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Henderson Daily Dispatch

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LONDON IMPOSES TIGHT CLAMP ON NEWS

Two Greek Warships Bombed

Undeclared War Said To Be Forming

Both Ships Escape Attack by "Unknown" Warplanes; Merchant Ship Bombed in Harbor; Italians Disclaim Responsibility.

Athens, Aug. 16.—(AP)—A high authority said here tonight the commanders of two Greek destroyers bombed by warplanes today had reported by radio to the navy ministry that the attacking planes were Italian.

The government refrained from any comment, insisting that the planes were of "unknown" nationality.

Athens, Aug. 16. — (AP)— The Greek destroyers Vasilevs Georgios and Vasilissa Olga were attacked from the air today by "unknown" war planes as they steamed toward the island of Tenos, where the Greek cruiser Helle was torpedoed and sunk yesterday by an unidentified submarine.

The two destroyers, according to reports reaching Athens, escaped damage by zig-zagging at full speed. They did not open fire on the planes.

It was also reported that a Greek merchant ship identified as the Ilmi was bombed by "unknown" war planes while lying in an unidentified Greek harbor.

The air attacks came amid mounting tension in the relations between Greece and Italy, following bitter Italian press campaigns against the Greek dictatorship.

Virginio Gayda, authoritative fascist editor, wrote that the torpedoing of the cruiser Helle was part of a British plot to precipitate a crisis between Italy and Greece. The editor declared any Italian responsibility for the sinking of the ship by an unidentified submarine.)

Diplomatic observers expressed belief the secret attack left Greece virtually with an undeclared war on her hands.

Athens, however, declared the government had not yet taken any defensive military measures, because Italy, not the power which was secretly attacking Greek ships desired war with Greece.

In Istanbul, the Turkish press hinted strongly that any open Italian attack against Greece may see that country immediately involved in fulfillment of the British-Turkish mutual assistance pact.

In New York, an Exchange Tele-

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Pinetop Woman Is Killed By Gunshot

PINETOP, Aug. 16.—(AP)—Mrs. Mildred Cannon Stallings, 38, died suddenly at her home in Pinetop at 10:30 last night when a .22 calibre rifle held in the hands of her husband, Grover L. Stallings, discharged when her seven-year-old son, Dickie, bumped against his father. Coroner J. G. Rose of Tarboro impaneled the coroner's jury and said he would have to make an investigation some time this week.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday morning at Pinetop with burial at New Bern tomorrow morning. Mrs. Stalling was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Cannon of New Bern.

Five Killed In Powder Plant Explosion

Joplin, Mo., Aug. 16.—(AP)—Five were reported killed this morning in an explosion at the Atlas powder plant 8 miles east of Joplin. Many were injured in the dynamite manufacturing plant, which has been operating at capacity because of the war.

Officials indicated the explosion at the new TNT plant on the same reservation where outbreak of the European war caused the plant to the Jasper county office and to Joplin declare a state of emergency.

Young "Recruits"

William Downing, 8, and Richard Downing, 4, wearing their improvised field equipment, arrive at the "front lines" in upstate New York, ready to do their part in the extensive army maneuvers. The youngsters were told to come back in about fifteen years.

Stiff Fight In Africa

Italian Troops Said to Have Been Slowed By Strong British Resistance.

Cairo, Aug. 16.—(AP) — British aerial bombardment and machine gun fire on Italian troop concentrations and communication lines in Somaliland have slowed up the fascist advance on Berbera, capital of the protectorate, the British reported today.

The Italians were said to be meeting stiffer resistance from British forces aided by native troops and from constant bombing of columns attempting to advance.

One Italian column was using the coast road and was aiming first at Burhar, 40 miles west of Berbera. The other was driving from the south.

Today's British communique said

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Roanoke River Has Heaviest Flood In Recorded History

Negotiations With Britain Carried On

Washington, Aug. 16.— (AP) — President Roosevelt announced today that the United States is "holding conversations" with Great Britain on acquisition of naval and air bases by the United States "with special reference to the Panama Canal."

The Chief Executive made this announcement at his press conference but cautioned reporters repeatedly not to tie it up with any speculation about the release of American destroyers to Great Britain.

Voluntarily, Mr. Roosevelt authorized the following direct quotation on the negotiations:

"The United States government is holding conversations with the government of the British empire with regard to the acquisition of naval and air bases by the United States for American hemisphere defense with special reference to the Panama Canal."

The President then said that he had an another item of news on which he also would make a direct quotable statement, which was:

"The United States is carrying on conversations with the Canadian government looking toward defense of the American hemisphere."

British Bomb Italy Again

Rome, Aug. 16.—(AP) — British planes flying across Switzerland bombed cities in northern Italy for the second time in three days today, authorities reporting one plane was shot down over Turin and that part of the crew of five were killed and the others captured.

In raids on Milan, Turin, Tortona and Allesendria, 22 persons were reported killed and more than 50 injured. The British in those operations dropped leaflets as well as bombs.

Other Rivers in Eastern Carolina to Have Only Fairly Heavy Floods; Prison Farm at Caledonia Threatened.

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—(AP)—Prison officials disclosed this afternoon they were considering dynamiting the nine-mile Caledonia prison dike in order to save it from the record flood in the nearby Roanoke river.

This would innundate approximately 3,000 acres of crops valued at $70,000, but would save the main dyke. Engineers will be at the site to dynamite the long wall if need be.

Despite the flood, officials said it might not be necessary to remove convicts from the prison farm.

Earlier they had said they were pushing plans to move all or part of the 450 prisoners.

There was fear that industrial plants in the Weldon and Roanoke Rapids areas would be flooded.

Other eastern Carolina rivers had only fairly heavy floods.

At Clarksville, Va., the Roanoke was 23 feet deep this morning.

The weatherman here immediately forecast that it would exceed the 50.3-foot level set as a record at Weldon in 1912. Flood stage is 31 feet at Weldon and the water was 41.9 there this morning.

The prison dikes were holding allright this morning at 9:30 o'clock and could stand six or seven feet of water, but at that time the stage was only 41.9 at Weldon.

Scores of convicts were being used to sand-bag and storm-sheet the dike which protects crops valued at $70,000.

The barracks are located something like a mile from the river, but the terrain is flat and high waters in 1937, which fell several feet short of the previous record, came to within a few yards of the doors.

The record flow was caused by more than eight inches of rain at Clarksville Wednesday and another 4.45 inches yesterday.

The Neuse river was in a second rise at Neuse Station today with a depth of 16.8 feet after dropping to 15 feet late yesterday. A state of upwards of 18 feet was forecast for Smithfield.

Goldsboro and other points below there on the river were in for a "right heavy" flood, the weather bureau predicted.

The Tar river was 27 feet deep at Tarboro this morning, nine feet above flood level, and was out of its banks all the way down below Greenville.

The Cape Fear was staying in its banks in the upper reaches but was flooding by about four feet at and below Elizabethtown.

Election Of Roosevelt Is Of Vital Importance To Dr. McDonald, Averill Says

Daily Dispatch Bureau.
In the Sir Walter Hotel.

By HENRY AVERILL

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—To most of the professional politicians in North Carolina the re-election of President Franklin D. Roosevelt is a consummation more or less devoutly to be desired; but still not of reanscendent importance. The one exception which proves this rule is Dr. Ralph W. McDonald, to whom the President's success is absolutely vital.

In the case of the University's associate extension director, the difference between an FDR victory and a New Deal defeat is the difference between being the king bee of North Carolina politics and being completely washed up as a potent figure in the state's governmental affairs.

Reasons are almost too obvious to need detailing. McDonald, ever since his entry into Tar Heel politics, has been the arch-exponent of New Deal philosophy. He has shouted his "liberalism" from every available hustings and has let no chance slip to assert his undying loyalty to the national Administration.

That sort of thing, naturally, gives him a stake in Roosevelt and New Deal success; but that really isn't the half of his interest in the current national campaign.

It all comes down to this: If Roosevelt is re-elected, the key man in North Carolina, so far as Federal patronage and contacts are concerned, will be none other than Dr. McDonald. On the other hand, should Roosevelt go down to defeat, McDonald will be left well out on a limb. He has brought down on himself again the enmity of the State powers that be (Hoey, Bailey, etc.), and unless he does have some "drag" in Washington he will be definitely handicapped in any North Carolina political fight.

There is no concrete evidence that Dr. McDonald intends to make any political war in his own behalf at anytime in the future; but when 1944 comes round it is going to be very hard for him to keep his hat on his head and out of the gubernatorial ring. He had said, probably quite truthfully, that he has no present intention ever to run for any political post; but that doesn't mean he will not do so when the time comes and the itch gets him.

He came within the proverbial inch of running against Dr. Clyde A. Erwin for superintendent of public instruction this year but was deterred by his physician's advice and his wife's pleadings. If he was that near yielding to temptation to try for a minor office, think what a mental battle he'd have to keep out of the next governor's race.

The role he played in events preliminary to the Chicago convention, and the evident reliance the Roosevelt managers placed in him at that gathering are proof positive that he will be the key man in Tar Heelia these next four years if Roosevelt wins again.

And so it can be safely jotted down that the re-election of the President is of more direct, vital concern to Dr. McDonald than to anybody in North Carolina not drawing pay checks from the national government at the current writing.

State Rests In Dale Case

Charlotte, Aug. 16.—(AP)— The prosecution concluded its evidence today in the trial of Frank E. Dale, his wife known as Rene Duffy, and Dr. W. E. Wishart on charges of conspiracy to defraud Rufus Bryant, 42-year-old Clinton farmer.

The prosecution alleged that Mrs. Dale falsely led Bryant to believe that an infant the Dales obtained from a hospital here was Mrs. Dale's and that Bryant was the father of it, and thereby obtained $2,000 from Bryant.

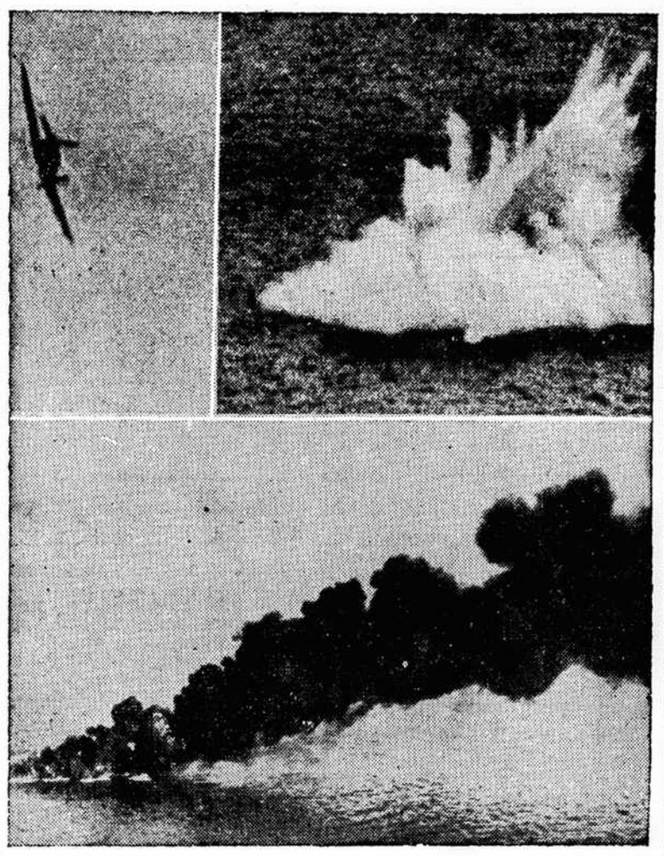
Two affidavites sworn to by the state's first witnesse, Betty Austin, and other papers bearing on the case were introduced today over the objection of defense attorneys.

The affidavits and other exhibits including hospital records and receipts allegedly from Dr. Wishart to the grandmother of the unwed mother of the baby, a birth certificate of the infant, and telephone records of the Dale home were introduced by the state to corroborate previous prosecution testimony.

Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Cloudy; scattered showers in north portion and near the coast tonight. Saturday partly cloudy.

Death Throes of a Nazi Plane



Actual death of a Nazi plane is recorded in this remarkable series of photos. Top left, the plane has been hit by gunners of a Royal Air Force defender off the coast of England and has heeled over, starting its downward plunge. Top fight, the wounded plane crashes into the Channel and expodes. Lower, burning oil and gasoline from burst tanks create a funeral pyre. Britain claims to have downed hundreds of raiders.

'Other Home Town' Welcomes Willkie

Republican Presidential Nominee to Accept Nomination and Deliver Keynote Speech Tomorrow at His Birthplace.

Rushville, Ind., Aug. 16.—(AP)—Wendell L. Willkie's "other home town" gave him a noisy midnight welcome when he returned to rest today before formally accepting the Republican presidential nomination.

The streets were thronged as Willkie and his wife, who was born here, arrived at the head of an automobile caravan from Indianapolis. They had flown to the Indiana capital from Colorado Springs, where the nominee spent the last month getting ready for his campaign.

Tomorrow noon the Willkies will go to the nominee's birthplace, Elwood, for a rally which party leaders hope will draw a quarter of a million persons. Willkie will deliver his keynote speech, giving special attention to his views on on national defense and the foreign situation.

Morehead City Man Dies After Injury In Blast

Morehead City, Aug. 16.—(AP)—Rudolph Dowdy, 32, Morehead City business man and general chairman of this year's coastal festival, died at 11:50 last night of injuries received Wednesday night when fireworks exploded as he examined them.

Funeral services will be held here Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Research On Labor Asked

Commission Asks That Thorough Study Be Made as Basis for Legislation.

Daily Dispatch Bureau.
In the Sir Walter Hotel

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—The North Carolina commission studying need for a state wage-hour law wants to get a clear, complete picture of conditions before making any recommendations as to the desirability of any fair labor standards statute.

Meeting at the call of Chairman Forrest H. Shuford, commissioner of labor, the commission has requested money from the contingent and emergency fund to employ a director of research to get the data needed to present such a picture.

The five members (Mr. Shuford, Capus M. Waynick, High Point editor and commission vice-chairman; State Senator H. P. Taylor, of Wadesboro; Representative Henry C. Dobson, of Elkin, and Hugh G. Horton, of Williamston) unanimously agreed it will be impossible to function properly without a thorough study.

Data desired, not only as to the extent to which wage and hour legislation would affect the employed personnel and the employers of North Carolina but also as to the nature of the attempt to fashion and enact legislation during the General Assembly of 1939.

Governor Clyde R. Hoey has not yet expressed any opinion about employment of a research director, but it is likely that the Commission had his informal approval of such a step before acting on a resolution requesting funds for the director.

Efforts to put through a state wage and hour law in 1939 were stymied from the very start by opposition which grew so aggressive that or-

(Continued on Page Two)

Swedish Ship Torpedoed

New York, Aug. 16.—(AP)— The Swedish steamer Hedrun was reported torpedoed today off the Irish coast in a message picked up from England by Mackay radio.

A message indicating an attack by a submarine said "Hedrun torpedoed." Mackay said the message came from the Portishea radio in the British Isles.

Injunctions Signed

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—(AP)—Federal Judge I. M. Meekins has signed seven more injunctions in the eastern district to restrain lumber operators from violating the wage-hour law, the wage-hour division announced today.

Judge Meekins previously had signed nine injunctions.

Lumber operators accepting the consent judgments included R. F. Adams of Drewry, R. A. Critcher and T. F. Critcher of Williamston, J. S. Godard of Jamesville, W. P. Long of Halifax county, E. H. Parker of Warrenton, W. R. Robertson of James and J. L. Mills of Maysville.

No News Of Air Battle In 2 Hours

Germany Wirelesses to London and the World More Planes Are to Follow 2,500 Raiding London Today.

London, Aug. 16.—(AP)—A great air battle for England and England's heart thundered tonight over these islands as invading nazi planes rode the skies above London.

All day the kingdom had been pounded by a vast fleet of bombers and fighters.

And then, as Germany wirlessed to London and the world that more were yet to come, this capital of the empire itself was drawn into the theatre of action.

A censorship fell tight upon London.

(For more than two hours the Associated Press in New York received from London no news dealing with the raids.

(The Germans announced that in thundering engagements over London their bombers had observed big explosions in the eastern part of the city.

("Everywhere smoke was rising. Everywhere hits and bombs craters were visible" DNB said in a running account of what appeared to be the biggest battle in history of air warfare. The news agency asserted that sky-blackening waves of bombers and fighters "have breached the air barrier and cleared the air over London."

(If true, the heart of the British empire apparently lay at the mercy of new waves of nazi bombers which DNB said were still streaking across the channel.

London, Aug. 16.—(AP)— Great waves of nazi planes estimated as high as 2,500 fighters and bombers, twice as many as yesterday's all-time record assault, flashed across the English coast today and bombed the island kingdom from Scotland to Cornwall.

An Associated Press correspondent in a southeast coast town, apparently Dover, said he counted 400 planes at that single point roaring across the channel in six waves at five-minute intervals.

By mid-afternoon the Germans were reported fanning out all over England.

In Berlin, DNB, official news agency, said "numerous waves" of bombers and fighters were flying over the Thames river, the high road to London, heading for north central England.

Beginning before dawn, the nazi raiders launched the sixth successive day of the greatest mass air siege of all times by raining bombs on the midlands, the northwest, southeast, southwest and Wales.

Some casualties, including deaths, were admitted and the German bombs were said to have struck hospitals and a sanatorium during the night.

A German bomber was shot down by British fighters in the northeast Humber area, it was announced officially.

Revising upward the number of German planes reported shot down yesterday, the air and home security ministries announced that of 169 nazi planes bagged 153 were brought down by British fighters, 13 by anti-aircraft, one by Lewis gun and two by shell fire. Loss of 34 British planes was admitted.

(The Germans reported 143 planes destroyed Thursday, 106 of them in air combat, and acknowledged the loss of only 32 German planes.)

Japs Reject Defense Plan For Shanghai

Shanghai, Aug. 16.—(AP)— The Japanese government will not give its approval to the Shanghai defense commander's decision to split control of the British defense area among United States and Japanese forces, a Japanese naval spokesman declared today.

His statement made clear the entire problem created by Britain's decision to withdraw her troops from Shanghai is still unsolved as far as the Japanese are concerned, with the outcome possibly depending on how far the United States is prepared to go to enforce the defense committee's decision.