

# ARMADA OF 1,000 NAZI PLANES BATTERS LONDON SECTION IN GREATEST AIR ASSAULT IN HISTORY

## House Passes Guard Call Measure

### Downs Effort To Restrict Men's Service

Bill, Approved 342-33, Returned To Senate For Action On Amendments

### SENATE TALKS DRAFT

Men With Dependents Will Be Exempted From One Year's Active Duty

BY RICHARD L. TURNER  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—The house passed the national guard mobilization bill by a whopping 342 to 33 vote today, after crushing an effort to restrict the service of militiamen and reserve officers to the continental United States and its possessions and territories.

The measure went back to the senate for action on minor amendments. It found that chamber busily debating the peace-time conscription law and discussing a report that Great Britain had offered to lease Caribbean naval base sites to the United States in return for much-needed American destroyers.

As it stood, approved by both branches, the national guard bill would exempt men with dependents, but other militiamen and reserves would be subject at the call of the president to a year's compulsory service anywhere in the western hemisphere, the American possessions and the Philippine Islands.

Early Approval Seen  
The changes made in the measure by the house were of such an unimportant nature that leaders predicted either ready approval of them by the senate, or quick action in conference to bring senate and house bills into agreement. In either case they expected the bill

### BEACH GETS MEET OF COUNTY BOARDS

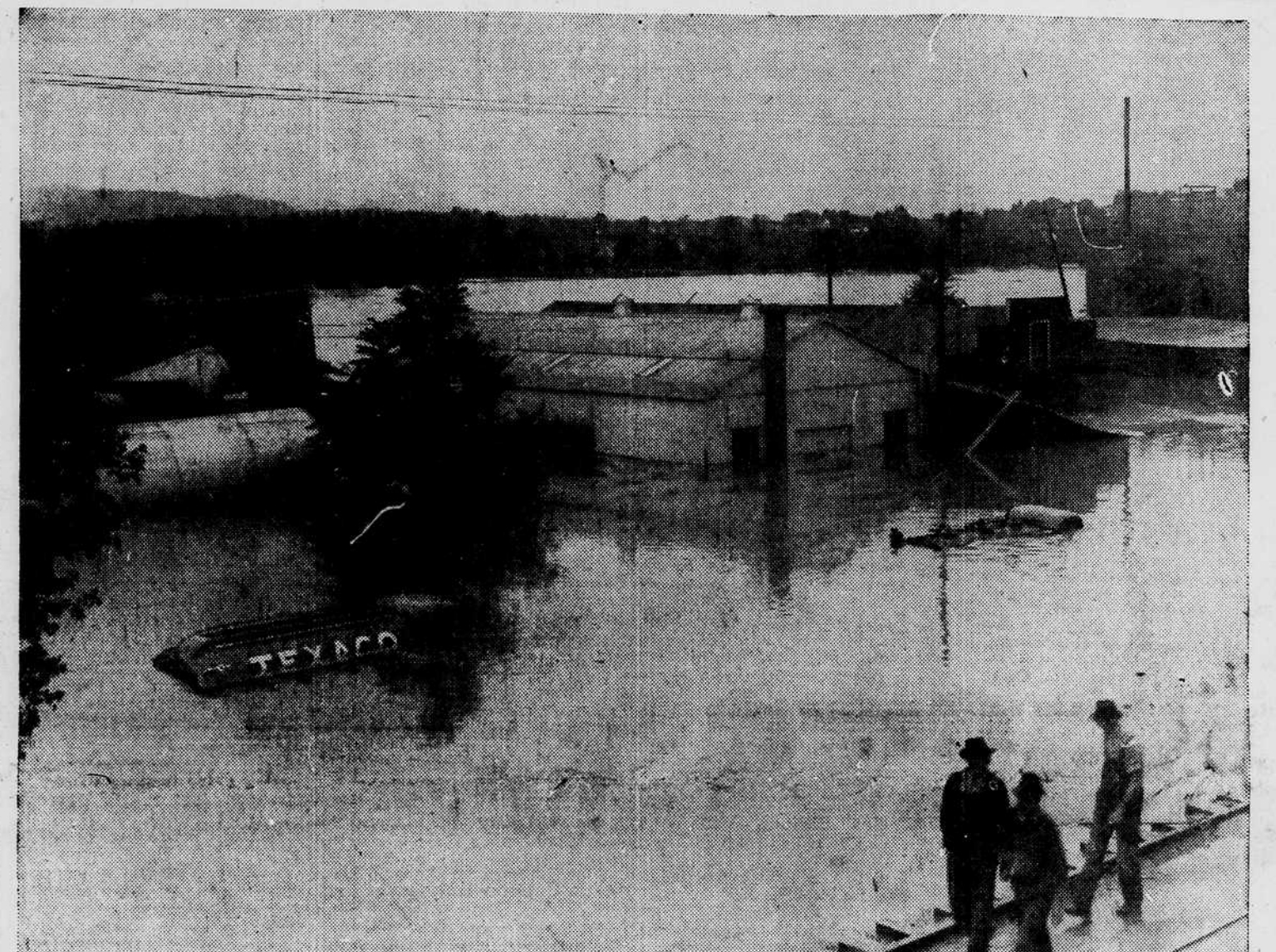
1941 Convention Of N. C. Associations Will Be Held At Wrightsville

Wrightsville Beach was selected as the 1941 convention site for the North Carolina County Commissioners association and the County Accountants' association as the annual convention of the organizations closed yesterday in Asheville according to an Associated Press dispatch.

### WEATHER

FORECAST  
North Carolina: Mostly cloudy Friday and Saturday, showers over east and north-central portions Friday.

## "FLASH" FLOOD DOES \$2,000,000 DAMAGE IN NORTH WILKESBORO



Raging flood water of the Yadkin swept through the industrial section of North Wilkesboro, N. C., and did damage estimated by Mayor R. T. McNeill at \$2,000,000 in the city. Five hundred people were left homeless and 2,500 workers were thrown out of employment for an indefinite period by the high water and fires which destroyed two large factories. The plants were half submerged and surrounded by water and firemen were forced to stand on high ground and watch helplessly. This picture shows the swelling tide surging through one section of the industrial area. In the background stretches water half a mile wide and 30 to 40 feet deep. The flood rose so rapidly that the entire factory district was submerged in less than three hours. (Associated Press Photo.)

### CAPE FEAR RISES IN UPPER REACHES

Stream Is Expected To Reach 30 To 32 Feet At Fayetteville Today

Heavy rains in central and western North Carolina have started pushing the Cape Fear river nearer and nearer flood stage and with more rain forecast for today the river is expected to overflow its banks in several sections soon.

At Fayetteville last night at 7:30 o'clock, the river stage was between 18 and 19 feet and still rising. With the river rising at a rate of about a foot per hour, it was expected to reach between 30 and 32 feet early this morning.

Flood stage at Fayetteville is 35 feet.

The upper Cape Fear was reported within its banks last night, with slight floods predicted along the lower banks. If more rain is forthcoming from the northwestern section, the Cape Fear may reach flood stage in the next 24 hours.

### Swollen Mountain Rivers Recede, Leaving 26 Dead

FIVE STATES AFFECTED  
Damage To Roads, Crops, Factories, Communication Facilities Great

ASHEVILLE, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Swollen mountain streams receded today, leaving at least 26 dead, millions of dollars damage to property, crops and highways in five states, while the ocean-ward sweep of the muddy flood waters menaced vast areas of flatlands.

While the inhabitants of the mountain sections hit by the worst inundation in years began to struggle back to normal existence, there was a general evacuation of homes in low-lying sections along the lower reaches of the rampaging streams.

Communications Cut Off  
Communication was still cut off or crippled in many of the mountain communities, but reports indicated at least 26 persons were drowned or killed in landslides. There were reports of other casualties but they could not be confirmed.

The death toll by states: North Carolina, 12; Tennessee, 5; Virginia, 3; Georgia, 4. A report from Boone, N. C., said that at least ten lives were lost and possibly a score of persons injured

counter any repetition of the incident. Popular Greek feeling ran high. An unestimated number of civilians injured on the quay at Tinos island when two of the submarine's torpedoes exploded against it were among 40,000 religious pilgrims who had gone to pray beside the island's health-giving waters.

### CALEDONIA PRISON DIKES THREATENED

Roanoke Pushes Out Of Banks In Upper Reaches To Set New Record

RALEIGH, Aug. 15.—(AP)—A huge dyke at the Caledonia prison farm was threatened tonight as the rain-swollen Roanoke river pushed out of its banks in the upper reaches to all-time-record flood levels.

Prisoners worked all afternoon piling sandbags along the top of the nine-mile dyke, which protects the prison camp's rich farm lands from inundation. Livestock was evacuated from the lowlands.

Official of the weather bureau here predicted the river would rise at least to 48 feet—11 feet in flood—at Weldon by Saturday.

### U. S., JAPS DIVIDE SHANGHAI SECTOR

Will Take Over Duties Of Maintaining Order In British Section

SHANGHAI, Aug. 16.—(Friday)—(AP)—Defense commanders of the Shanghai international zone issued a communique this morning confirming that the British defense

### Nazis Claim Vital British Areas Bombed

Attack Presses Through Hell Of Anti-Aircraft Fire, Pursuit Planes

98 BRITISH DOWNED

Invaders Scatter Bombs Amid Vickers Armament Works, Other Plants

BERLIN, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Germany threw the weight of her aerial hosts directly at the great throbbing heart of Britain's world empire late today as warplanes British admitted Croydon airport was bombed—and smashed hard at the broad Tilbury wharves which stretch down the Thames from the capital.

The attack, pressed home through a veritable hell of anti-aircraft fire amid wheeling British pursuit planes, was part of a synchronized onslaught upon all of Britain's vital centers and up and down her coasts from far northeast Scotland to extreme southwest England Wales, said DNB, official German news agency.

Thames Attacked  
DNB did not say definitely that London was bombed, but declared, "the entire Thames valley witnessed the methodical, irresistible German air attacks which threaten all military establishments with destruction."

It first listed 36 British planes destroyed as against four German but later increased the figures, respectively, to 8 and 2. German fliers reported they shot down five balloons and put out of commission eight planes on the ground.

The raiders scattered their bombs amid the sprawling buildings of the bigickers Armstrong armament works at Hebburn Wells; at Sherrness, Chatham and Rochester, locations of navy yards and arsenals; at the big eastern port of Newcastle-on-Tyne; and at the southeast "bridgeheads" of Dover and Folkestone, the agency said.

The airplane plants of Bristol were threatened, and Wales, to the southwest, got its share, said DNB. Airports were a particular object of attack, those at Hawkinge and Lympne in the southeast shore area were scenes of a particularly bitter battle with the British defenders.

At Hawkinge alone, 11 British planes were shot down by the

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### BRITISH CLAIM 114 ATTACKING CRAFT DOWNED

Lord Nelson's Famous Flag Still Waves On Mainmast Of Victory

PORTSMOUTH, England, Aug. 15.—(AP)—A naval officer conducted reporters over Lord Nelson's famous flagship Victory here today to prove, despite German radio assertions, that the famous British sea lion's flag still fluttered at the mainmast and that the famous ship was undamaged by air raiders.

A German radio broadcast today said the flag and its staff had been sent crashing recently by a bomb which fell near the old ship, now "ashore" as a memorial to Nelson and his sea victories, and that British sailors viewed it as an ill omen.

### BRITAIN SEEKS 50 U. S. DESTROYERS

Offering To Lease Sites In New World In Return For Old Warcraft

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Great Britain, seeking additional weapons to combat the Nazis, was reported today to be offering to lease certain naval base sites in the western hemisphere to the United States in return for 50 or more old destroyers.

These reports circulated in congressional quarters as Senator Lee (D-Okla.) told the senate that transfer of the vessels ought to be made in the interest of American defense.

Lee, who visited the White House during the day, argued that the transfer could be made without further congressional action, a point said to have been involved in the latest British appeal for destroyers.

Usually reliable sources said they had been informed that the British proposal had been transmitted to the White House and was under study there.

They said it involved an offer by the British to lease for 9 years sites in British possessions in the western hemisphere that would be suitable for United States naval and air bases to protect the Panama Canal and to guard this country against any invasion from the

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### ALSO RAID SCOTLAND

England Says Nazis Sent Plunging To Earth At Rate Of 1 A Minute

### CROYDON IS BOMBED

Smash At Objectives On Thames; British Silent About New Plane Trap

LONDON, Aug. 16.—(Friday)—(AP)—Britons dug their dead and wounded early today out of the bomb ruins of the biggest air attack in history, executed by an armada of more than 1,000 German planes which struck eight miles from the heart of London and spread destruction from the Scottish border to Lands End.

In the last dusk-hazed fury of the fighting yesterday, planes were reported plunging in smoke-trailing death dives at a rate of one a minute.

British Claims  
The British total claim for the day—144 German planes to 27 British—dwarfed previous reports on successive assaults since last Sunday.

Yesterday's fierce air siege overshadowed all earlier mass raids.

What the British losses would amount to actually in dead and wounded, splintered homes and smashed buildings remained obscure despite communiques compiling reports from cities from the English channel to the Irish Sea.

Listings of deaths were scattered and the ministry of home security summed up the assault with the comment:

"Little success at a high cost."

Tide Nears City  
London echoed with the bandsheer wall of alarm sirens as the tide of Nazi bombardment ripped close about the sprawling city, heart of an embattled empire.

Big dark dive-bombers screamed down within a few hundred feet of the ground to dump tons of explosives at the Croydon airport in the

### BRITISH RETREAT BEFORE ITALIANS

Are Driven From Mountain Pass Defending Important Port Of Berbera

CAIRO, Egypt, Aug. 15.—(AP)—A mysterious submarine sent the 2,115-ton Greek cruiser Helle to the bottom of the Aegean Sea today within half a mile of a Greek island quay and tonight the government, wary of a fatal snap in the tension with Italy, forbade all Greek ships to leave port.

Official sources indicated, without saying so openly, that they believed the attack was an effort to force Greece into some retaliatory act. The ships-in-port order reflected the Greek official desire to

### Greece Orders Ships To Stay In Port After Mysterious Sub Sinks Cruiser

ATHENS, Greece, Aug. 15.—(AP)—A mysterious submarine sent the 2,115-ton Greek cruiser Helle to the bottom of the Aegean Sea today within half a mile of a Greek island quay and tonight the government, wary of a fatal snap in the tension with Italy, forbade all Greek ships to leave port.

### Southeastern N.C. Weed Starts Moving To Markets

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—The army took steps today toward grand scale production of tanks by giving the Chrysler corporation a contract to build a \$20,000,000 "tank arsenal" at Detroit and turn out an initial \$33,500,000 order.

### Wrightsville Beach Tax Rate Reduced To \$1.60

The Wrightsville Beach board of aldermen met last night and adopted a budget for the fiscal year 1940-41 of approximately \$32,000, while approving a tax rate of \$1.60 per \$100 valuation.

### CHRYSLER GIVEN TANK CONTRACT

Will Build Large Plant At Detroit And Turn Out \$33,500,000 Order

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