



PATTERN OF DEATH—Like a flock of phosphorescent prehistoric creatures of the air are the spectacular explosions, above of British star shells, bursting in formation in British naval action against Vichy French during the Syrian campaign. Destroyer is silhouetted in flashes of her own guns. Photo just arrived in San Francisco by clipper from Syria.

City Port Prospects Brighten GREATER USE SOUGHT

Traffic Manager of Harbor Reveals Statistical Report Sent From Here

Prospects of the Port of Wilmington handling an even greater amount of business, possibly taxing the harbor to capacity, loomed last night when it was learned that plans are underway in Washington to increase the use of South Atlantic ports in an effort to ease the strain on the larger eastern shipping centers.

MANAGER CALLS SUNDAY SESSION

City Officials Mum on Subject Discussed at Star Chamber Meeting

Two members of City council, fire and police chiefs and City Manager James G. Wallace met in a secret session in a chamber meeting in the city manager's office yesterday afternoon at which all outsiders, including a Wilmington Star reporter, were barred.

British Air Losses Heavy, Claim Nazis

BERLIN, Aug. 24.—(AP)—The high command asserted today that the British air force had lost 1,044 planes and the Germans only 127 in two months of air battling from the Mediterranean to the North Sea.

ARMY TO REVIEW HABINYAK CASE

War Department Said Likely to Reduce Drastically Terms of Imprisonment

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—(AP)—Authoritative sources indicated today that the War Department would reduce drastically the 10-year court-martial sentence imposed on John Habinyak, 26-year-old Pennsylvania selectee, for repeated disobedience of orders.

BLITZ ATTACK WRECKS CONVOY

25 Ships, Including Naval Vessels, Sunk by Submarines and Bombers

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—(AP)—The German high command in a special communique broadcast over the Berlin radio tonight claimed the sinking of 25 ships totalling 148,200 tons in a British convoy en route to Gibraltar.

PRIORITY STATUS PROBE PROPOSED

Searching Inquiry Into Effect of OPM Powers Due for Senate Hearing

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—(AP)—A rising tide of complaints that small industries are being cut off from essential materials generated bipartisan support today for a proposed congressional investigation of the government's system of defense priorities.

Good Prices Anticipated On New Bright Leaf Belt

RALEIGH, Aug. 24.—(AP)—Auction sales will open Tuesday on the 14 markets of the new Bright (Eastern Carolina) Tobacco Belt with the growers more cheerful over the outlook than at any time in recent years.

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia: Continued warm and partly cloudy with scattered thunder showers in afternoon and early evening Monday and Tuesday.

SAYS U. S. WILL JOIN

British Prime Minister Declares Two Million Germans Die in Russia

LONDON, Aug. 24.—Prime Minister Churchill, describing Adolf Hitler as "surprised, startled and staggered" at the bloody cost of the German invasion of Russia, declared in a broadcast tonight that Britain would join the United States in action against Japan, the Asiatic Axis partner, if the Japanese persisted in aggression.

PERSIANS AWAIT ULTIMATUM; BRITISH READY TO STRIKE; CHURCHILL WARNS JAPANESE

TROOPS WITHDRAWN

London Expected to Order Force Into Country If Nazis Granted Stay

TEHRAN, Iran, Aug. 23.—(Delayed)—An ultimatum to the Iran government is expected from London today, the British legation said, as tension over the continued presence of German specialists in this country grew near to the snapping point.



THE BATTLE OF LENINGRAD—With a citizens army erecting barricades in Leningrad's streets, Soviet troops are reported making a to-the-death stand in the north city as German and Finnish troops storm the approaches. (1) Finns claimed drive down Karelian Isthmus to Kiviniemi

Mammoth Tank Battle Rages Near Leningrad

(By The Associated Press) MOSCOW, Monday, Aug. 25.—Mammoth tank battles raged today along the approaches to Leningrad and on the central front before Moscow where stiffening Red army defenders reported destroying 135 tanks and routing a Nazi infantry division over a battlefield littered with German armor.

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GREENSBORO PIPE LINE AUTHORIZED

President Roosevelt Gives Go-Ahead Order on Long Gasoline Conduit

HYDE PARK, N. Y., Aug. 24.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has authorized the Plantation Pipe Line company to construct a line from Baton Rouge, La., to Greensboro, N. C., for "national defense purposes."

CIO CALLS OFF KEARNY STRIKE

Accepts 'Terms' With Navy Department; Work to Resume Immediately

KEARNY, N. J., Aug. 24.—(AP)—Decks were cleared today for resumption of work on \$493,000 worth of naval and merchant shipbuilding contracts held by the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock company as a naval official announced that first steps were about to be taken to reopen the idle yards and a union president stated that the 17-day-old strike was "definitely over."

ANTI-NAZI TERRORISTS STRIKE AGAIN IN PARIS

Automobile Filled With German Officers Wrecked In Defiance To Berlin-Vichy Threat To Hostages

By The Associated Press VICHY, Unoccupied France, Aug. 24.—Anti-Nazi terrorists were reported today to have wrecked an automobile full of Germans near Paris in the first challenge to the German army to carry out its threat of shooting hostages for such acts.

Timoshenko's Red Army Said Caught In Pincer

By The Associated Press BERLIN, Aug. 24.—A great encirclement battle was declared by DNB to be developing today on the 150-mile sector between Kiev and Gomel and German dispatches told of increased civilian reinforcement of the Soviet Russian army.

British Get Permission to Man U. S. Merchantmen

HYDE PARK, N. Y., Aug. 24.—(AP)—An executive order, which White House officials said today would have the effect of allowing British masters and crews to sail ships operating under jurisdiction of the Federal Maritime commission, has been issued by President Roosevelt.

Blood Volunteered As Negro Loses Legs In Railway Accident

William Cherry, colored, whose address was said to be 1106 North Second street, was in a critical condition in James Walker Memorial hospital last night following the amputation of both legs after he fell or jumped from a Seaboard Airline railway train late yesterday afternoon.

President Entertains Young Brother of King

HYDE PARK, N. Y., Aug. 24.—(AP)—President Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt entertained the young brother of the late Dr. Martin Luther King at the White House today.

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