TAKE GENERAL

Italians from Kassala

Reported Retreating

CAIRO, Egypt, Jan. 21.—(P)
-While the British were assail-

ing two Italian divisions de-

fending Tobruk today, two

other Italian divisions were reported retreating before British imperial troops in East

This was the strength of the

fascist force which began with-

drawing from Kassa'a in the

Eritrea frontier five days ago,

British military sources said.

The Italians were disposed over a hundred-mile front east

of Kassala and are now said

to be well behind their own

frontier in Eritrea with the

British in close pursuit, oc-

casionally engaging the fascist

**COUNTER-ATTACK** 

Vainly Attempt to Make

Gains in Tepeleni Sec-

tion of Albania

counter-attacked vainly in the Te-

peleni sector of Atlanta, Greek re-

and were driven back with heavy

asualties and the loss of their

The fascist effort to check Gre-

cian drives north and west was

"Considerable success" likewise

Greek advance units early yes-

bad weather and poor visibility to

occupy a strategic height in a sur-

"More than 100 prisoners, includ-

ing three officers, were captured,"

it said. "Three mounted guns, four

The Italian counter-assault was

toward Berati, an oil producing center and the vital port of Valona.

"Reports reaching us," a gov-

such heavy losses during recent

operations that it has been neces

in order to reform it."

sary to withdraw it from the front

Despite continuous bad weather,

Italian bombers struck at a Greek

base at Piraeus, the seaport of

Athens. (The Italians claimed to

large amount of merchant tonnage

away at Valona Sunday night and

Monday in the 'heaviest bombing

attack so far carried out in that

have damaged and destroyed

to reach their objectives."

prise attack, it said.

Greek hands."

original positions.

ITALIANS STAGE

Sudan-Italian

Before British Troops

# Rumanian Arm; on Guardists Fighting PIERCE LINES, In Charge Of State Police

German Officer Is Slain During Riots in Bucharest

MINISTER DISMISSED

87 Important Industries Are Militarized by the Chief of State

BUCHAREST, Jan. 22.—(Wed-Widespread disrders in Rumania including the German officer rompted General Ion Antonescu put the army in charge of the tate police, militarize 87 imporent industries, and make a deserate appeal last night to dissint iron guardists to "forget the and aid him in reestab-

fighting was between heavilynanian iron guardists nd the Ruman army. From Sofia was reported German troops, w stationed in Rumania in great mbers, were speeding to Buchat and other cities to quell the

inister of the Interior Petrevicsu, a leading iron guardist, "for ire to set up a guard around hotel housing the German miliv mission, failure to take the ecessary steps after the murder the German major, and for alwing internal order to collapse.' Dimitru Popescu, military comander of Bucharest, was named new minister of interior. All police refects were replaced by military en, an army major was named head of military censorship, an army general replaced the state

country were blamed by Antonescu on foreign agents, rebellious elements, and "some misunder-

stardings by individuals." (An official Rumanian news agency dispatch published in Belgrade today said Horia Sima, iron guard leader, left Bucharest last night for Berlin to confer with Nazi leaders there

A decree was published providing the death penalty for any premedi-

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

## WEATHER

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

Temperature

1:30 a. m. 32; 7:30 p. m. 31; 1:30 p. m. 51; 7:30 p. m. 44; maximum 51; minimum 30; mean 40; normal 46

Humidity

1:30 a. m. 67: 7:30 a. m. 57; 1:30 p. m. 58;

Precipitation
Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m
0.00 inches. Total since first of the

From Tides For Today

(From Tide Tables published by S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

Wilmington 5:18a 12: Masonboro Inlet 5:38p 12:36;
Sunrise 7:15a; sunset 5:33p; moon rise 2:33a; moonset 1:25p.

Cape Fear river stage at Fayette-ville on Jan. 21, at 8 a. m., 11 feet.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21. - (P) Weather bureau records of temperature and rainfall for the 24 hours ending 8

| Comparison | Com mpa, p c 63
sshington, p c 39



Arrival in America was doubly good fortune for 16-year-old Clotilde Obst, pictured above as she recently landed in New York. Not only had she made her way from Switzerland to the safety of the U. S., but she was rejoining her mother, whom she had not seen for 12 years.

Be Drafted into War Factories

By The Associated Press decided to register her working men and women as a potentia!

'permanent mobile labor force" which soon may be drafted into war factories, Labor Minister Ernest Bevin told the house of commons today. In announcing plans for a cen-

sus by age groups "of those who North Carolina: Partly cloudy and warmer Wednesday; Thursday increasing cloudiness, followed by light rain in the training the state. Should be called upon to serve the state, behind the lines, Bevin assured parliament that industry was in the state. should be called upon to serve the interior, slightly warmer in cen- speeding up rather than bogging dewn. No Exceptions

"Most people will volunteer," he

declared, but he warned "there will be no exception of rank or anything else." Bevin detailed Britain's indus-

trial progress in recent months and said house members would be greatly encouraged "if I were at liberty to reveal the rate at which we are now able to equip a division with guns and machine-guns."

With the announcement, Bevin disclosed several other drastic

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

# 18 FISHERMEN

Frozen Fingers Can Hold No Longer

eighteen fishermen plunged to death in the icy sea early today as frozen fingers longer could retain a precarious perch in the main masthead rigging of the sinking schooner Mary

E. O'Hara. The rigging and an even smalle portion of the foremast was all that remained above the ocean sursank in 49 feet of water after picked up by the ground network city area. crashing into an anchored coal

0.00 (Continued on Page Ten; Col. 3) throughout the area, he said.

Army Placed Happy Reunion After 12 Years U. S. Embargo On Planes To

> Friendly Gesture Designed To Improve Relations With Moscow

> > MAY BE WEDGE

May Be Attempt to Separate U. S. S. R. from Axis Powers

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.- (A) In a friendly gesture designed to improve relations with Moscow, the United States tonight lifted a 'moral embargo" on the export of airplanes and airplane equipment to Soviet Russia. Whether the move was part of

an attempt to drive a wedge between Russia and the Axis powers was not stated, but it has been known for some time that both Britain and the United States have been seeking better relations with the Soviet regime.

Inasmuch as American plane production for a long time to come is virtually earmarked for Britain and the United States' own needs, there was considerable doubt that tonight's action would lead to any important shipments of planes to

The main purpose, it was beieved, was to remove the continuing stigma of the "moral embarwhich was applied during the equipment to nations guilty of the "bombing and machine gunning of carefully planned of any launched by Premier Mussolini's legions in Russo-Finnish war. At that time ALL LABUK FUKCES civilian populations from the air. The move also may lead to a more liberal application of the ex-Bucharest and other parts of the Men and Wemen May Soon port license system on machine Russia has been seeking to purchase in the United States. Airplanes also are subject to this government control system.

The "moral embargo," which Russian Ambassador Constantine LONDON, Jan. 21.-Britain has Oumansky was advised no longer

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

#### HITLER'S ANSWER TO BE DELIVERED

Information Reply to Petain Is Drafted and Will Be Sent Soon

VICHY, France, Jan. 21. - (A) -Information from Paris indicated tonight that Adolf Hitler's reply to Chief of State Marshal Petain is ready and soon will be delivered by

Fernand de Brinon, French repre- waterway than Southport. sentative in Paris. It was not possible, however, to obtain immediate confirmation here. for the establishment of a naval said yesterday, will keep his present cabinet until Hitler answers his fense project to be obtained here Christmas Eve message outlining in the immediate future. how German-French collaboration

could continue. Negotiations have been halted Southport for the construction of since Pierre Laval, former foreign small naval vessels, referred to the

PERISH IN SEA Air Raid Warning System Fall Into Icy Waters When Test Commenced By ADC

BY CHARLES FRANCIS NEW YORK, Jan. 21.-(2) -The ships, Curtiss P-40's, the Army's northeastern United States had a latest type of fighter, did not work slight taste of modern aerial war out, General Chaney said, adding one, as a pale winter moon conditions today as the Air Dethat "we did not expect them to test of air raid warning facilities perience, he asserted. Radio conand fleet army pursuit ships sped tacts between the fields and puraloft from five flying fields to in- suit planes were held responsible tercept invading "enemy" bomb for several failures.

> Summarizing the day's activities, Major General James E. Chaney, commanding general of the ADC, described them as highly successful. Every "enemy" bomber was of more than 10,000 volunteer civilian observers at some 700 posts

| Some interceptions by pursuit

General Chaney praised the cooperation of civilian observers who began their chilly vigils at dawn for more effective British counter Johnston's surrender to General Sherand continued them throughout the measures by sea and air in the man at the Bennett place in Durham day in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and the New York

Their work in quickly reporting

After Italians In Sudan



Native members of Britain's Sudan Defense Force leap from their trucks to go into action during one of the attacks on the Eritrean border, which British reported were climaxed by the defeat of Italians all along the 200-mile Sudanese front. British claim two Italian dvisions (24,000) were routed with more than 2000 casualties from the Kassala area.

In History

BY JOHN PEELE

Needs to be Heard

### Appropriations Group To TURKS PUT LARGE Increase Speed Of Work ARMY IN THRACE

hearings.

as scheduled.

SOUTHPORT GROUP Taylor Predicts Committee

Outlines Steps to Allow Town to Participate in Defense Program

SOUTHPORT, Jan. 21. - Steps up the tempo" of public hearings that Southport might take in the by voting to hold two night sesimmediate future in order to partisions next week. cipate in the expanding national defense program were suggested by Franklin and House Chairman Hugh MacRae, of Wilmington, in a Kerr of Warren were instructed to talk before a dinner meeting of representative Southport citizens at he Miller hotel here tonight.

MacRae suggested that efforts be pushed for a three lane highway from the Brunswick river bridge to be devoted to presentation of the Southport, and cited the need for needs of the department of labor the provision of more adequate rail- and the department of conservation road facilities from Wilmington to and development. Because of ill-Southport.

Modernize Basin

The yacht basin here now in the process of development, he said, should be modernized to secure further values. MacRae said no other spot on the coast could reap a richer benefit from the inland

The section about Southport is ideally suited by natural advantages waste. Petain, a high government source base, said the speaker, who termed first moved to hold three night sesthis "best and biggest" national de-

MacRae also suggested the possibility of getting shipyards (Continued on Page Three; Col. 4) (Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

## War Interpretive

(Continued on Page Ten; Coi. 4)

Early fall of Tobruk, besieged Italian strong point in East Libya, would do more than further deplete the Fascist army in North Africa or heap fresh disaster on Mussolini. It might serve to help the British incalculably in dealing with the Nazi-Fascist air offensive in the central Mediterranean.

That Axis effort to block the Sicilian channel to British use is seriously complicating the British campaign in Africa as well as British efforts to aid Greece in Al- vation of Antiquities. bania. It may have forced the Brittish high command to expedite the in New Hanover county, site of the only in sites of national historical attempt to smash Italian resist- Civil war battle of Bentonville in significance and that the land com- British armies of north Africa "must ance at Tobruk and open a route Johnston county, site of General prising the sites must be given the Sicilian channel.

The Tobruk garrison is in virtually the same plight as were the Representatives of agencies now in Fascist defenders of Bardia, far-charge of the sites attended the meet-

Action Will Report Earliest

ISTANBUL, Turkey, Jan. 21-49 troops north of Klisura "to posi--The official Turkish wireless announced tonight that the government "has gathered a great part of its army in Thrace (European RALEIGH, Jan. 21-(A)-An ad-Turkey), where it awaits any posjournment-b e n t appropriations sible action."

committee today moved to "step Discussing the possibility of a German invasion across the Balkans the radio said: "Those who attack our steel for-

tress of Thrace are doomed to fall machine-guns, some mortars and Senate Chairman Lumpkin of in the attempt! Turkey fought on many cases of cartridges fell into eight fronts in the last war-no one make arrangements for two night should doubt her ability to fight on to beat their heads on the rock break up the slow Greek advance one front alone. Those who want Part of the evening ressions will may do so."

The broadcaster expressed doubt however, that the Nazis could mass enough troops in Rumania to attempt the invasion, asserting: ness, Labor Commissioner Forrest They would meet a wide Balkan Shuford and Conservation Director The Balkans can muster Bruce Etheridge were unable to more than 100 divisions and added appear before the committee today to these would be British forces."

By April, the commentator con-Representative Taylor of Wayne tinued, Germany at best could predicted that the appropriations have only about 16 divisions in Rucommittee would report its bill "the earliest in history," but caumania and would be forced to leave some troops there. tioned against too heavy a schedule of night meetings lest "haste make

"It is doubtful," he added, "that in the well-protected bay.") It was Senator Howell of Buncombe ly through Bulgaria. Also, they the bombers were shot down. A was described by a fascist press orwould have to protect their left and right flanks (presumably and wounded" among the civilian the United States, and there were against Turkey and Yugoslavia) . . therefore, it appears that the wrecked. German troops in Rumania will be

used only for pressure against the Balkans, not for conquest." Turning to the visit to Sofia, Bul-

#### Continued on Page Three; Col. 6) region." Plans To Make Fort Fisher National Park Are Talked

RALEIGH, Jan. 21.—(A)-Plans to | service and asking Secretary C. C. toric sites to the National Park servtoday called by the state historical Pratt of the Society for the Presercommission, the conservation department and the Society for the Preser-

The historic sites are Fort Fisher county and Alamance battlefield in of the park service appeared inter-Alamance county.

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 1) (Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5) ing to turn the sites over to the park (Continued on Page Ten; Col. 3) (Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)

turn over four North Carolina his- Crittenden of the historical commis British off the shipping lanes but sion and President Joseph Hyde away from the north African coast vation of Antiquities to present a brief to the park service.

R. B. Lattimore of the park serv- ence. ice said his agency was interested government outright.

ested in obtaining the sites at a meeting he attended several weeks ago-

Louis T. Moore of Wilmington told

extremely precarious position."

and Greeks already have a line from

Italian Cruiser Reported in

Assault Follows All-Night

Raids Carried Out by Royal Air Force (By The Associated Press) CAIRO, Egypt, Jan. 21.-Australian shock troops led by a crack British regiment smashed through Ital-

**ROYAL NAVY AIDS** 

Flames in Harbor

By British

ATTACK AT DAWN

BELGRADE, Jan. 22 .- (Wednesday)-(P)-Horia Sima, Rumanian Iron Guard leader, left Bucharest for Berlin last night to confer with Nazi leaders there, an official Rumanian news agency dispatch said today.

an defenses at Tobruk, Libya, to a

lepth of more than five miles today and captured many prisoners, including a general, the British high command announced.

"The advance is continuing," the British added.

Royal Navy Aids

Despite hte presence of German ATHENS, Jan. 21.-Italians dive-bombers in the Mediterranean area the Royal Navy stood offshore and poured high explosives into Tobruk where 30,000 Italians are beports from the front said today, sieged.

"The Italian cruiser San Giorgio in Tobruk harbor is in flames together with a number of petrol (gasoline)

que said. Tanks and the Royal Air Force by Premier Mussolini's legions in to the assault at dawn today after that area.

aration that recently reduced the was noted in a dispatch from the Bardia garrison. Capture of the Italian general front in a movement of Greek made a declared total of 12 thus far captured in the British campaign in tions from which it will be easier Egypt and Italian Libya. Italian losses in dead, wounded and captured already are estimated to total 83,500. terday morning took advantage of

The RAF carried out all-night raids Sunday and yesterday before the ground charge began. The British airmen showered the outer defenses with explosives and the town and harbor installations with both explosive and fire bombs. Hits on marine repair shops and the silencing of Italian ground batteries were claimed.

intended, Greek reports said, to (Continued on Page Ten; Col. 6)

### **DUCE-HITLER MEET** ernment spokesman said, 'say the Italian Julia division has suffered IS HELD 'WARNING'

German Attempt to Gain French Bases to Hit British Navy Predicted

(By The Associated Press) ROME, Jan. 21.-Adolf Hitler's sothe Germans could pass peaceful officially announced that two of cret meeting with Benito Mussolini communique noted "a few dead gan today as "a solemn warning" to population and some houses predictions that the Nazis would seek to gain French bases in a supreme A Greek government communique effort to drive the British navy from

said that the British RAF blasted the Mediterranean. There were forecasts of a spring Axis offensive intended to break Britain before the United States could make a material contribution to her defense, and the one taken by some authoritative writers suggested that there had been a virtual merger of Germany and Italian forces, including their hig hommands.

At Top of List Fascist informants indicated that an attempt to seize control of the Mediterranean-not only to drive the to relieve the Italians in Libya stood at the top of the list of the war plans drawn up by Hitler and Mussolini in their week-end confer-

The Catholic newspaper L'Avenire, for example, declared that if the proceed with their right flank exposed to the air and naval attacks of Crittenden said the advisory board the Axis they will soon end up in an

"In Albania," it said, "the British the Yugoslav frontier to the coast