

ITALY SURRENDERS UNCONDITIONALLY.

This morning's broadcast brought the greatest news of the war. The first of the infamous trio has surrendered. Italy is out of the war. At 5.30 p.m. yesterday (0330 this morning) announcement was made simultaneously by General Eisenhower and Badoglio. A Military armistice has been signed involving Italy's unconditional surrender. These terms have been approved by Britain, America and Russia and have been agreed to on Italy's behalf by Badoglio who gives as his reason the fear of "further and more grievous harm to the nation."

Negotiations have been in progress since some weeks ago when diplomatic representatives first met on neutral soil then, later, in Sicily. The armistice was eventually signed last Friday Sept 3 - the day on which Allied troops crossed to the mainland. A high Italian official was retained in Sicily as part of the plan to ensure no leakage of information to the Germans and it was then agreed that the announcement should be made simultaneously by both Governments at a time agreed on by and favourable to the Allies. That time has now arrived. In addition to the official announcements Italian people have been informed by leaflet. British comment emphasizes the fact that the agreed armistice terms are purely military and will remain confidential. Economic and financial agreements to which Italy has agreed to accede will follow later. British Parliament will not meet for some days.

DESTINATION OF ITALIAN FLEET.

It is probably that announcement was delayed so that adequate measures could be taken to prevent the Italian fleet from falling into German hands. This fleet is still fairly formidable. It consists of 7 battleships, 3 aircraft carriers, 2 heavy cruisers (both damaged), 9 light cruisers and 60 submarines, in addition to 1½ million tons of merchant shipping. Of their whereabouts or fate, there is little information. Admiral Cunningham has broadcast a message to all Italian ships in Mediterranean or Black Sea waters to make for Allied or neutral ports or alternatively to scuttle their ships to prevent them from falling into German hands. Italian sailors are guaranteed congenial employment in the Allied service. All Italians are to leave Yugoslavia and Greece. Broadcasting from Cairo, Sir H. Maitland Wilson sternly warns the Italians to cease resistance in those places "You are taking my orders now".

EFFECT ON GERMANY.

Downing St. contents itself with the moderate statement that armistice indicates a further weakening in the Axis position. Berlin claims that since Mussolini's resignation on July 25, it has been prepared for the open treason that had eventuated and has taken adequate precautions. Cheering crowds in London and festivities including provision of free beer in New York followed the announcement. Ottawa Government has declared a holiday.

A SORRY FIGURE.

Broadcast comment that it is doubtful whether Italy or the Allies are more pleased at the news appears the most cogent remark on the situation. In 1915 Italy deserted her German-Austrian Allies to participate in spoils from their probable defeat. On this occasion she waited until the fall of France was inevitable before joining Hitler. She still lacks the spirit of loyalty and determination to fight even for a discredited cause. In addition, her judgment this time has proved unsound. It should not be imagined however that all resistance in Italy is at an end. Nazis are sure to fight for valuable Northern Italian bases. Passive resistance from civilian population can also be expected.

ENTIRE DON BAS REGION LIBERATED.

Moscow announces the greatest day since the beginning of the summer offensive. In a smashing blow, STALIN's key industrial city in the Ukraine has been taken along with 48 other industrial towns. Thus the entire Don Bas region, which before the war provided Russia with a third of its manufactures and munitions has been retaken. Farthest Western point of penetration is KRASNOGRAD 30 miles s.e. of STALINO. Day brought successes on Northern fronts also. Full details in tomorrow's Mulga.

## NEWS FROM HOME.

**DOUBLE FISHING TRAGEDY.** Following the finding of the body of six-year old Wynnum (Qld) boy Douglas Scott, alongside an upturned dinghy yesterday, a search made for his father who left with his son on a fishing expedition, Sunday morning, disclosed his body about 400 yards from where his son's body was found.

**MRS. ROOSEVELT IN SYDNEY.** With her arms filled with flowers, Mrs. Roosevelt stood on Town Hall steps, Sydney, yesterday, acknowledging cheers and coos from 20,000 people. More than 300 civil Police lined barricades near the Town Hall reinforced by 300 American and Australian M.P.s. Police had to stand shoulder to shoulder to prevent barricades from collapsing under pressure of the crowd. Nearly 3,000 people entered the Town Hall within 15 minutes of the doors opening. Mrs. Roosevelt in her broadcast urged peacetime economy must be planned for benefit of the people.

**AFTERMATH OF TRAM - TRUCK CRASH.** Of the 23 injured during the tram and truck crash at Manooka (Qld) Monday, 3, including driver of the truck, are on the dangerously ill list and 5 others on the seriously ill list.

**ARMY MEN FOR FLOUR MILLING.** Commonwealth Govt. would release experienced men from Army and War Industries to enable flour mills to fulfil British orders for 500,000 tons of flour, said Commerce Minister Scully. Value of Britain's order is about 7,000,000 pounds.

**MELB. HOTELKEEPERS MUST SUPPLY BEER.** Under N.S.R., hotelkeepers are compelled between midday and 6 p.m. to supply pots if they are asked for. Action has already been taken in Melb. against many publicans who had refused to observe regulation.

**MEMORIAL FOR VIC. V.C. WINNER.** A memorial in the form of reflecting pool with tumbling and drinking fountains is to be erected at Preston Town Hall in honor of Vic's first V.C. winner for this war, the late Pte. Bruce Kingsbury.

**INDUSTRY OF OLD LADY.** Mrs. J.B. Peverell (81) of Daylesford (Vic) has completed a piece of crochet work reproducing the Lord's Prayer in letters 1 inch deep. It has an appropriate border and is surmounted by angels. Work took 5 months to complete.

**WORKERS' STRIKE.** Members of the Undertakers Assistants and Cemetery Workers Union (Sydney) have struck protesting against preference being given non-unionists. They allege employers have given munition workers, clerks and private hire car drivers preference in funeral work over Union members. Undertaking has been given that there will be no delay in burying the dead. Apparently a ~~series~~ of strike but business as usual.

**GOOD GALLOP BY COLT.** Just after an offer of £2,500 had been made to buy Tribal Colt, he did a dazzling sprint at Randwick (Sydney) yesterday. Tribal Colt ran 6 furlongs in 1.17  $\frac{1}{2}$  secs on the outer edge of the course, being equal to 1.13  $\frac{3}{4}$  secs for exact distance. "Now bring out your Derby cracks" said Trainer George Corrie.

**U.S. SOLDIER TO MEET RON RICHARDS.** Described as "15 stone of colored dynamite", Cpl. Al Hooman, colored U.S. Army boxer, wants to fight Ron Richards at Sydney Stadium. Hooman knocked out Herb Narvo, Aust. heavyweight champion in the 9th round recently in Brisbane. 6 feet 5 inches in height, Hooman is 24 and has an enormous reach (82) inches, compared to Richards who has 75. Richards is agreeable to fight Hooman in a month.

**MORE AMERICAN MUNITIONS FOR AUSTRALIA.** As a result of the recent visit of Judge Patterson U.S. Under-Secy. for War, Australia's share of lend-lease supplies, already 3 times that of a year ago, is expected to increase still further.

**VIC. LABOR SHORTAGE.** Unless the imperative female labor demands of firms engaged in high priority defence contracts can be met by voluntary transfers or part-time labor, compulsory diversion of single women from important positions appears inevitable.

**AIR FORCE PROMOTIONS.** Promotions for 248 Aust. airmen were announced yesterday. 133 men have been given the probationary rank of pilot-officer. Promotions will be confirmed after 6 months satisfactory service. Men were mostly air-crew personnel.

## AROUND THE AREA.

**PICTURE SHOWS:** Capitol. A Yank in the R.A.F. and The Mad Martingales.  
**Pioneer.** Joe and the American, and Andy Hardy Steps Out.  
**Camp** - "Lucky Partners" and "Bullet Code"

MULGA MICK

HOW DOES HE DO IT???



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