

MEXICAN SHIP IS TORPEDOED

Vessel Is First Lost By Country As Result Of Submarine Action

MIAMI, Fla., May 14.—(AP)—An Axis submarine stalked a fully lighted Mexican government-owned merchant ship, the Portreso Del Lland, off the south east coast for half an hour recently and then rammed a torpedo directly into the large, illuminated Mexican flag painted on its sides beneath the bridge.

It was the first Mexican ship lost by submarine action since the war began. Survivors who landed at a Florida port said the ship burst into flames and 13 men, including the captain and deck officers, were killed. The 22 who reached safety told in amazed voices of the attack on their neutral ship. Naval craft rescued them, and the Navy released news of the sinking today.

The blazing ship floated for hours past one of the most populous beach resorts in the United States and thousands of persons gathered on the seashore to watch its flaming course. Many persons heard the muffled roar of the exploding torpedo and saw the first flash of flames.

To prevent just such an occurrence, the Mexican naval ministry recently ordered all Mexican ships to keep lights burning at night and the nation's flag flying by day. Obeying orders, Captain Gabriel Cruz Y Diaz had every light burning and spotlights on the Mexican flag painted on each side of the ship.

The attack came in the dead of night. Captain Cruz was on the bridge and with him were the deck officers—First Officer Rafael Costelean Y Grita, Second Officer Jorge Pawling Y Salazar, and Third Officer Jose Virgen Y Rojas. The torpedo explosion wrecked the bridge, killing all of them.

Eduardo Sibaja Y Ramirez of Vera Cruz province, a quartermaster, was on his way to the bridge to relieve the helmsman Jose Magana, when disaster struck. He told his story through an interpreter.

"Jose came to my quarters a few minutes before and awakened me," said Sibaja. "He told me we are being followed." I asked him what was following us and he gave a knowing look.

"A big animal," he said. "It has been following us for half an hour." I knew what he meant. I dressed hurriedly and was making my way to the bridge. Suddenly there was a blinding flash. The bridge went to pieces before my eyes. Jose died with the officers. In two minutes it would have been I who died.

"We were a neutral ship, fully marked as a neutral, but with such an enemy there is no such thing as neutrality.

"Those of us who were saved dove into the sea. We saw the periscope and conning tower of the submarine moving swiftly away. The water became a sea of flames. We found pieces of wreckage and tied them together, and in about three hours were being rescued by United States Navy craft."

PROTECT FILED

MEXICO CITY, May 14.—(AP)—The Mexican government, in a note addressed to Germany, Italy and Japan, tonight demanded "complete satisfaction and a guarantee of damage reparations" by May 28 for the sinking of the 7,500-ton Mexican tanker Portreso del Lland, threatening otherwise to "take a position in accordance with Mexican traditions."

EXCELLENT AVERAGE

New York police solved 98.09 per cent of the 29,287 missing person cases in 1935.

Gas Registration Is Concluded Here

No Figures Yet Available On Number Who Applied For Ration Cards

As rationing of gasoline went into effect here last midnight, O. H. Shoemaker, chairman of the rationing board, said he could not determine the number of people registered for cards as reports were incomplete.

The staff of the rationing board has handled a continuous influx of complaints since the first cards were issued Tuesday, it was learned.

Do Not Understand

Many persons are unable to understand the exact situation, it was pointed out, and cannot see why they are restricted as to the amount of gas they can purchase. Mr. Shoemaker further commented on the fact that many per-

Japanese Will Get Chance To Display Loyalty To America

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—In a few days, more than 75,000 Japanese ordered removed from western military areas will be offered the chance to demonstrate their loyalty to the United States by enlisting in work corps for agricultural, construction, irrigation and other projects in inland communities.

The enlistments, purely voluntary and lasting for the war's duration, will be open both to men and women. M. S. Eisenhower, director of the War Relocation authority, announced.

Small cash payments will be made, but in no case will they "exceed the minimum base pay for the American soldier," Eisenhower said. In opening stages of the program, the sums will be charged against the enterprises under development. Later, portions of the earnings of the projects will go into the cash stipends.

Obituaries

HIRAM MCN. MCKEITHAN

Funeral services for Hiram McNeil McKeithan, who died Wednesday at his residence at Southport were conducted Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Southport Baptist church with Rev. Mr. Brown officiating. Burial was in the Beaver Dam cemetery, near Supply.

Pallbearers were, active, C. E. Gause, J. M. Barnhill, John R. Newton, James Garner, Fred Spencer and R. F. Plexico; honorary, J. D. Sutton, H. T. Bowmer, B. G. Hickman, W. F. Jones and J. W. Lancaster.

MRS. LUE WILLIAMS

Funeral services for Mrs. Lue Williams, who died Tuesday night at her home, 1417 Castle street, were conducted Thursday afternoon at the graveside in Stump Sound church cemetery, with the Rev. V. D. Combs officiating.

Pallbearers were, active, E. A. King, M. T. Sellers, W. H. Burges, Rudolph King, C. S. Everett and D. M. Hicks; honorary, C. L. Holland, L. M. Davis, B. H. King, James Wilson and A. L. King.

18 DIE

GUAYMAQUIL, Ecuador, May 14.—(AP)—The worst earthquake in Guaymaquil's history rocked the city for two full minutes last night, killing at least 18 persons, including John M. Slaughter, U. S. vice consul, and his wife.

Lack Of Cars Will Give Parents An Opportunity To Know Their Children

BALTIMORE, May 14.—Gasoline rationing will bring a "minor social revolution" which soon will make effects of the depression "seem trivial in comparison," a prominent sociologist predicted today.

"Hundreds of gay, childless marriages may break up, but children will reap a great benefit in the measure bringing a new social pattern," said Dr. Ivan E. McDougale, Goucher college sociology professor.

"Automobiles mean more to many Americans than clothes, food or shelter. Thousands of people's lives are bound up in the 3,000 pounds of metal which is a pleasure car," he said.

"Many families will become more closely welded together. Many parents will get to know their children for the first time. Many husbands and wives will find new meaning and beauty in their joint lives. But hundreds of other marriages will go on the rocks.

"The young husband and wife who come home every night just to decide where they'll go for the evening are headed for a smash-up unless they develop intellectual interests, hobbies, and the like."

"Dating" will change, Dr. McDougale continued, and youths "no longer will be able to go to a movie 10 miles away, drive three miles for a soda and then cruise to get in a little kissing."

"The only element of the family which is likely to benefit 100 per cent is the child. Children will certainly get more attention from their parents. They also will be happier at home than they have been in past days riding around in the back seats of bumpy cars. No, I'm definitely not worried about the youngsters."

290 TO GRADUATE AT HIGH SCHOOL

(Continued from Page One)

May 28 in the High school auditorium under the direction of Mrs. J. W. Grise.

Mr Hamilton said the schools would close May 30 when report cards and promotions will be presented to the students.

Following is a list of seniors who are candidates for diplomas: Carolyn Allen, Sylvia Allen, Anne Andrews, Frances Applewhite, Julia Elizabeth Ashworth, Barbara Aycock, Inez Bailly, Florence Bane, Betty Barnes, Dorothy Batson, Jane Beekman, Irene B. Katherine Bell, Audrey Benton, Edith Blanton, Ruth Bostain, Martha Brinson, Patricia Brown, Evelyn Brown, Hazel Lee Brown, Ann C. Burr, Jean Bryan, Mary Ella Bryan, Helen Louise Gandy, Dorothy Clewis, Erma Clemmons.

Also Elea or Coble, Julia A. Coleman, Margaret Costin, Elizabeth Covill, Lois Cress, Nancy A. Critchfield, Cleotentina Croom, Louise Davis, Elizabeth Dixon, Lillian Dixon, Elizabeth Dmytruk, Jane Dunham, Lenora J. Edwards, Elva Elliott, Miriam Ellis, Mary Davis, Vernon Felke, Esie Ferguson, Tessie Finch, Hilda Flowers, Virginia Fryer, Mary F. Futrelle, Margaret Ganos, Charlotte Gardner, Mary Frances Gause, Dimitra George, Helen Gymruk.

Also Katherine Goodman, Leola Mae Gore, Evelyn E. Gray, Jane Grenier, Margaret W. Groover, Margaret Guyton, Edith Habenicht, Ola Frances Hale, Betty Hall, Christina Hall, Greta Hammonds, Mary Hardwick, Betty J. Harper, Janice Hart, Nell Jane Herring, Nell Irene Herring, Laura H. Holden, Eleanor Holland, Joyce L. Holland, Gibbs Holmes, Edna Arlene Horne, Martha Humbert, Leona Janicki, Lillian Johnson, Jean Jones, Virginia Kelley, Annie Mae King, Lucy Mae King, Margaret Sarah King, Irene Rebecca Land, Carolyn Le Ray, Dorothy Elizabeth Lewis, Marie Lynch, Jean Maggett, Ann Manitsas, Mary B. McCarl, Mary Helen McGowan, Emily McMillan, Thelma Melvin.

Also Betsy Ann Middleton, Betty Mintz, Thelma Mintz, Vera D. Misener, Dot Montford, Frankie Murphy, Shirley M. Newland, Muriel G. Quinn, Lucille Padgett, Gloria Palmer, Jocelyn Peck, Nuala Petalas, Sally Prevatt, Lula Pulliam, Janet Rabunsky, Lena Mae Rackley, Emily Raftery, Juliette Robertson, Elinor Romeo, Ruby Salmon, Frances Salyer, Margaret Sandlin, Betty Lou Saunders, Nell Sellers, Norma Sellers, Betty Sheppard, Edith Shew Harriett Shooter, Orine Simmons, Irma Simpson, Margaret Skinner, Bertha Smith, Clara Smith, Marguerite Smith, Margie Smith, Mildred Smith, Vera Smith, Carolyn Farkman, Alice P. Sprunt, Marjorie Stumple, Fannie M. Stewart, Peggy Summerlin, Margaret Taylor, Marie Taylor, Mary Pauline Threshers, Frances Thornton, Emma H. Trask, Priscilla Tyler, Elizabeth Underwood, Mangeline Van Oesen, Jean West, Mary Alice Westbrook, Elizabeth E. Williamson, Louise H. Wolff, Mariah Thompkins.

Boys: Wilbur Applewhite, Edward Auld, Frank Ballard, Hugh Barlow, Clinton Batson, Billy Bech, Alton Bedsole, Donald Blake, Floyd Blake, Kenneth Bland, Charles Boney, Elbert Bowden, James Bowden, Alex Brown, Robert Burns, Ernest Brown, Edgar Carter, John Chadwick, Norma Collins, John Collum, Jr., James Irvin Corbett, Jr., Maurice P. Daniels, Kenneth Davis, Norman Davis, Jr., Robert Dixon, Phillip Dresser, William Duncan, Richard Dunlea, Jr., A. C. Everett, Robert A. Ferguson, Harry Edward Fryer.

Also, Robert R. Garey, Richard Grey Gibbs, Mortimer Glover, Jr., Danville B. Graham, Jr., John William Gray, Lehman Greene, Robert William Greer, Bennie D. Griffith, Billy Haas, George E. Harper, E. G. Herrins, James Edward Hill, Clinton Hines, Charles Hodges, Harold Vance Horton, Thomas Hughes, Jr., Norfleet Jackson, Robert Johnson, Jerry A. Jones, Jr., Talmadge Jordan, Rufus Charlie Justice, Robert Stewart Keels, Driskell Kelly, Neil Kelley, Melvin Kester, David E. King, John S. Kind, Thomas Landen, Jr., Royce Lee, Robert Little, Avery Loftin, Jr., Howard Loughlin.

Also Kirk Low, Charles Lovrimore, Jr., James Lynch, Bryan Marshburn, Tommy Marshburn, Charles Martin, Carl Mathis, Charles Maxine, Carl Maxwell, Ralph McCabe, Jack McCready, James Fulford McMillan, Jack Meadows, Fred Merritt, Henry Michaelis, James Middleton, Marvin Midgette, Robert Moore, Marion Murray, John G. Nall, Jasper Needham, Joe Newton, Thomas A. Nisbett, Robert Odwell, David Ormond, Claude Orrell, Fred C. Ourt, Claude Owensby, David Peterson, Jr., James Lee Owen, Thomas Phillips, Billy Pieper, Mark Pison, Walter Register, Tony Reynolds, Edward Rivenbark, Leman Rogers, William Rogers, Charles Rourke, Luther Russell, Jr., Walter Russ, Howard Hills Russell, George Saffo, Robert Sanders, Roland Sasser, Jr., Arthur Shain, George Sloan, Robert McCleod Smith, James A. Sneed, James E. Sneed, Louie C. Sneed, en, James Roy Starnes, Fred B. Sternberger, Roy Stevens, Hardy Strickland, Thomas E. Stutzenberg, Elio H. Tins, Leon Todd, Sam Tyler, Harold Van Fossan, Edward Fenneth Warren, Andrew O. Waters, Jr., William H. Wendt, III, J. A. West, Jr., Jack West, Thomas West, Harry Wettig, Jr., Fred Willetts, Jr., James S. Williams, Blainie Wilson, Harold D. Wilson, Jack Wilson, McCulloch Wilson, Jr., William Wilson, Jr., Edward Wooten.

NATIONAL RECORD SET BY SHIPYARD

(Continued from Page One)

business. It is an enterprise bent upon doing the job that must be done to win the war—turning out ships on a mass production scale without delays or hold-ups.

Officials and workers of the North Carolina Shipbuilding company point with pride to what they have accomplished in so short a space of time.

Work of building the shipyard was started February 4, 1941. With ship construction in progress only ten months, ten ships have been launched from the yard's nine ways, and eight of them are now in service.

Production has reached the point where the yard is launching one ship each week.

WEATHER

(Continued from Page One)

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—Weather Bureau report of temperature and rain fall for the 24 hours ending 8 p. m., in the principal cotton growing areas, and elsewhere:

Station	High	Low	Precip.
Asheville	74	60	0.00
Atlanta City	68	57	0.00
Boston	54	47	0.00
Burlington	86	52	0.00
Charlotte	80	63	0.00
Cincinnati	87	61	0.43
Cleveland	82	63	0.22
Detroit	74	65	0.00
Duluth	43	31	0.00
Fort Worth	77	62	0.21
Little Rock	76	64	0.00
Memphis	83	64	0.00
Miami	87	67	0.00
Mobile	81	64	0.00
New York	80	61	0.00
Norfolk	80	61	0.00
Richmond	84	61	0.00
San Antonio	86	74	0.00
Washington	84	64	0.00
Wilmington	76	68	0.00

REDS ADVANCING UPON KHARKOV

(Continued from Page One)

onslaught by Marshal Semeon Timoshenko's massive and well-equipped southern command was aimed straight at the pivot of the whole German southern line and was intended to demolish all the carefully laid and slowly developing Nazi plans for a vast offensive toward the Russian Caucasus.

"German high command reports said a strong Russian attack in this "Donets area" were being resisted, but did not claim they were repulsed; later broadcasts described the employment of a vast Russian tank which was termed "an armored colossus."

Simultaneously the Red army announced a break-through in the Nazi primary lines before Leningrad, and there were other manifestations of savage Russian assaults at many points on a 1,100-mile battle front.

Before Kharkov, said Soviet military dispatches, the powerful initial Russian assault smashed strong enemy fortifications and the advance was pouring through a widening breach while the Red command called up more troops, tanks and guns for a frontal assault on the city itself.

This action outshadows the struggle on the Kerch peninsula, across the narrow strait from the Caucasus, and scene of reverses which the Russians have acknowledged.

Would imperil 2,000,000 Germans have held since last October 25, would imperil all the 2,000,000 troops which Hitler had poured into the south, including those now attacking in the Crimea and those who are poised for eastward assault along the upper shores of the Sea of Azov.

On the Kerch isthmus, the Russians were resisting stubbornly after falling back to new positions under the weight of superior German numbers. Today's communication, which did not specifically mention the greater Kharkov battle, said violent battles continued overnight on the Crimean front.

(Here, the German high command said, the Soviet Kerch force was beaten and in flight, but it avoided repeating the roundabout claims of other Axis sources that Kerch city had fallen, reporting instead that the town was under German aerial bombardment.)

American and British tanks were engaged in the great Kharkov battle and Soviet artillery and warplanes were in violent action.

Soviet dispatches said the Red fliers dominated the air, destroying more than 30 German aircraft on the ground in the first day and shooting down five fighters.

The suddenness of the assault spread panic in the German ranks and many of the defenders were reported to have fled, abandoning both artillery and mortars.

Rush Reinforcements German reinforcements were being rushed up from the Ukraine manpower reservoir, to replace losses already described as tremendous.

The Red army organ Red Star said: "Everything is being abandoned by the Germans in great quantities on the field of action."

An especially savage battle was reported at one point, where the Germans had erected powerful fortifications, spread thick mine-fields and raised many anti-tank barriers.

Red Army troops attacked on two sides of this point, piercing the defenses, neutralizing the pillboxes and pursuing the retreating Germans.

On the Leningrad front, Soviet accounts indicated that a similar all-out effort for the relief of that city was in progress.

Russian troops driving through the dank slush of spring were said to have smashed the German front positions in a number of sectors and in some areas to have compelled Marshal Wilhelm Ritter von Leeb to fall back from his second lines.

(The British wireless broadcast that the Russian Baltic fleet had steamed out of its base at Kronstadt, near Leningrad, and was in action in the Gulf of Finland against German positions along the coast.)

Apart from these major actions against the two main Russian cities now in Nazi grip or control, Kharkov and Leningrad—other Soviet offensive action was reported over wide areas.

About Smolensk, west of Moscow large bands of Russian guerrillas, armed with such comparatively heavy stuff as trench mortars and even captured field pieces, were assaulting the German rear in synchronization with attacks by Red bombers.

In the Staraya Russa region below Leningrad—where the remnants of the 16th German army had long been reported encircled—strong Russian attacks were reported. The German positions about Novgorod north of Lake Ilmen also were said to be under assault.

With the past few days, it was stated, 266 German planes—229 of them troop transports—had been destroyed about Staraya Russa.

On the Kalinin front northward of Moscow, said Russian dispatches, the Germans had been thrown back with heavy losses after their counterattacks had been broken.

French Will Immobilize Warships At Martinique

WASHINGTON, May 14.—(AP)—As a concession to the United States, the government at Martinique has agreed to immobilize three French warships at anchor in French Colonial Caribbean harbors.

This was reported today in responsible quarters, which added that discussions were continuing on other points involved in this government's request that effective steps be taken to keep the French possessions from becoming a menace to the United Nations.

The warships in question are the aircraft carrier Beran and the cruiser Emile Bertin, at Martinique, and the cruiser Jeanne D'arc at nearby Guadalupe. French Guiana, on the South American mainland, is also involved in the discussions.

Presumably, the immobilization of the warships would involve such steps as the removal of ammunition, fuel or essential machinery parts which could not be readily replaced. Exactly how it might be done was not made clear.

Still to be settled apparently, was the future status of some 140,000 tons of French merchantships and tankers. It is reported that orders have been issued by Vichy that they be scuttled rather than yielded to the Allies.

This government, however, has repeatedly made it clear that, so far as it is concerned, Vichy's attitude has no bearing whatsoever on the current negotiations. The United States has frankly taken the attitude that under Pierre Laval, the Vichy government will do its utmost to promote the Axis cause.

Consequently, all discussions have been pursued with Admiral Georges Robert, the French high commissioner at Martinique, and any consultation with Vichy has been pointedly omitted.

This government's spokesmen have been Admiral John H. Hoover, the commanding Naval officer in the Caribbean, and Samuel Reber, of the State Department's western European division. Admiral Hoover has made two visits to Martinique within the last week.

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N. C. HOGS

RALEIGH, May 14.—(NCD) —Hog prices were steady today. Tops were as follows: Rocky Mount \$13, Richmond \$13.25.

COASTAL CAB

Dial 4464 Dial