

ITALY UNABLE TO CRACK GREECE'S NORTHERN LINE

Chamberlain En Route To America FASCIST ARMY GAINS GROUND IN SOUTHERN SECTION OF COUNTRY

Leaves Home In Effort To Regain Health

Former Prime Minister And Wife Are Believed Going To California

DOCTOR ORDERED TRIP

Has Been In Ill Health For Months And Underwent Operation July 29

LONDON, Oct. 31.—(AP)—Former Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain was understood tonight to have left England because of the state of his health and to be on the way to California.

The word of his departure from England came through a trustworthy source from Birmingham. How he was traveling was not disclosed, and there was nothing to suggest how soon he might arrive in the United States except a rumor that he and his wife had been at sea for about 10 days.

Friends in Birmingham, the industrial town where he was born and lived in the still punctilio suggested by the famous umbrella with which his personality has been associated in the public mind declined to say what route he had taken or where he would land.

Ordered By Doctor

They understood he sought sunshine on doctor's orders.

This ambiguity at the passing from England of a sick old man, whose policy at Munich made the word "appeasement" an epithet to his critics over the world—seemed clearly explained by the fact that he must cross a hostile ocean.

His health has been uncertain for months: on July 29 he was operated on for an abdominal difficulty and he has suffered, too, from gout. In these recent nights of German air raids the clamor, and the tragedy behind it, have been hard for a tired man of 71.

Chamberlain's three-year service as prime minister ended with (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 6)

BOARD INSPECTS TOOMER'S CREEK

Survey Preliminary Move Toward Study Of Proposed Pipe Line's Course

Continuing their efforts to give Wilmington a new and permanent supply of fresh water, the city commissioners yesterday traveled up the Cape Fear river for an inspection of Toomer's Creek and the river generally.

They left at 10 a. m. from the foot of Grace street on a boat owned by Dr. W. T. Smith and during the morning made a thorough study of Toomer's Creek, which is being repaired so that when fresh water is available in the river it may be used again until the new pipe line to the new source of water is ready. It will take months to complete (Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

WEATHER

FORECAST

North Carolina: Mostly cloudy and slightly warmer, scattered showers in the evening. Partly cloudy Saturday followed by showers over east portion.

By U. S. Weather Bureau (Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.)

Temperature

1:30 a. m.	63	7:30 a. m.	59	1:30 p. m.	68
4:30 a. m.	63	11:00 a. m.	62	maximum	69
minimum	59	mean	62	normal	61

Humidity

1:30 a. m.	94	7:30 a. m.	88	1:30 p. m.	82
4:30 a. m.	79	11:00 a. m.	72	maximum	77

Precipitation

Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., none; total since first of the month, .44 inches.

Tides For Today

High	Low
10:48a	5:22a
11:04p	6:02p

Masonboro Inlet

3:30a	2:11a
8:51p	2:51p

Sunrise 6:32a; sunset 5:20p; moonset 8:10a; moonset 7:07p.

Cape Fear river stage at Fayetteville, at 8 a. m., October 30, 8.8 feet.

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Wilmington's city commissioners, left to right, James E. L. Wade, commissioner of public works, W. Louis Fisher, commissioner of finance, and Mayor Thomas E. Cooper, commissioner of public safety, are shown at Toomer's Creek where yesterday they went on an inspection tour in an effort to study the best means of giving the city a fresh water supply. (Photo by Rud Searrow).

Methodist Conference To Open Here On November

PLANS UNDER WAY F. D. R. DEDICATES HEALTH INSTITUTE

Bishop Clare Purcell Will Preside; Approximately 700 Persons To Attend

Plans for the second annual session of the North Carolina conference of the Methodist church, which will be held at the Fifth Avenue Methodist church here Thursday, November 7 through Sunday, November 10, are now under way, local Methodist leaders said last night.

Bishop Clare Purcell, recently assigned to the leadership of Methodist in Eastern Carolina, will preside over the conference as president.

700 To Attend

Approximately 700 members of the conference are expected to attend the annual session of the body, which comprises the New United Methodist church in North Carolina. This session represents the 104th annual session of the former North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. At the last session of the body in Fayetteville November 8-12, 1939, the body was united with the Protestant Methodist conference and the Methodist Episcopal Conference. The Wilmington meeting next week therefore is the second annual session.

The Rev. C. D. Barclift, pastor of Fifth Avenue church, is the conference host pastor and the Rev. W. A. Cade, for the past five years district (Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

Stephen Early, Secretary To F. D. R., Apologizes To N. Y. Negro Policeman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—(AP)—Stephen Early, secretary to President Roosevelt, issued a statement tonight apologizing to a New York negro police officer and the police commissioner there "for having any part" in what he described as a "regrettable" altercation Monday night.

The presidential secretary prefaced his apology with the assertion that "I do not believe that I did anything wrong in this incident."

Early encountered a police detail in a lower level of the Pennsylvania station in New York while attempting to gain permission for a group of White House employees and newspapermen to board the (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 5)

special presidential train bound from New York to Washington.

The next day James Sloan, a 42-year-old negro patrolman, reported that he had been kicked in the abdomen. Early said in his statement that he did not "attack or kick any officer."

The text of Early's statement follows: "In certain republican quarters political importance is being attached to an unfortunate altercation which took place between a detail of New York city policemen and myself on Monday night, last.

"As part of my official duty, I was endeavoring to obtain permission for a group of about 35 newspapermen and others to board the (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 5)

Nazi Invasion Ports Bombed By RAF Again

Germany's Westernmost Naval Base At Emden Also Attacked By Planes

LONDON RAID LIGHT

Murky, Rain-Laden Skies Take Most Of Sting Out Of German Assault

LONDON, Oct. 31.—(AP)—Through cloud and mist the Royal Air Force dropped tons of explosive and fire bombs overnight on the German invasion ports of the Low Countries and on Germany's westernmost naval base in Emden, the air ministry recounted today.

It totaled up the pilots' reports to reach this summation:

Flushing, once the main North continental port of entry for vessels from England; more than an hour of raiding set a huge fire between docks that could be seen 55 miles out in the North sea; the Walcheren canal, between Flushing and Middelburg, and the inner and outer havens bombed heavily;

Fire Started

Emden: Bomb bursts observed on the quay of the main waterway and in the big V-shaped harbor to the east of the main entrance; "one very bright fire started and other fires in the area were seen to spread rapidly; on aircraft attacked a nearby railway junction and here, again, a large fire occurred;"

Antwerp: Explosions and fires in the harbor area;

Ostend: Quays and ship berths torn up just after the Germans had repaired the damage done in previous bombings.

Pilots flying back from this overnight foray reported seeing debris thrown high in the air and said that frequent explosions indicated that every other bomb or so hit a target.

Cherbourg was bombed in the daylight, and official sources said dockside structures were hit and that one stick of bombs was dropped among four German torpedo boats about 20 miles offshore.

The German high command said Nazi artillery on the Flanders coast had driven off British torpedo boats which approached the shore in a thick haze. The Germans said one probably was destroyed.)

WEATHER AFFECTS NAZIS

LONDON, Oct. 31.—(AP)—Murky, rain-laden skies took much of the sting out of the German air raid of England tonight after a day of desultory raids in which the Nazis dived beneath the clouds to bomb and machine-gun widely separated areas.

Defying the nearly "ceiling-zero" weather, a few bombers came over London for the 55th night attack and the capital's anti-aircraft guns lifted one of the heaviest barrages of protective fire heard in recent weeks.

A southwesterly gale blew across the Strait of Dover, favored route of the Nazi Luftwaffe, and driving rain squalls made flying well-nigh impossible.

During the early part of the night raid on London single planes were heard overhead but in most cases each dropped only one bomb then scurried out of the heavy barrage stabbing the blackness.

Congresswoman Seriously Ill



Congresswoman Caroline O'Day, democratic candidate for re-election as representative-at-large from New York, is reported seriously ill at her New York city home. Sixty-five years old, Mrs. O'Day has been a member of congress since 1928.

PREVETTE NAMED TO WPA POSITION

Lumberton Man Appointed District Manager To Succeed L. J. Jordan Here

RALEIGH, Oct. 31.—(AP)—C. C. McGinnis, WPA state administrator, announced today the appointment of W. Joe Prevette of Lumberton as district WPA manager, with headquarters in Wilmington. The district is composed of New Hanover, Brunswick, Bladen, Pender, Robeson, Columbus and Scotland counties.

Prevette, who was construction engineer of the district, succeeds L. J. Jordan, who resigned to accept a position with a firm in Tennessee. No successor has been named to fill Prevette's former post.

PAISED BY WADE

James E. L. Wade, city commissioner of public works, said last night that he was "delighted" to hear of the appointment of Prevette as district WPA supervisor to succeed L. J. Jordan.

"He's done a splendid job as construction engineer in the district and I'm sure that the work in the district will be carried forward," Wade said.

ROBERT H. McNEILL FLAYS BROUGHTON

Republican Candidate For Governor Speaks At Rally Of The Party Here

Robert H. McNeill, of Statesville, republican nominee for governor, last night denounced J. M. Broughton, democratic nominee, as "temporarily unfit to be the governor of all the people and do equal justice to all, regardless of race or party."

McNeill was the principal speaker (Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

War Interpretive

BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON

The stand of little Greece, greatly outmatched in numbers and modern fighting gear by her Italian assailant, is doing more than stir world admiration. It is raising an imponderable question as to German-Italian strategy.

Just as their Spartan ancestors more than 24 centuries ago put up a brave defense against a Persian host at the Pass of Thermopylae, Greeks of today are holding up Italy's advance. Every hour they can gain in of vital consequence. It brings British help that much nearer, and diminishes by that much Italian and Axis military prestige.

The same factors that temporarily balked Xerxes' Persian war chariots at Thermopylae in 480 B. C. and gave Leonidas's hand-

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ITALY SAYS ADVANCING

Claim Gains Beyond Kalamas River Despite Rain, Mud, Stiff Resistance

FEW ROADS AVAILABLE

Fascist Planes Reported To Have Bombed Troop Transports At Patras

ROME, Nov. 1.—(Friday)—(AP)—Italian troops have penetrated Greece from the seaside as well as from the Albanian land frontier, the official Italian news agency Stefani reported early today.

Other reports from the front said that in four days of war against Greece, the Italian army had advanced beyond the Kalamas river, five miles from the Albanian border, despite rain, mud and stiff Greek resistance.

Aided By Aviation

Stefani's frontier correspondent also mentioned inclement weather and difficulties of terrain, but said the Italians were pressing ahead, reinforced by aviation.

So far, the correspondent reported, only the Greek rear guard has been encountered in territory favorable to Greek-laid ambushes. He said the Greeks were also blowing up bridges as they withdrew.

In general, however, he said the Italian-occupied area was a rugged land having "no trace of roads," necessitating transport of every necessity on foot or with long strings of pack mules.

Augmenting a high command announcement that Fascist forces had reached the Kalamas river "at various points," the newspaper *Lavoro* Fascista's war correspondent said troops which jumped off from the border towns of Kakavia and Petrat had crossed the stream.

The main force apparently was moving down the highway which threads through the mountains from Kakavia to Ioannina (Janina), industrial town on a lake of the same name 30 miles south of the border.

The Greeks are resisting "in some spots and in some cases stiffly," the correspondent of the Turin newspaper *Gazzetta Del Popolo* reported, but generally are falling back to their main prepared positions and confining their activities to harassing Italian communications.

In addition to the land operations, the high command said its air force flew through dirty weather to bomb loaded troop transports at the port of Patras and the Lepanto naval base on the Gulf of Corinth, a barracks at Metzovo pass, in western Greece, and highway junctions in the Kalamas valley.

The identity of the troops aboard the bombed vessels was not disclosed. (Salonika dispatches said British transports were reported authoritatively to have landed troops on undisclosed Greek islands.)

In the air operations the high command reported several "enemy" planes were shot down and that one Italian craft failed to return.

BERTH SEARCHED

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Nov. 31.—(AP)—The U. S. army transport *Hunter Liggett*, with 1,200 air corps officers and men aboard, was delayed 10 hours in docking today while her berth was searched for "heavy objects" reported dumped there some time ago by a German freighter. After dragging every inch of the slip's bottom, coast guard boats brought up only a sack of potatoes. Then the transport proceeded to her berth.

Wilson Learns Of His No. 158

Seaman Returns To City And Finds He Was First Man Drafted In County

Harold O. Wilson, of Wilmington, route two, learned last night for the first time that he was the No. 1 man drafted for army service Tuesday from New Hanover county.

A seaman, Wilson was en route, to Charleston, S. C. aboard the State Port when his number—158—was pulled from the bowl in Washington by Secretary of War Stimson.

It was not until he got back into Wilmington last night and called his father that he discovered he held No. 1 honors.

George Swinson, of Castle Hayne was the first man to be drafted from Wilmington.

Wilson will be aboard the State Port docked at the foot of Ann (Continued on Page Twelve; Col. 6)

Greeks Tell Turks Help Not Needed At Present

ANKARA, Turkey, Oct. 31.—(AP)—The Greeks have told the Turkish government that they can hold out against the Italians without this country's help, authoritative quarters here said today.

They added that Turkey would enter the war only "in case of a Bulgarian attack on Greece or if Turkey's national interests are endangered."

Nevertheless, they said, this country has promised all possible aid to Greece even though that aid does not take the Turks to the point of becoming belligerents.

All this—the brief story of what must have been a series of feverish (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 5)

Greek Ships Shell Italian Troops On Border Of Albania

LONDON, Oct. 31.—(AP)—A Reuters, British news agency, dispatch from Corfu tonight said Greek naval units heavily shelled an Italian advance position on the Greek border for an hour this morning.

The news agency said the shelling was witnessed by a large number of people from the coast of Corfu, Ionian sea island which lies off the Greek-Albanian border. It said the naval guns opened up at 7 a. m. (midnight, E. S. T. Wednesday) and blasted away for a full hour.

DRAFTEES TO GET QUESTIONNAIRES

Work Of Mailing Them To Local Men Is Expected To Be Started Next Week

Young men in Wilmington and New Hanover county whose numbers were called in the army draft lottery in Washington Tuesday will probably begin receiving their questionnaires about the middle of next week, Gen. J. McClelland, chief clerk in the city draft board office here, said last night.

No questionnaires will be mailed out to draftees until the official list of order numbers for the draft have been received here.

Upon receipt of the order list, the numbers will be assigned to the registration cards of the men they have on file here.

On receipt of the official list, it was said, draft office workers will begin assigning the order numbers to the cards in the files of the two boards, after which the sending out of questionnaires to all registrants will begin.

Questionnaires will be sent to registrants in the order in which their numbers were pulled from the goldfish bowl in Washington Tuesday and will be mailed out at the rate of about 25 per day.

At that rate, Gen. McClelland, (Continued on Page Twelve; Col. 4)

ITALY SEEKS EPIRUS

Strong Troop Concentrations Are Reported On Both Sides Of The Front

GREEKS CLAIM GAINS

Large Quantities Of Abandoned Italian Arms And Equipment Captured

BITOLJ, Yugoslavia, (At The Greek Frontier) Oct. 31.—(AP)—Italian troops were reported tonight to have gained ground in the southern sector of their thrust into Greece but to be unable to crack the strong Greek resistance in the north.

Reports received here said the Italian columns attempting to smash their way into Epirus toward the strategic town of Ioannina (Janina) had made progress, although their gains were declared to be less than the 50 kilometers (30 miles) claimed by some Axis sources.

Ioannina Is Goal

Ioannina appeared to be the immediate Italian objective since it is an important operating base for the Greeks in the southern sector and contains supply depots and military hospitals.

Border observers said strong troop concentrations could be seen on both sides of the front indicating that the Italians were planning an offensive in the north (presumably from Corizza in Albania eastward toward Florina and Kastoria).

Yesterday and today the Italians brought up motorized forces and assigned them to points all along the northern front.

The Greeks claimed 100 Italian prisoners had been taken to Florina. Peasants on the shores of Lake Prespa near the juncture of the Greek-Albanian-Yugoslav frontiers heard continual machine-gun firing almost at hand and an artillery barrage in the distance.

STORM HEIGHTS

ATHENS, Greece, Oct. 31.—(AP)—In their first major counter-attack of the new war with Italy Greek soldiers were declared today to have stormed the gloomy heights north of Ioannina (Janina) and pushed back the invading fascist troops.

The town—strategically important because of its supply depots and its location, some 30 miles from the Albanian frontier and an equal distance from the coast—was thus relieved temporarily at least from what had been before a slow but continuous Italian advance by two columns.

Hill Recaptured

Specifically claimed in Greek reports were the re-capture of a hill which had been the scene of heavy action and the seizure of large (Continued on Page Twelve; Col. 5)

JAPAN ABANDONS KWANGSI PROVINCE

Approximately 7,000 Troops Have Sailed From Haiphong, Indo-China

HANOI, French Indo-China, Oct. 31.—(AP)—Japanese troops have abandoned Kwangsi province, in Southern China, and nearly 7,000 already have sailed from Haiphong, Indo-China, to a destination that was not disclosed.

They retired by way of the northern border of Indo-China, into which other Japanese detachments had marched more than a month ago to gain a lodgement in French territory and a new position from which to strike at China.

(The Japanese withdrawal from Nanning, the capital of Kwangsi, has been described by the Japanese command as voluntary, with the explanation that the city was of no essential value now that Japan has bases in Indo-China.

(The Chinese claim that it was anything but voluntary; that the Japanese campaign in Kwangsi province notorious for its epidemics—cost the invaders 74,000 men through death, injury or illness; that the whole affair was a heavy blow to Japanese prestige.)

War Interpretive

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