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## Henderson Baily Bispatch 8 PAGES TODAY ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THIS SECTION OF NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA

TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR

LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

HENDERSON, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 4, 1939.

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY

FIVE CENTS COPY

## France Opens Land, Sea, Air Operations on Germans All But Few Saved From Torpedoed British Liner Hitler Expects To Subjugate Poland In Few Weeks

Here's What Italy's Neutrality Means



Italy (1) has shown no indication of giving Germany military help. As result, British forces from India and from concentrations in Egypt during recent months may be shunted from heavy guardianship over the Suez Canal (2), through the Bosporus and the Dardanelles, pledged by Turkey (4) as open to England and France in time of war, to a landing in Rumania (3), then into Poland from the South. Italy's lagging permits France to free troops guarding the Italian frontier (5) and to hurl her entire strength against Franco-German frontier (6). England is expected to shuttle planes from London (7) over Germany to Poland, bombing on the way, and that France would shuttle-bomb Germany from her airports in Central France (8).

## Britain's Fleet Establishes Speedy Blockade Of Germany

today to enforce a blockade of Ger- Switzerland and Germany. western front.

relieve German pressure on Poland. a blackade of Germany. This operation was concentrated'

Tiedly adopted far-reaching war in the World War 25 years ago. neasures, and a high war command The British home fleet was in fuil ported to have begun an offensive to battle stations, evidently to enforce

British Admiralty orders for con- answer from Berlin.

London, Sept. 4 .- (AP)-Britain's in the Belfort region north of the trol of contraband and searches of ghty fleet took up battle stations three-sided border between France, ships indicated Britain's blockade of Germany apparently was to feel Germany was put into force quickas of her French ally were roaring the might of Britain's navy as its ly following the declaration of Prime first taste of warfare with the nation Minister Chamberlain yesterday that ammunition dump today, apparently As the reformed British cabinet whose sea power was overwhelming a state of war existed between Bri- in preparation for a smothering bomtain and Germany. The state of war bardment of the little Polish garrison began at 11 a. m. (5 a. m., eastern ointed, the French were re- mobilization and its ships at their standard time) when a British ultimatum to Germany to call her armies out of Poland expired without an

## Somebody's Proposition

Tokyo, Sept. 4.—(AP)—A foreign office spokesman indicated today that Japan is holding the door open

ropean war. Observers believed the government was delayed action in the hope of an offer, obviously from Great Britain, whereby the war in China could be liquidated quickly in re-

While the cabinet sat in extraordinary session, the spokesman said the government's official attitude will "be decided in due course." The

or a few months." foreign office spokesman declined to provided today in the announcement held in their home ports for the last answer the question of whether this meant that Japan might fight. He resume their sailings in a few days. or three days. This was considered said the question of whether Ger-man ships would be allowed the free-as indications were heard freely that not only intended to stay out of hos-

Meanwhile, the Japanese press ad-

# Fuehrer Is

Departing for Polish Front, Hitler Assures Western Army Whole Strength Soon Will Be Sent There for Operations.

Berlin, Sept. 4.— (AP) —Adolf Hitler, relying on the Siegfried line of fortifications in the west to "shelter and defend" Germany against Britain and France, joined his troops on the eastern front today to direct the drive to conquer Poland, and thus "burst open the ring laid around Germany.'

Declaring that "Germany will never again capitulate," Hitler left behind him an assurance the task of subjugating Poland will take "only a few weeks" if the western army does its duty in holding off Poland's

"Then," he added in a special messtrength of our entire 90,000,000 stands behind you."

Hitler departed to take personal command of the forces fighting on the Polish front, some 12 hours after he had rejected the ultimatum presented by the British ambassador, Sir Nevile Henderson, demanding the withdrawal of German troops from

#### Smothering Shelling Of Danzig Near

Danzig, Sept. 4.—(AP)—The Danzig populace was cleared out of all territory adjoining the Westerplatte

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#### German Freighter Seized by British In South America

Montevideo, Urguay, Sent. 4.—
(AP) — The Uruguayan coast guard headquarters here said today the German freighter Olinda had been captured by the British cruiser Ajax and not sunk, as earlier reported.

First reports that the Olinda was sunk came from the British tanker San Gerardo, which brought the Olinda's crew to Montevideo. The Olinda is a 4,-576-ton vessel operated by the Hamburg South American Line.

# Destroyers

Only Reported Dead Are Those Killed by Torpedo Explosion; Germany Claims Ship Struck British Mine; 311 Americans on Board.

London, Sept. 4.—(AP)—The ministry of information, answering German allegations that the sunken liner Athenia had struck a floating British mine, said "no British mines have been laid in that area" (off the northwest coast of Ireland, where the Athenia went down). A German news agency re-

lease, given out here by a member of the German diplomatic staff, vigorously denied that Germany was responsible

The release included this statement: "We can only say that, in accordance with definite instructions of the fuehrer, the German armed forces are doing nothing contrary to international law and treaties signed by the Reich. The way in which the report of the sinking has been circulated can only be regarded an attempt to influence American

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#### U.S. Envoy's Villa Bombed Near Warsaw

Warsaw, Sept. 4 .- (AP) -The United States ambassador to Poland reported to the State Department in Washington today he believed the bombing of his villa in a Warsaw suburb yesterday was deliberate.

The ambassador, Anthony J. Drexel-Biddle, Jr., said the German plane, which dropped six bombs on his and adjoining villas, loosed its cargo at a low altitude just before it came out of a power dive. One of the bombs wrecked a nearby villa. Windows in the Biddle house were shattered, but members of the household escaped unhurt. Biddle said incendiary bombs fell on the villa grounds, but failed to explode.

The ambassador had leased the villa when war appeared imminent to enable his staff and family to rest and so work could continue when Warsaw proper was bombed.

## France Moves Fast Relying On On Guard In To Lessen Pressure 'West Wall' Rescue Work On The Polish Army

Land Offensive Launched Near Swiss Border Where Burgundy Gate Opens Into Germany Through Vosges Mountains There.

Paris, Sept. 4.—(AP)—France opened land, sea and air operations against Germany today.

The war ministry announced the nation's full forces went into action in a campaign to relieve German pressure on France's eastern ally, Poland

## Poles Retire In Face Of

Withdrawal in One Place Admitted. But Polish Cavalry Reported to Have Recaptured Some Points And Entered Germany.

Warsaw, Sept. 4.—(AP)—A communique from the Polish general staff today announced withdrawal of Polish forces from Czestochowa, a town of 120,000 in southwest Poland. after a strong offensive by greatly superior German forces, using tanks and heavy artillery. | cations across from During the struggle for the town, line were withheld.

20 miles from the border, there was a sharp conflict between Polish planes and a German armored unit,

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#### Neutrality Decree For U. S. Coming

Washington, Sept. 4 .- (AP) Proclamations by President Roosevelt declaring neutrality and invoking the neutrality law will be ssued within the next 24 hours, the White House announced today.

State Department officials, meanwhile, said they were looking into the facts regarding the sinking of the British liner Athenia, which had several hundred Americans aboard,

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#### Labor Day Deaths In United States Have Reached 216

(By The Associated Press.) The United States counted its Labor Day week-end dead on the highways and in domestic tragedies today while Europe counted hers in the zones of war. With the third day of the long week-end yet to run its course, at least 216 persons were dead, 140 traffic accidents, 36 by drowning and 40 by shootings, falls, suicides, struck by lightn-

North Carolina had one fa-

ing and from miscellaneous

On the western front, it was reported in corridors of the Chamber of Deputies, a French land offensive was concentrated in the Belfort region, where the Burgundy gate cuts across the Rhine into Germany, just north of the three-cornered border between France, Switzerland and Germany. The Burgundy gate is a valley running northwest between the Soges mountains and the Alps and into Germany's black forest. Details of any attack to crack Germany's vaunted "west wall" fortifi-

#### Heavy Firing Near Belgian Frontier

Brussels, Sept. 4.—(AP)— Heavy gunfire from the direction of the German border, reminiscent of 1914, was heard today in Luxembourg. The firing began early this morning. Steel plants and furnaces along the frontier were shut down as a measure of precaution.

Meanwhile, King Leopold III, ruler of this small country, took personal command of the army and the cabinet was reorganized in an attempt to maintain neu-

cations across from France Maginot

The air force was understood to be cooperating with land forces, while the fleet held battle positions in the western Mediterranean.

Authorities started emptying Paris hospitals for military use. The first night of France's state of war with Germany had passed without word of the firing of a shot.

## Jap-Soviet Peace Move At Moscow

Russian Sources Say Soviets Will Never March Into Battle With Germany; Will Aid Both Germany And Her Enemies.

Moscow, Sept. 4.—(AP)—Negotiations have begun for settlement of the "undeclared war" between Soviet Russia and Japan on the Outer Mongolia-Manchoukuo frontier, it was understood unofficially today. The belief was that a fresh approach to a settlement had been made yesterday when the Japanese ambassador called on Foreign Commissar Molotoff. Russia also had an attentive ear for the echo of cannon beyond her western frontier, although sources close to the government emphasized the Soviet intends to remain neutral.

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### Danish Town ls Attacked By Bombers

Copenhagen, Denmark, Sept. 4.-(AP)—The Danish radio today reported a high flying airplane of unidentified nationality had dropped to bombs on the Danish seaport wn of Esbjerg, on the west coast tland, killing at least two per-The report said a three-story nent house had been demolished by the bombs. bodies have been taken from

reckage thus far. One victim Esbjerg, 140 air miles from Copen-

a seaport from which many and other shipments are made radio report said it was not

whether the bombing was deor accidental.

GERMAN BOMBING PLANES
FLYING TOWARD ENGLAND sterdam, Sept. 4.—(AP) — A etherlands radio announcement tohight said that German bombing planes had been seen flying west ver Netherlands territory. The Gerplanes were reported sighted. two towns in Friestland province, and farther west over the Isle

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#### Bremen's Fate Is Yet Deep Mystery

New York, Sept. 4.—(AP)— The whereabouts of the Bremen, \$30,000,000 pride of the German mercantile fleet, was a mystery in shipping circles today.

A broadcast report that the luxury liner had been captured by a British man-of-war was officially denied by British government sources. Some authorities hazarded a speculation that she had headed for a neu-tral port, possibly in South America, after sailing from here

last Wednesday. Departure of the steamer was delayed 40 hours by a search for war munitions by United States officials. When she left, the Bremen carried no passengers, but was manned by a crew of 908.

She was stocked with food supplies for as many as 1,500 passengers, and carried a full

#### Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday; showers in the mountains tonight and on the coast Tuesday; slightly cooler in the northeast portion Tuesday.

## Japan Waits

for possible participation in the Eu-

turn for Japanese assistance.

government at present is following developments, he added, and its de-cision "will be known in a few days

was determined. vised complete isolation.

## Italian Liners To Sail, Pointing To Neutrality

Rome, Sept. 4.—(AP)—Added in- William Phillips that Italian ships dication of Italy's intention to remain | would start their schedules again.

assurances to American Ambassador Germany.

Carefully phrasing his replies, the neutral in the European war was | Ciano said liners which had been that Italian passenger lines would week intended to depart within two dom of Japanese ports would be an- Italy's neutrality would be short-swered when the official attitude lived. Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo maintain normal relations with her, Ciano was understood to have given in spite of her military alliance with