USE U. S. BOMBERS**

Little Change Indicated In Desperate Defense Of Vital Don Basin

**ATTACK BRIDGEHEADS**

Airmen Reported To Have Damaged Or Destroyed 80 Nazi Tanks

By EDDY GILMORE  
MOSCOW, Sunday, July 19, (AP)—Russian troops counter-attacking in the Voronezh area under the protection of American-made Douglas bombers were reported today to have driven a wedge into German positions and to have occupied a number of populated points.  
The midnight communique otherwise indicated little change in the desperate defense of the Don river basin. The Soviets at the other end of the front still were locked with the Nazis "south of Millerovo," but the exact area was not named.  
Pierce defensive battles were reported being waged by the Soviets south of Millerovo against the Germans, who were using every weapon in their arsenal from flame throwers and tanks to parachute troops.  
**ATTACKS BRIDGEHEADS**  
(A Berlin radio summary acknowledged repeated Soviet attacks on German bridgeheads across the Don south of Voronezh, but claimed all these attacks were repulsed.)  
"In the area of Voronezh our troops, overcoming the enemy's stubborn resistance on various sectors have advanced and occupied a number of populated places," the Soviet war bulletin said.  
The sinking of an 8,000-ton enemy transport in the Baltic also was announced.  
Russian airmen, presumably flying the Douglas planes as well as Russian craft, were reported to have destroyed or damaged 80 German tanks, four armored cars, 23 guns, and 310-troop and supply trucks during Friday's fighting. Three battalions of German infantry also were "dispersed and partially annihilated" by the air force, the communique said.  
**Go Into Action**  
News dispatches told of the entry into action of the twin engine light attack Douglas Boston on the Russian front. Presumably these ships entered Russia either through the Persian gulf or the Murmansk Arctic supply line, but they could have been flown in from the Middle East.  
The Russians apparently were having their gravest problems in the south where a crushing German advance was slowly rolling through ripening grain fields above the river Don to menace Rostov at the mouth of the meandering river and industrially-vital Stalingrad on the Volga to the southeast.  
The Germans claimed their troops had reached the lower Don on a broad front, but there was no confirmation of that here.  
A BBC broadcast, quoting its correspondent in Moscow, reported, however, that "later messages said that the Germans had driven a wedge in the direction of Rostov." The correspondent, Paul Winterton, added that the news was "exceedingly bad."  
**Reds Strike**  
While the Germans moved through the waist-high fields of ripening grain and the minerally rich Don basin, the stout Russian forces at the northern extremity of the 220 mile Don front struck savagely against the weakened Germans and Hungarians who have tried vainly for two weeks to capture Voronezh on the upper Don.  
The Russians officially claimed the initiative there, and dispatches said they had wrested five populated places and driven many of the foe back across the sluggish water, inflicting enormous casualties.  
There was evidence that the Nazi forces at Voronezh — comprising the Fourth Tank Corps and perhaps 250,000 men — had been weakened materially by diverting troops to the fronts further south. With control of most railways in the sector — of which Kharkov is the hub — Marshal Von Beck could shift his forces much more easily than could Marshal Timoshenko.  
**Danger Still Great**  
The danger to Voronezh still was great, although the Germans had switched there from furious offense  
(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

**OPA Takes Legal Action Against Ten Accused Of Increasing Beer Prices**

Temporary restraining orders were served on two Wilmington and eight Clinton retailers, accused of violating the maximum price ceilings set by the Office of Price Administration, by U. S. Deputy Marshal Walter Hatch yesterday afternoon in the first legal proceedings taken to enforce price ceilings in North Carolina.  
The 10 firms, alleged to have sold beer and soft drinks this month at prices higher than were charged by the respective firms in March, are ordered to desist from selling commodities higher than the legal maximum and from otherwise violating the provisions of the General Maximum Price regulation.  
Issued at the request of State OPA Attorney Norman Shepherd, the temporary restraining orders were signed by Federal Judge Isaac M. Meekins of Elizabeth City yesterday morning. The defendants are required to appear before the judge in Elizabeth City on July 30 to show cause why the orders should not become permanent.  
The restraining orders were served on the Famous Club and Grill on the Carolina beach highway, alleged to have sold soft drinks for 10 cents instead of five  
(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

**New Orleans Shipyard Contract Is Cancelled**

WASHINGTON, July 18.—(AP)—The Maritime Commission announced today that it had cancelled a contract with the Higgins Industries, Inc., of New Orleans, for a huge merchant shipbuilding plant in order to divert all available steel into the construction of ships at plants already in existence.  
During the past year, a great many changes have taken place at the beach, the mayor said, including the fact that now a majority of the homes and cottages are occupied on a year round basis.  
Despite the fact that the beach  
(Continued on Page Fifteen; Col. 4)