

HAY FEVER?
MENTHOLATUM
 Gives Freedom Of The Air
 To NOSES Everywhere
Form of Chlorine 175 (INC. 142)

News Chronicle

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MONDAY, JULY 12, 1943

ONE PENNY

ROLLS RAZOR
INC.
 REGRET THAT DURING WAR CON-
 DITIONS THEY CANNOT UNDERTAKE
 ANY RAZOR REPAIRS AT PRESENT

SICILY: AIRFIELDS, 100 MILES OF COAST TAKEN

Advance Troops Push Into Hills: Navy Lands Thousands More: Casualties Light

**ALLIED PLANES KEEP UP ASSAULT: FEW SHIPS LOST:
 BERLIN REPORTS COUNTER-ATTACK**

ALLIED forces have captured Pachino and a neighbouring airfield in South-East Sicily, also two aerodromes near Gela. All the coastline along the 100-mile invasion front on each side of Cape Passero is in our hands.

So far the only enemy troops engaged have been Italian and they have offered the stiffest resistance round Cape Passero.

The first crisis—the securing of the beaches—is over, but the main body of the enemy, who has strong mobile reserves, has not yet been met.

British, American and Canadian troops are making good progress in their advance into the more hilly country. So far as is at present known, casualties are light.

The Allied navy is ferrying in thousands more men. It has engaged Axis armoured reinforcements moving towards Gela (10 miles east of Licata), where U.S. forces landed.

It is now known that the Americans at this point have broken through enemy trench positions.

Gela is one of the two points on the 100-mile strip of Sicilian coast round Cape Passero on which the Allies landed.

Canadian troops are reported to have gone ashore 50 miles to the west (presumably in the vicinity of Licata) and have there established an important bridgehead.

The Canadians also landed near Pachino, in the south-eastern tip of the island. They were through the beach defences in 15 minutes.

Messages flashed to Allied H.Q. last night said that in this area our troops were now threatening the important road that runs near the shore.

From Washington it was reported that Allied forces were believed to be astride the coastal railway south of Syracuse, which is the easternmost limit of the landings.

Over the battlefield Allied air forces are keeping up their assault on the enemy's airfields and communications and are strafing Axis troops moving towards the battle zone.

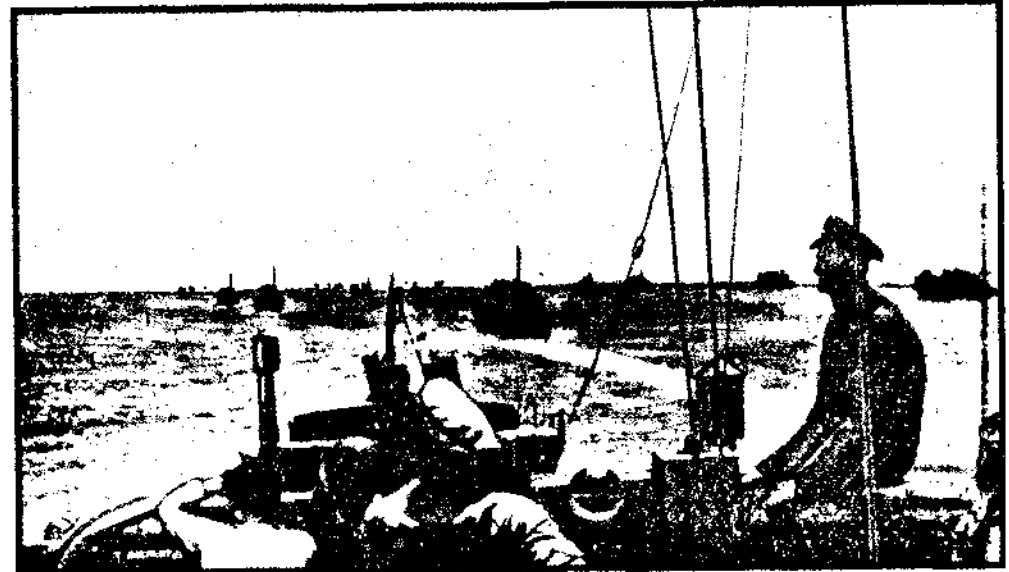
Enemy air opposition is slight, but it is not so negligible as that offered by the enemy on the sea.

Italian surface craft have not shown up. Only a very few ships have been sunk, and none of these were large units.

British and U.S. glider and parachute troops struck the first blow on Friday night when they landed at various points on the island.

Axis sources indicated that the landings were made near Ragusa, Canicatti and Aragona.

Since dawn yesterday, said Berlin, the Axis prepared reserves had begun to counter-attack. The Germans assumed that the Allied plan was "to link up on the Gela-Syracuse line."



TEN MINUTES AFTER ZERO HOUR OUR MEN SIGNALLED FROM BEACH

From **WILLIAM FORREST**,
 News Chronicle Correspondent with the Fleet
 OFF ITALY, Saturday.

"DO you hear there? Do you hear there? Action stations stand to. Dawn is just breaking."

The dawn of the great day. Our column, which had broken off from the main convoy overnight, was some 15 miles from Sicily.

But already, long before dawn, the first wave of the invasion had struck the island.

Zero hour for the touchdown on the beaches had been fixed for 2.45 a.m. From our beach the signal announcing the scramble shore went up at 2.55 a.m.

That you must admit an operation involving the movement of a very large number of craft of

Landing Craft Crowded Sea

This is one of the most remarkable pictures of the war.

Sent by radio from Algiers it shows how our landing craft on their way to Sicily crowded the waters of what Mussolini called Mare Nostrum (Our Sea).

The passage of the Mediterranean Narrows and the landing on the beaches were accomplished strictly to timetable, despite a sudden change of wind and a rising sea.

Guarding the landing craft were big and small warships of the Fleet, which also prepared the way for the storming parties by bombarding the Italian defences.

Overhead, too, there was a protecting umbrella supplied by the R.A.F. This force met no opposition from the air and little from the ground.

Another picture on Page Three

SICILY FLEET

More than 2,000 vessels were employed in the landing operations in Sicily.

Officer present at take-off of gliders for Sicily said: "It might have been picnic party. Tough-looking airborne troops chatted, laughed, smoked as they lined up before embarking for their greatest adventure."

BLACK-OUT TIMES

Location	From	To
Aberdeen	11.51	4.27
Edinburgh	11.52	4.43
Glasgow	11.51	4.46
Exeter	11.44	4.44
Sheffield	11.42	5.14
Nottingham	11.43	4.41

Notes: See 425 p.m. sets 2.44 a.m. tomorrow. Full moon, July 17.

THE WAY HOME

From **S. L. SOLON**,

News Chronicle War Correspondent With the Invasion Troops.

SICILY, Sunday.

THE beaches of Southern Sicily are ours. The troops are moving on. The casualties on the beaches have been extremely

Glider-Borne Troops Formed Spearhead Of Invasion

From **NORMAN CLARK**, News Chronicle War Correspondent

ALLIED H.Q., NORTH AFRICA, Sunday.

SICILY was invaded by airborne as well as by seaborne troops. British and American fleets of gliders and troop carriers, sweeping in from the Mediterranean, and paratroops floating down from the sky were the spearhead of the landings.

The gliders put down on Friday night at ten minutes past ten. The paratroops were dropped an hour and ten minutes later.

Information here about this phase of the operation is not complete, so indicate where necessary.