NINA ANDERSON PAPE

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ABSTRACT

Nina Anderson Pape, an educator and humanitarian, influenced many lives in Savannah, Georgia and the nation. She was born on August 29, 1869, in Savannah, Georgia, and she died on March 5, 1944. Daughter of Edward Pape and Mary Stites Anderson Pape, she founded the Pape School which was dedicated to an excellent and thorough education. The Pape School became the nucleus of Savannah Country Day School in 1955. Her involvement in social reform was extensive. She gave of herself fully to help other people. She was also a prominent figure in the Girl Scouts, holding many positions during her lifetime. One of the women at Louisa Porter's home on March 12, 1912, she was part of the founding of the Girl Scouts. She was honored both during her lifetime and after her death for her work in education and social reform. She was a prominent lady both locally and nationally.
In presenting my research on Nina Anderson Pape, I have attempted to describe not only her but also the social and economic environment during her lifetime. Introducing a short description of her maternal family history and the general history of the time, may be beneficial in presenting Nina Anderson Pape, the person.

Nina Anderson Pape, only child of George Edward Pape and Mary Stites Anderson Pape, was born on August 29, 1869. Eight years before on April 12, 1861, Southern artillery shelled Fort Sumter in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina. The Civil War had begun splitting the United States, pitting North against South. Demands of total war strained the economy of the South almost to the breaking point. The depletion of Southern resources combined with rampant inflation affected every aspect of Southern life-style. On December 21, 1864, Sherman occupied Savannah, Georgia. Four years before Nina Pape's birth on April 9, 1865, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia.

The impact of the Civil War was felt by many people in the Savannah area including Nina Anderson Pape's maternal grandparents Edward C. Anderson and Sarah Williamson Anderson. Edward C. Anderson and Sarah Williamson were married February 11, 1841. Edward Anderson fought on the Confederate side returning from the war with the rank of a Colonel. His plantation, Cottonvale, was further enlarged by his marriage with Sarah Williamson. Her Plantation, Cedar Grove,
henceforth referred to as Saranac, was joined with Cottonvale. Edward C. Anderson, a slave holder and planter, raised crops such as cotton and corn both the staple of Southern economy.¹

Hard times followed the civil war for many Southerners. The aftermath found Edward C. Anderson and family living in Savannah at 87 Charlton on the corner of Abercom. ² Nina Pape's role as an educator might have been influenced by her grandfather Edward C. Anderson. Not only was he mayor of Savannah in 1867, 1874 and 1876 but also he was a member of the School Board for several years.³ His role on the School Board ranged from membership on several standing committees, dealing with school houses, finances and examination of teachers, to President of the School Board in 1880, 1881 and 1882.⁴ Edward C. Anderson died on January 6, 1883 at the age of 67 years old.⁵ He was buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery, Savannah in the family lot.⁶ Sarah Williamson Anderson died a year later on January 3, 1884 at the age of 69 years old.⁷ She was also buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery in the Anderson's family lot.⁸

Nina Pape's paternal grandparents proved to be somewhat difficult to trace.⁹ Edward Pape's birthplace was listed as Germany.¹⁰ A number of Papes originally from Germany were found in some of the records.¹¹ I was not able to determine any type of relationship between them and Edward Pape. My research, though, provided a hurdle over that obstacle in the form of the prominence of Nina Pape's maternal grandparents in her early childhood.¹² In the brief historical account family and general events, I hoped to present some factors which may have had a bearing on Nina Pape's development as a person.
Nina Anderson Pape's parents, George Edward Pape (formerly of Baltimore) and Mary Stites Anderson were married on October 1, 1860.\textsuperscript{18} Interesting to note was the existence of a marriage contract between Mary S. Anderson and Edward Pape.\textsuperscript{19} The Contract specified that all of Mary S. Anderson's estate brought to the marriage would remain a separate estate from Edward Pape's.\textsuperscript{20} On Mary Anderson Pape's death her estate would pass to her children.\textsuperscript{21} Edward Pape held several positions of which two were as an accountant and as a clerk.\textsuperscript{22} On June 24, 1868, her was given power of attorney for the firm W.A. Hardees and Son.\textsuperscript{23} In 1877 Edward Pape worked as a clerk at Central Railroad of Georgia.\textsuperscript{24} The Papes lived with Edward C. Anderson at 87 Charlton in 1870.\textsuperscript{25} The following years from 1871 to 1873, the Papes lived at 105 1/2 Jones Street.\textsuperscript{26} In October of 1876 in New Orleans, Louisiana, Edward Pape died of Yellow fever.\textsuperscript{27} Since he was not listed in any of the cemetery records for Savannah, I am presuming that Edward Pape was buried in New Orleans.\textsuperscript{28} During this time period, 1878, the Papes were listed as boarding at Edward C. Anderson's home on 87 Charlton.\textsuperscript{29} Edward Pape's death may be the reason that the Papes were boarding at Mrs. Pape's parents home. The newspaper article reporting Edward Pape's death had stated that his wife was staying at her father's home.\textsuperscript{30} With the preceding information, the location of Mrs. Pape during the years, 1879 to 1881, may be established. From 1879 to 1881, Mrs. Pape was not mentioned in the Savannah City Directory.\textsuperscript{31} I am speculating that they remained at Mrs. Pape's father's, Edward C. Anderson, home during those years. With the death of her father, nine year old Nina Pape possibly turned toward her grandfather, Edward C. Anderson.

Another Anderson male may have also filled in the gap that Edward Pape's death left. Edward C. Anderson's involvement in education may
have helped promote her own interest in the same field. I would just like to reiterate that I am speculating on the psychological aspect of Nina Pape's early childhood and the possible influence her grandfather may have had on her.

During Nina Pape's early childhood, Reconstruction dominated southern thoughts. The devastating results of war were emphasized by the depressed economy and manipulative politics found in the South. Both positive and negative aspects rose in the aftermath of the war. The emancipation of the black man provided a positive outgrowth. The woman's rights movement emerged during the nineteenth century. The Seneca Falls Convention for woman's rights in 1848 boldly listed among those rights, suffrage for women. The Fourteenth and fifteenth amendments were not amended to include women. The passage of the two amendments obstructed the woman's movement which would have to wait another sixty years for the franchise for women. Although these many battles raged bringing drastic changes to this period, Nina Pape's childhood during this time was signified by the lack of evidence of her thoughts, feelings and accomplishments. In 1860 a small newspaper article listed Nina Pape with Mamie S. Cox and Georgia Wilson holding a fair for the benefit of the Hood children. Miss Pape appeared to have formed her philanthropic attitude at a young age. The death of her grandfather in 1883 may account for the appointment of a guardian. On March 3, 1884 in the Savannah Morning News, a petition on behalf of Nina Pape (minor) for the appointment of a trustee was granted. The petition dated July 14, 1884 selected Nina Pape's Uncle Horace A. Crane as guardian. The petition stated

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the need for a guardian to handle her affairs because the death of her father had left her an orphan. The reason that her mother was not appointed guardian was not recorded. Several reasons may account for this discrepancy. One reason may be that Edward Pape may not have left a will. Another possibility was that Edward Pape had left a will. In his will, Mr. Pape may have stated that Mary Pape was not to be appointed guardian. Mrs. Pape may legally not have the right to be appointed guardian because of the many discriminatory laws against women. Horace A. Crane remained Nina Pape's guardian until she was twenty-one years old.

The petition also provided information on Nina Pape's early financial situation. A detail list of her cash estate was contained in the petition. Part of her estate, inherited from her maternal grandmother, was one share of capital stock of Central Railroad and Banking Company. In the year 1879 Edward C. Anderson was listed as Director of Central Railroad. A year earlier Edward Pape also had held a position at the railroad. A family connection to the Central Railroad may be a possible deduction from the facts. I was unable to find actual documented sources to prove this possibility. The mentioned petition suggests Miss Pape did have independent financial capital which became her legal estate on August 29, 1890, her twenty-first birthday.

Following the two years of absence from the Savannah City Directory, Mrs. Pape in 1882 was listed as living at 112 Jones st. From 1882 to 1893 the Papes were listed living on Jones Street but with a number change in the address each year. The number changes

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may be related to the regular growth of the city. New homes being built on Jones street brought about number changes in the address from year to year. The Sanborn Maps found at the Georgia Historical Society may be helpful in proving this idea. The change in house numbers that accompanied the city's growth may support the idea that the Papes remained at the same location from 1882 to 1893.

A short discussion of Nina Pape's educational background is necessary to provide the basis for the listing of her accomplishments in the education field, itself. Nina Anderson Pape at the age of sixteen, a student at Edgeworth School, received her first notable honor for scholastic achievement.\textsuperscript{44} It was a gold medal for excellence in German.\textsuperscript{45} This honor was to become the first of many achievements. Nina Pape continued her education, attending the University of Tennessee and the University of Chicago.\textsuperscript{46} She graduated from the Teacher's College at Columbia University and later studied in Germany.\textsuperscript{47} Precise dates pertaining to her education proved to be somewhat difficult to trace. She did start teaching at Massie School in 1895.\textsuperscript{48} Possibly the years 1889 to her first year at Massie School were spent acquiring her upper level education.

Nina Anderson Pape, a possible example of the modern woman who enjoyed the new advantages for women in education, accomplished many things with her education. In 1837 saw the establishment of Mt. Holyoke considered to be the first women college that offered a curriculum equal to the male curriculum in colleges. This led the way for other similar colleges to provide a range of educational facilities for women like Nina Pape. Her progressive educational background not only allowed her
to teach in the Savannah Public Schools but also led to the eventual founding of the Pape School. 49

Miss Pape spent seven years teaching in the Savannah Public School system. 50 She taught at Massie School located on Gordon and the corner of Abercorn in 1895, 1896, 1898, 1899, 1900 and 1901. 51 The Massie School known today as the Massie Heritage Interpretation Center of the Savannah-Chatham Public Schools is located in the same place. For a year between her times at Massie, the Savannah City Directory in 1897 listed her as teaching at Henry School. 52 During this phase of her education career, Nina Pape, with her mother, from 1894 to 1896 resided at 69 Abercorn. 53 For the next two years, 1897 and 1898, home for Nina Pape and her mother was listed to be at 243 Abercorn. 54 Nina Pape and her mother then moved to 20 W. Harris Street in which they lived from 1898 to 1905. 55 They may have taken residence with Mrs. Pape's brother during this time. 56

The turn of the century brought about Miss Pape's involvement in the establishment of a private school. In 1903, Miss Pape with Miss E. Alice West established Pape-West School, an association which did not last long. 57 In 1905 Nina Pape and Marion Alexander Haskell formed Haskell-Pape School. 58 The Haskell School had been a growth from the Hartridge School begun by the late Miss Emelyn Hartridge who later became associated with Miss Marion Haskell. The year 1905 brought tragedy to Nina Pape's life with death of Mary Stites Pape, Nina Pape's mother. 59 At the Clarence Barker Memorial Hospital in Biltmore, North Carolina on September 20, 1905, Nina Pape's mother died at the age of 63 years old. 60 She had been ill for some time and had gone to
North Carolina to seek relief. Nina Anderson Pape, Sallie Anderson (Mrs. Pape's sister) and Nina A. Crane (Mrs. Pape's niece) were with Mrs. Pape at the time of her death. The funeral was held at the Independent Presbyterian Church in Savannah. Mrs. Pape was buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery in the family lot. Three years later in 1908 Miss Haskell who had married gave up her association with the school. The School became known as the Pape School and continued operating under that name until it ceased to exist. During 1908, Miss Pape purchased two fifths of lot 12 on East Taylor Street. This lot was a home divided into apartments, one of which Nina Pape purchased. This remained her place of residence till her death.

The Pape School stood steadfast through many crises in U.S. History, among the major ones were the Great Depression, World War I and World War II. When women were finally given the vote in 1920, Miss Pape was also able to participate in the political process. These major events in U.S. History are interesting to note in the context of the effect they may have had on Miss Pape. I found no documentation attesting to Miss Pape's thoughts, feelings and reactions during the different events. Only the imagination of the reader and the researcher may supply the possible actions on Miss Pape's part.

The main building of Pape School was located at 906 Drayton across from Forsythe Park. This remained the address for the school through all the years of its existence. The original building was demolished several years ago. The Independent Insurance building is located on the lot, today. Determining the history of the building that housed the school, I referred to the Sanborn Maps. In 1898, The
Parsonage of Monumental Church was located on the lot which later contained Pape School. The Church building appeared to be similar to the one that housed the school. In 1898 the Church building was still located at the same place. Several deeds referred to the property as collateral for several loans Miss Pape took out. The deeds described the property using the Ward system which did not give specifics regarding buildings located on the land. The Pape School possibly was housed in the building which once was the Church. The 1916 Sanborn Map also lists Pape School at 906 Drayton but with a new addition, a gym located behind the building. The 1916 map also shows another building added to the school’s facilities. This building was not located exactly next to the original building but several lots down at 120 E. Bolton. These facilities housed the School till it ceased to exist. The Pape School was eventually incorporated, with Miss Pape holding the majority of the shares.

Pape School under Miss Pape’s direction opened with thirty-five students and seven teachers. The School quickly expanded its scope under Miss Pape’s direction. The Pape School started at kindergarten and went to the twelfth grade. In its more than four decades of educational work, Pape School acquired an enviable reputation for the thoroughness of its instructors. Its graduates comprised not only a large number of Savannah’s most prominent women but also many who had gone into different sections of the country where they acquired prominence and prestige. The Pape School was originally a girls school but later it became co-ed. Under Miss Pape it was the first school in Georgia to have a Parent-Teacher Association. The School had the first Junior Red Cross chapter in Georgia. It had been
a member in good standing for some years in the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.\textsuperscript{92} It also enjoyed membership in the Progressive Education Association, the National Education Association, the National Education Association of Principals of Schools for Girls and in other educational groups.\textsuperscript{93} In 1933 Miss Pape was honored with an appointment to membership on the National Committee on Financing Public Education.\textsuperscript{94} The French Government had also decorated her as an Officier d'Académie for outstanding work done at her School in French culture and history.\textsuperscript{95}

Miss Pape's philanthropic work, pervasive throughout her life, was documented in a letter to her cousins.\textsuperscript{96} The letter dealt with the funding of two scholarships to the Pape School for Alice and Elizabeth Gordon.\textsuperscript{97} Miss Pape gave many free scholarships to her school.\textsuperscript{98} For those who could not afford to give their children the best educational advantages, she gave reduced tuitions.\textsuperscript{99} Her generosity extended into all areas. She was very involved in church work at the Independent Presbyterian Church to which she left in her will a fund to support foreign and home missions.\textsuperscript{100} She started the practice of taking underprivileged children to Tybee Island for the afternoon.\textsuperscript{101} As President of the Froebel Circle of King's Daughters, she led the group in establishing the Fresh Air Home at Tybee Island for underprivileged children.\textsuperscript{102} She left a sizeable fund to support the home after her death.\textsuperscript{103} Miss Pape, who never married, practiced her caring attitude in her own private life.\textsuperscript{104} She took her seven orphaned cousins into her home.\textsuperscript{105} She sent each one to college including two other children of a cousin in Connecticut.\textsuperscript{106}
Not only in education and social work was Miss Pape a prominent figure but she also had an important role in the Girl Scouts.\textsuperscript{107} In a Savannah Morning News article by Miss Pape, she tells of Juliette Low's phone call to her.\textsuperscript{108} Miss Low wanted Pape School girls to be her first girl scout troop.\textsuperscript{109} The first two girl scout troops were composed of Pape School girls.\textsuperscript{110} On March 12, 1912 at Louisa Porter's home, Juliette Low, Nina Pape and few other women met for the first official girl scout meeting.\textsuperscript{111} Miss Pape's involvement in the Girl Scouts encompassed many roles. She was the first councilor of the Girl Scouts of America.\textsuperscript{112} She served as a council member and eventually became the second Commissioner of the Savannah Girl Scouts.\textsuperscript{113} This position she held until 1930 when she resigned in April.\textsuperscript{114} In May 1941 she was made honorary President for life of the Savannah Girl Scout Association.\textsuperscript{115} Miss Pape at the 1939 National Girl Scout Convention in Philadelphia suggested a place to house Girl Scout memorabilia.\textsuperscript{116} This suggestion became a reality when Miss Pape founded the Juliette Low Museum in Savannah.\textsuperscript{117} She was also Chairman of the Savannah Juliette Low World Friendship Committee.\textsuperscript{118} She served as Chairman of the Juliette Low Museum and as a member of the National Juliette Low Memorial Committee.\textsuperscript{119}

Invitation from the President and Mrs. Hoover for a reception to be held at the White House on February 18, 1933 demonstrated the National recognition she had gained.\textsuperscript{120} Personal recollections by Mrs. Florence Crane Schwalb and Mrs. Samuel E. Wolf attested to the truth of Mr. Sieg's statement, "Miss Nina Pape was one of Savannah's great women although she would have laughed to hear herself so described."\textsuperscript{121} Admiration for her by many people was exemplified in
the letter from Dr. E.G. Wakefield of the Mayo Clinic. He praised Miss Pape for her courage and the fortitude she exhibited throughout her life. The letter mentioned her strength in dealing with her illness. The only reference of an illness was a form of crippling arthritis. This arthritis appeared prominently in the last few years of her life.

Miss Nina Anderson Pape died on March 5, 1944 at Central of Georgia Hospital of a cerebral hemorrhage. The funeral service was held at the Independent Presbyterian Church. Rev. Samuel McPeters Glasgow officiated the service. Pallbearers were Hugh Mercer, Walter Mercer, Walter C. Hartridge, Jr., Charles A. Inglesby, Frank A. Chisholm and Joseph H. Harrison. She was buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery next to her mother.

When she died the Savannah Morning News described her as a "woman who has been instrumental in the shaping the lives of many young girls. She sought no honors and received many. She leaves a definite impression on the city she loved." Honors and awards for her work were given during her lifetime and after her death. Some examples of the recognition she received after her death, came from several sources. A scholarship given by the girl scouts to honor Miss Pape was recommended by the Girl Scout council. Miss Pape was also honored in the Memory Book of the Girl Scouts. Another scholarship in her memory was established at Pape School. She was honored in a Savannah Morning News article "Saluting Savannah's Famous Ladies" and in Gerald Sieg's editorial "Her Chin was up." The preceding evidence proved the great influence and impact Nina Pape evoked during her life. She appeared to be a great educator and a caring person.
The Pape School doors stayed open after Miss Pape's death. The Pape School existed for the next eleven years. The Pape School era ended after a half a century of dedicated service. In 1955 Pape School became the nucleus of the New Country Day School. Plans materialized at a meeting of Episcopal laymen and clergymen in January 1955. Later they decided the school would be non-denominational. In April 23, 1955 Robert W. Trusdell, head of the English Department of McCallie School in Chattanooga, Tennessee, was appointed the new Headmaster. The new school occupied the same facilities and opened in September, 1955. Many Pape School teachers and pupils continued at the new school.

Living and concrete monuments to her genius still exist today in her community, Savannah. The Savannah Morning News described Nina Pape, "as an indefatigable worker and a modest one. Her crowning gift was her ability to give happiness so often through her thoughtfulness."
FOOTNOTES

1 Georgia, Department of Public Health, Death Certificate: Tina Anderson Pape, 5 March 1944, L.R. File no. 324.


3 Chatham County, Georgia, Marriage Record (1841), no. 2-20.


5 Edward C. Anderson, DIARY, 1857-1860, Tina Anderson Pape Collection, No.605, Georgia Historical Society Archives, Savannah.

6 Ibid.


8 Ibid., 1867-1877

9 Ibid.

10 Laurel Grove Cemetery, Savannah, Ga., Lot 540.

11 Ibid.

12 Ibid.

13 Ibid.

14 Listings of Records I researched, Census for Chatham County, Passenger and Immigration List found in the Historical Society, and the Savannah City Directories.

15 Georgia, Department of Health, Death Certificate.

16 Listings of records found the information in, Deed Index, Cemetery Record, and the City Directories.

17 Sholes, comp., City Directory, 1870-1882.

18 Chatham County, Georgia, Marriage Record, (1841).

19 Georgia, Department of State, Deeds Record, Book 1E, Folio 139, 13 September 1868.

20 Ibid.

21 Ibid.


23 Georgia, Department of State, Deeds Record, Book 4B, Folio 50,
3 September 1868.

24 Sholes, comp., City Directory, 1877, p35.


26 Ibid., p266.

27 Savannah Morning News, 21 October 1878.


29 Sholes, comp., City Directory, 1878, p35.

30 Savannah Morning News, 21 October 1878.

31 Sholes, comp., City Directory, 1879-1881.

32 Savannah Morning Times, 20 October 1878.

33 Savannah Morning Times, 18 January 1880.

34 Savannah Morning News, 3 March 1884.

35 Ibid.

36 Nina Anderson Pape, PETITION - 197, 14 July 1894, Chatham county Wills, Records Room, Probate court, Savannah.

37 Ibid.

38 Ibid.

39 Ibid.

40 Sholes, comp., City Directory, 1879, p125.

41 Ibid., 1878, p166.

42 Ibid., 1882, p406.

43 Ibid., 1883, 1893.


45 Ibid.

46 New York Times, 7 March 1944.

47 New York Herald Tribune, March 1944.
48 Sholes, comp., *City Directory*, 1895, p337.

49 Goette, comp., *Savannah City Directory*, 1903, (Savannah: H.A. Goettes publisher, 1903), p541.

50 Sholes, comp., *City Directory 1895-1900*.
Goette, comp., *City Directory 1901*, p510

51 Ibid.

52 Ibid.

53 Ibid.

54 Ibid.

55 Ibid.

56 Nina Pape to Cousin Nellie and Cousin Willie, 19 May 1904, Gordon Family Papers, Georgia Historical Society Archives, Savannah.

57 Nina Anderson Pape, Manuscript Collection description, Faskell-Pape School Collection, Georgia Historical Society Archives, Savannah.

58 Ibid.


60 Ibid.

61 Ibid.

62 Ibid.

63 Ibid.

64 Laurel Grove Cemetery, Lot 540.

65 Haskell-Pape School Collection


67 Ibid.

68 Savannah City Directory, 1908-1944

69 Ibid.


71 Ibid., 1910-1955.

72 Visual Affirmation.

74 Ibid.
75 *Sanborn Map* 1898, No. 52.
76 Georgia, Deeds Record, 1912 and 1921, Book 10, Vol. Folio 269 and
    Book 15L, Folio 170.
77 Ibid.
78 *Sanborn Map* 1913, p. 42.
79 *Sanborn Map* 1916, p. 105.
80 Ibid.
81 Ibid.
82 Ibid.
83 *Nina Pape, Will*, #1491, Item 5.
84 *Nina Anderson Pape, Manuscript Collection description, Pape*
    *School Collection, No. 1353, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah.*
85 *"Miss Nina A. Pape Passes Away Here,*" *Savannah Morning News*,
    6 March 1944, p. 8.
86 Pape School Collection.
87 *Savannah Morning News*, 6 March 1944.
88 Ibid.
89 Pape School Collection.
90 *Savannah Morning News*, 6 March 1944.
91 Ibid.
92 Ibid.
93 Ibid.
94 Ibid.
95 Ibid.
96 *Nina Anderson Pape to Cousins Willie and Nellie, Gordon Family*
    Papers.
97 Ibid.
98 *Savannah Morning News*, 6 March 1944.
99 Ibid.
100 *Nina Pape, Will*, #1490, Item 3.


103 Nina Pape, Will, #1490, Item 3.


105 Ibid.

106 Ibid.

107 Ibid.


109 Ibid.


111 Savannah Morning News, 6 March 1944.

112 Ibid.

113 Ibid.

114 Ibid.

115 Ibid.


118 Savannah Morning News, 6 March 1944.

119 Ibid.

120 Original Invitation to The White House located at the Juliette Low's Museum Archives.

121 Savannah Morning News, 26 August 1962.


123 Ibid.

124 Ibid.
126 Ibid.
127 Death Certificate.
129 Ibid.
130 Ibid.
131 Ibid.
132 Savannah Morning News, 6 March 1944.
133 "Recommendation of Scholarship in Honor of Miss Pape given by Girl Scouts," Savannah Morning News, 10 January 1944, section 4, p12.
134 Savannah Morning News, 31 January 1944, Section 4, p7.
135 "Scholarship to Honor Miss Pape," Savannah Morning News, 23 November 1944, section 1, p7.
138 Ibid.
140 Ibid.
141 Ibid.
142 Ibid.
143 Ibid.
144 Ibid.
145 Ibid.
147 Savannah Morning News, 6 March 1944.
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