

NEW EPISODES REPORTED ON ALBANIAN-GREEK LINE

278 Are Saved When Liner Grounds

Strikes Rock Near Prince Rupert, B. C.

Passengers Spend Night On Cold Beach After Seattle-Bound Ship Crashes

HITS AT FULL SPEED

North Star, Arriving Five Hours After SOS, Takes People To Nearby Port

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., Oct. 27.—(Canadian Press)—Half-dressed and shivering from a night of exposure, 278 passengers of the grounded coastal liner Alaska were landed safely from a rescue ship here tonight. The big Seattle-bound ship crashed on the rocky shore of Elliott Bay at 12:30 a. m. (PST).

Wreck victims were brought to this small Hecate strait port by the Northland Steamship company's liner North Coast, which like the Alaska was en route from Ketchikan, Alaska, to Seattle.

The Alaska struck at full speed in the pitch blackness of a northern autumn night and shoved her bow almost into the trees lining the shore 20 miles south of here. The ship immediately listed to port, and Capt. O. C. Anderson ordered passengers ashore for fear the vessel might slide into deep water.

Tumbling from their bunks or rushing from the salons, the passengers jumped for lifeboats while oil from the Alaska's tanks spread over the water. Several fell into the icy water, and most were smeared with oil, but no one was injured seriously.

The North Coast, answering an SOS, arrived five hours later. The passengers, who had been sitting around campfires singing through the night, were rowed 300 yards to the rescue ship.

To Return Passengers

The Alaska Steamship company, owner of the \$1,000,000 wrecked Alaska, announced that the steamer Yukon would arrive here at midnight to return the passengers to Ketchikan, where arrangements will be made for continuing their trip to Seattle. Meanwhile, unable to find beds, the passengers slept

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WILLKIE ATTACKS HOUSING PROGRAM

Favors Slum Clearance But Says New Deal's Plans Have 'Bogged Down'

ABOUT WILKIE TRAIN ENROUTE TO RENNESLAER, Ind., Oct. 27.—(AP)—Wendell L. Willkie contended today that the new Deal housing program has bogged down because of faulty administration and failure to admit the real extent of slum clearance subsidies.

In a statement issued from his special train, the Republican presidential nominee declared that 13 government building agencies

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Navy Officials Say Fleet Most Powerful In World

By The Associated Press
The nation heard from three of its highest navy officials yesterday that the United States fleet was the most powerful in the world, but was too old, too vulnerable to attack from a coalition of enemies.

Taking part in a broadcast discussion of American sea power on the nineteenth annual Navy Day, were Secretary Knox; Admiral Harold R. Stark, chief of naval operations; and Lewis Compton, assistant secretary of the navy.

Stark, speaking from Washington in a nation-wide broadcast, (CBS) said "We must consider the possibility of simultaneous attacks in either or both oceans." Knox

PREPARING FOR DRAFT LOTTERY



Under supervision of Lt. Col. J. V. O'Kellher (left) and Maj. Irwin Hart, girls stuff draft numbers into the capsules from which first conscription troops will be chosen in lottery in Washington October 29.—(NEA Telephoto).

Mexico Decides To Lift Embargo On Jap Exports

ECONOMY THREATENED

Suspension Of Ban On War Materials And Foodstuffs Scheduled

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 27.—(AP)—Highly placed government and diplomatic officials reported tonight that President Cardenas' administration had decided to lift the short-lived unofficial embargo on exports destined for Japan because the ban threatened to upset the nation's economy at this time.

Suspension of the embargo on war materials and foodstuffs which secret agents from the federal attorney general's office enforced last week was scheduled to take effect tomorrow.

Fear Misunderstanding
The principal fear of the sources disclosing this decision was that it would be misunderstood in the United States.

Mexico originally placed restrictions on shipments to Japan as a gesture of solidarity with the United States because of Japanese-American tensions in the Pacific and one government spokesman emphasized.

"The end of these restrictions does not imply any change in Mexico's foreign policy of friendship and collaboration with the United States.

"Should the international situation make it necessary, I am confident that Mexico would cooperate with the United States and the other American republics by officially proclaiming such an embargo against Japan."

The spokesman said that scrap iron and certain petroleum products, which are practically gov-

ernment property, would be exempt from the same program from Chicago and counseled that "We must not ignore this well-remembered warning: It is later than you think." Knox also spoke again on another network (NBC).

Reporting on the progress of naval expansion, Compton said in a broadcast (MBS) from Orange, N. J., that the goal of a two-ocean navy, for which congress authorized an outlay of \$4,000,000,000, was well ahead of schedule.

Knox termed the navy's expansion the greatest ever undertaken by any nation.

"The new American navy which is being laid down and which will

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Dubord Avers Lewis' Stand Will Help F. R.

WATERVILLE, Me., Oct. 27. (AP)—F. Harold Dubord, democratic national committeeman from Maine, declared today that "nothing that has occurred during the campaign will bring President Roosevelt more votes than CIO leader John L. Lewis' endorsement of Wendell Willkie."

In an address prepared for delivery at the annual convention of the young democrats of Maine, Dubord asserted "the men and women who make up the ranks of labor will repudiate this false leader, and thousands of independent voters throughout the country will support President Roosevelt because John L. Lewis is against him."

First Christian Church
Selects New Officers

At their annual business meeting yesterday morning, the members of the First Christian church elected the following officers to serve for the year November 1, 1940 to October 31, 1941.

Elders: H. C. Byrd, D. H. Crenshaw, J. P. Garrott, Geo. B. Canady, E. F. Bryant and Spurgeon Baxley. Deacons: Sam Daniels, Kenneth Johnson, W. P. Sanders, Joe Taylor, Ben White, R. C. Shackelford, Harry Griffin, Earl Hubbard, Paul T. Marshall, P. A. Marshall, J. M. Overman, W. J. Hogan, J. P. Newborn and John L. Sutton.

Paul T. Marshall was elected to the office of trustee.

WEATHER

By U. S. Weather Bureau
FORECAST
North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida: Generally fair Monday and Tuesday, not much change in temperature.

(Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.)
Temperature
1:30 a. m. 67; 7:30 a. m. 59; 1:30 p. m. 58; 7:30 p. m. 67; maximum 70; minimum 58; mean 68; normal 62.
Humidity
1:30 a. m. 92; 7:30 a. m. 85; 1:30 p. m. 65; 7:30 p. m. 88.

Precipitation
Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., none; total since first of the month, 0.17 inches.

Tides For Today
High Low
Wilmington 7:17a 2:05a
7:41p 2:30p
5:07a 11:25a
5:24p 11:45p
Sunrise 6:28a; sunset 5:24p; moonrise 3:42a; moonset 3:58p.
Cape Fear river stage at Fayetteville, at 8 a. m., October 24, 8.8 feet.

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British Claim Berlin Arms Factories Hit

Air Ministry Paints Picture Of Widespread Damage In The German Capital

OTHER AREAS RAIDED

Axis Warplanes Drop Tons Of Explosives On London In 51st Night Attack

LONDON, Oct. 27.—(AP)—The British air ministry tonight painted a picture of widespread damage in Berlin—in some instances approaching scenes of devastation in key armament factories—in a lengthy report of Royal Air Force operations over the Reich's capital since the beginning of September.

The ministry based part of its report on "reliable neutral sources." Among them, it cited an American oil chemist who recently returned home because the German firm for which he worked 14 years had had all its 12 scattered plants bombed out of existence by Royal Air Force marksmen.

Gas Works Damaged
Residents of the Charlottenberg area of Berlin, the British reported, recently went without gas for days because of well directed hits on gas works there.

Earlier the ministry and its news service said that British bombers flying through thick clouds, dumped the heaviest calibre bombs yet carried to Berlin upon the German capital last night and other planes attacked at least a dozen targets in Germany and German-dominated countries.

Its news service elaborating on the communique, told of a large fire started in the Brandenburg airplane engine factory in the Spandau suburb of Berlin; a heavy assault on the Moabit power station, one of Berlin's main sources of electric supply; and salvos of high explosives falling on the Putzstrasse and Lehrter railroad yards near Berlin's center.

See White Flashes
The news service quoted returning raiders as saying they could

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COAL UNIONS ASK LEWIS TO RESIGN

Demands Made By Locals In Beckley Section Because Of Willkie Stand

BECKLEY, W. Va., Oct. 27.—(AP)—Demands for the resignation of John L. Lewis as president of the United Mine Workers came from some union locals in the vast winding coal gulf fields today as an aftermath of Lewis' endorsement of Wendell L. Willkie, republican presidential nominee.

Several of the union locals also telegraphed President Roosevelt pledging "unanimous support."

Among the letters to Lewis: laws

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Draft Will Not Interfere With Production Of Arms

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—(AP)—Draft headquarters laid down the broad principle today that America's mobilization of manpower must not interfere with industrial production of arms.

Almost on the eve of the gigantic "conscription lottery"—set for noon Tuesday—which will determine the order in which 800,000 men are to be called for a year's military training, Draft Director Clarence A. Dykstra said:

"It is basic principle of selective service at this stage of the national defense preparation that material procurement is paramount. Therefore, where two requirements—military manpower versus production—conflict, production should have priority."

Dykstra emphasized, however, that occupational deferments under the draft law would be determined on an individual basis and that the determination would be made by the local selection boards.

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ARMED MEN APPEAR; PAMPHLETS DROPPED OVER SOUTH ALBANIA

GREEKS DENY CHARGES

Premier - Dictator John Metaxas Confers With His Army Chief Of Staff

CLAIMS ARE DISCUSSED

Turkish Paper Says There Is No Doubt Greece Will Defend Independence

BY MAX HARRELSON

ATHENS, Oct. 27.—(AP)—Premier-Dictator John Metaxas conferred with his army chief of staff today as the Greek government formally denied Italian charges of responsibility for a reported "incident" on Albanian soil.

The Italian charge was described in part as "a childish claim."

The premier presumably discussed with his chief of staff this latest development in the strained relations between the two countries, but officials said no new military measures were contemplated as the government already has prepared its defenses.

Dispatches Denied
"Dispatches from Tirana (Albania) transmitted from Rome by Stefani (Italian news agency) claiming a Greek band penetrated Albanian territory and attacked an Albanian outpost near Korytsa (Koritsa) south of Tapestitsa. Pass area without foundation," the government said in a communique.

"No Greek band crossed the Albanian frontier at any of these points. It is known that no Greek band has been or could be formed on Greek territory since Greek military and civil authorities guarantee perfect order.

"News given from Rome by Stefani that, according to information from Tirana, a bomb exploded in the office of an Italian captain of Ada (Porto Edda) and that leadership of this incident was attributed to

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ACL WORKERS GET BACK PAY CHECKS

\$260,000 Sent Out From Office Here To 6,469 Employees Of Railroad

Checks totaling \$260,000 in back pay for 6,469 maintenance-of-way employees have gone out of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company's headquarters here during the past week for payment to the workers along a 5,000 mile stretch of the railroad, Pomeroy Nichols, treasurer of the company, said last night.

Mr. Nichols said that all checks have been sent out but that he did not know whether or not they have been paid all the workers as yet.

Included in the total amount was \$7,834 in back wages for section workers in the Wilmington district.

The payments are the results of a suit brought by the wage and hour division against the Atlantic Coast Line several months ago for violation of the fair labor standards act.

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War Interpretive

BY EDWARD E. BOMAR
Italy's loud charges of a Greek border attack on vassal Albania sound, because of their timing, suspiciously like an overture to the long-prepared, full scale Axis drive to wrest control of the Mediterranean from Great Britain.

The stage for another act in the war drama has been set speedily in the last three weeks by mailed fist diplomacy. Rumania is occupied, the rest of the Balkans, Turkey and Russia threatened, France coerced into collaborating on "measures of reconstructing peace in Europe," and Spain cajoled with promises.

Only a nod from Herr Hitler is needed for the curtain to go up on the next historic act. In the

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Movement Of Italian War Materials Toward Greek Frontier Noted

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Oct. 27.—(AP)—Great activity among Italian forces in Albania and steady movements of war materials toward the Greek frontier were reported today by observers near the Yugoslav-Albanian border.

Neutral military observers, piecing together information from Albanian, declared ten Italian attack divisions had been positively identified along the Greek frontier.

They estimated that reserve troops for these divisions, with transport columns and other necessary units, would swell the Italian forces in Albania past the 200,000 mark.

While one of the best routes into Greece is down the Bitolj valley in southern Yugoslavia, military sources said this area was one of the most heavily fortified parts of this country and expressed doubts the Italians would attempt to use it.

Meanwhile Premier Dragisa Cvjetkovic declared in a speech at Cetinje that "Yugoslavia's frontier must be defended on every occasion."

GERMANS CONTINUE RAIDS ON BRITAIN

Nazis Claim Industrial Plants In Birmingham And Coventry Bombed

BERLIN, Oct. 27.—(AP)—Continuous all-day attacks against Britain by the Luftwaffe today followed up destructive assaults Liverpool, Coventry and London, German military sources said.

DNB, official news agency, said German bombers were busy over England from early morning.

Industrial plants in Birmingham and Coventry, and the harbor of Liverpool were heavily bombed on Saturday night, the German high command said.

The attack on Birmingham, the communique observed, followed a daylight raid during which "especially heavy explosions" could be seen in a chemical plant there.

The communique gave the first official version of the attack on the 42,348-ton British liner Empress of Britain, reported Saturday to have been left sinking off Ireland after bombing by German planes.

The high command communique said that the ship "received such a serious bomb hit 100 kilometers (about 62.5 miles) west of Ireland that it burst into flames" and "the crew took to boats."

Saturday's attacks on Britain, the communique said, were carried out by light and heavy "destroyer plane units. . . in spite of strong defense from fighter planes and anti-aircraft."

At night while London, Birmingham, Coventry and the Liverpool harbor were under assault, the communique said, "weaker units of our destroyer planes bombed British airports in north Scotland in daringly executed dives and set hangars and facilities afire."

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IL DUCE LEAVES ROME

Believed En Route To Important Meet With Hitler, Others In Florence

CELEBRATION OPENED

Greek Students, Guided By Teachers, Stage Demonstration Near Karvia

ROME, Oct. 27.—(AP)—A new series of episodes along the tense Albanian-Greek frontier, which the official Italian news agency Stefani said "deserved attention" was reported tonight by the Tirana newspaper Tomari.

During the last 48 hours at six points along the frontier numerous groups of armed persons have appeared and disappeared, Tomari said.

One group was said to have entered nearly one mile of Albanian territory, where the frontier guard ordered a halt.

Planes Drop Pamphlets
Airlines, which the paper said presumably were English, loosed pamphlets in the Albanian language from high altitudes over southern Albania, inciting the population to revolt.

These reports came as Premier Mussolini was said to have left Rome for Florence for an important meeting—possibly with Adolf Hitler, Marshal Philippe Petain, chief of state of France, and Spain's Generalissimo Francisco Franco.

His departure took place as Rome opened the celebration of the anniversary of the Oct. 30, 1922, fascists march into the ancient capital. Foreign observers believed that the newly-initiated French-German collaboration agreement probably would be discussed.

The Tirana newspaper Tomari also said that some hundred Greek students guided by their schoolmasters made an anti-Italian, anti-Albanian demonstration near Karvia, waving their Greek banners and shouting insults and threats.

Tomari said excitement created artificially among the populace by propagandists was based on a claim that English troops and planes were

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FRENCH DEFENSE COUNCIL FORMED

Announcement Of Unit To Function As 'War Government' Made By De Gaulle

LONDON, Oct. 27.—(AP)—Gen. Charles de Gaulle, leader of the "Free" French forces, announced today the formation of a French Empire defense council to function as a "war government."

De Gaulle broadcast the announcement from Leopoldville, Belgian Congo. The British ministry of information issued the statement in London.

"This was the first time the word 'government' has been used in connection with de Gaulle's 'Free' French forces.

De Gaulle said he, as leader of the "Free" French forces, and

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Petain Seeking To Make New Axis Tie-Up Popular

VICHY, France, Oct. 27.—(AP)—The Petain-Laval government tonight began a campaign to make its new tie-up with the Axis powers popular with the French people but government spokesmen flatly said that the "choice now has been made" and every Frenchman must accept it.

No criticism of the policy of collaboration with Germany and Italy can be permitted, these spokesmen declared.

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