

Rowan Asked About Willkie

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electoral college in view of the May state convention resolution freeing electors from supporting the party nominees in the event certain Texas demands were not met by the national convention.

Rowan wrote back that Blalock was named by the same convention, and also wrote that "either you must be and remain the spokesman for the Democratic Party of Texas or you must represent those groups composed of the bolters, the Sidney Hillman Political Action Committee, the Earl Browder Communists and, the black-and-tan Democrats."

In his reply, Blalock referred to a recent letter he wrote T. J. Holbrook of Austin, saying that Blalock recognized the validity of the Democratic convention which named the electors but never had considered as binding the resolutions "attempting to release electors from their obligation to support the nominees of the party."

Text of Reply.

The text of Blalock's letter:

"Dear Arch: I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the ninth and am enclosing a copy of a letter which I wrote to Senator Holbrook under date of Aug. 12. I think that letter answers your questions.

"You will remember that I appeared before the convention at Austin and told them that I would accept my election as a mandate to seek harmony in the ranks of the party in Texas and to do what I could as a party official to help carry Texas for the nominees of our party for president and vice president. That is exactly what I have been doing. I tried to get harmony and could not. I discussed several different plans and proposals with leaders on both sides, but no agreement was reached. I then placed myself solidly behind the Moody delegation at Chicago and made a determined fight to seat that delegation without qualification. The convention exercised its authority and overruled our position. Since Chicago, I have been supporting the nominees of my party, as I have always done, and as I stated to the Austin convention that I would do this year.

Finest Welcome for Corporal Back From Battlefronts Was Glass of Milk

The finest touch to the homecoming of Corp. R. W. Thompson after months of fighting in North Africa and Italy was a glass of milk.

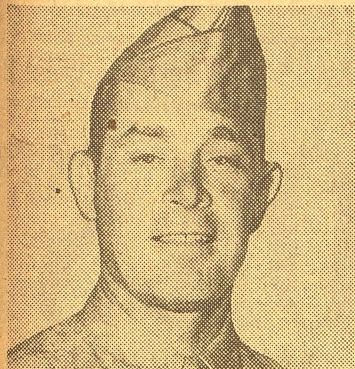
"It was," said Thompson, whose home here is at 2209 Loving, "the first milk I had seen in 27 months, and it was the best stuff I ever tasted."

Women Red Cross workers serving milk and candy bars greeted refugees, hospital cases, limited assignment personnel and soldiers sent home on rotation when their ship docked at New York, Thompson said.

The same kind of welcome met the returned soldiers at other points, but diminished noticeably as their train sped south toward Camp Beauregard, La. The last welcoming group of Red Cross workers they saw was at Chattanooga, Tenn.

"Not that the soldiers expect it," Thompson said, "but it makes you feel kind of good for somebody to meet you and create a little fuss when you come back from overseas."

Thompson was here Wednesday on his way to Fort Sam Houston after fighting for 20 months, through North Africa and to within eight miles of Rome, before he was withdrawn and placed on limited assignment because of hearing impaired by the constant roar of heavy guns. He wears the Purple Heart ribbon and three campaign stars—for the landing in Africa, the battle of Tunisia and the battle of Italy.



—Star-Telegram Photo.
THOMPSON.

As a gunner in the 91st Artillery of the 1st Armored Division in Africa, he took part in the "rat race" that occurred when German tanks overran advanced American units at Faid Pass and drove them back under cruel fire. Thompson's battery managed to get away with the loss of only one gun, after knocking out eight German tanks.

Caught in the fire of two Panzer divisions, a companion battery lost all its guns and equipment. Attached to that battery was Lt. Amon Carter Jr., the only Fort Worth man in the regiment.

At a forward observation post on a mountainside directing his battery's fire, Lieutenant Carter was captured and is now in a German prison camp.

"Lieutenant Carter had a view of the whole mess," Thompson said. "He was the first to see the Ger-

man tanks and warn of their approach."

Thompson's battery helped to turn the tables in the "rat race," driving the Germans back through Faid Pass and eventually out of Tunisia.

Hottest spot in which Thompson found himself was on the bloody Anzio beachhead, where Nazi guns from the surrounding hills could drop shells on any spot they chose.

"Worst thing was the nightly air raids by Jerry that kept us awake," he said. "You could hear the drone of planes, but you couldn't tell where the bombs were going to land."

He was on Anzio four months, and "the happiest bunch in the world was when we broke out of there and headed for Rome."

Thompson's biggest scare was on the approach to Anzio, when the troops huddled below decks with bombs dropping on all sides of their ship.

"There aren't any foxholes on a ship," he grinned.

In Italy, American troops were well supplied and had all they wanted to eat, Thompson said. It was different in Africa.

"Then," he related, "it was C rations three times a day, and water was so scarce we had to scour our mess kits with sand."

Before enlisting in March, 1941, Thompson was a salesman for Armour & Co. here for nearly 15 years. His father, W. R. Thompson, lives at Lubbock.

Uncle Sam-- Land Agent

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chase the land at the current market value.

Texas' Rep. Ed Gossett made sure the former owners were taken care of by succeeding in adoption of an amendment to the pending bill to this effect.

The amendment provides that the former owners shall be given a reasonable time in which to repurchase their original tracts, at a price not exceeding that paid them by the government, except where the value of such tract has been increased by the government.

To make sure no speculator will purchase all the surplus land, the amendment provides that the land shall be sold in family size parcels "no more than one such parcel being sold to any one family or individual and such sale being made insofar as possible to persons who expect to live upon and cultivate such land."

In disposing of the acreage, which for the nation as a whole will total 5,688,781 acres, the RFC intends in some instances to let real estate brokers try their hand at getting a good price for the properties.

"They probably know more about salesmanship than we do," one RFC official explained.

Not for Companies.

The corporation is generally opposed, however, to allowing commercial companies to handle the sale of large tracts of lands. Brokers will get their best chance in selling some of the smaller areas. RFC expects to pay private firms "going fees" for their services. It doesn't plan, however, to make exclusive listings with any brokers.

Other principles which will be insisted upon by Clayton include:

Sell as soon as possible at current values without disruption of the market.

Sell outright, reserving the right of the government to recapture only if national defense requires it.

Avoid sales to speculators and to persons planning to combine small tracts into large ones for speculation purposes.

The part of the policy providing for selling at current values has created a feud with the Department of Agriculture, which thought it should have the job of disposing of this land.

Department experts think this is

Heat On Japs Everywhere

BY RAY CRONIN.

Associated Press War Editor.

The lashing of a Japanese naval base by night-flying American bombers and a simultaneous aerial smash against a strategic Formosan harbor were officially reported Wednesday while U. S. airmen pressed their attacks close to the Nippon homeland.

For the first time since the Pacific war started, Yan's fliers

Hitler Plotter Caught

NEW YORK, Aug. 16 (AP).—The Nazi-controlled Belgian radio said Wednesday that Dr. Karl Goerdeler, Prussian industrialist and former lord mayor of Leipzig, was arrested last Saturday on a charge of having "taken part in the plot against the fuhrer."

The Federal Communications Commission recorded the transmission.

One-time Hitler's commisar for the control of prices, Goerdeler had been sought since the announcement of the bombing attempt against Hitler July 20. The Nazis offered a reward of 1,000,000 marks (\$400,000 by old exchange rates) for his arrest. In turn, Goerdeler was reported to have had notices posted offering a 10-mark reward for Hitler.

7th Army Is

Vickers Killed