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British Shipping Is Hard Hit

Defense Spending Doubles In Five Months

Rate Is Far Behind That Budgeted

November Military Expenses for War and Navy Departments Total \$365,233,578; Congressional Probe of Spending Indicated.

Dec. 3.—(AP)—The rate of military spending today that exceeds more than double the budgeted rate for the first five months of the year since July 1.

November military expenses for the War and Navy departments totaled \$365,233,578. This compares with the budgeted amount of \$177,391,781 for the same period last year.

The total for the first five months of the year is \$1,242,394,933, compared with the \$550,000,000 budgeted for this fiscal year.

The rate of spending is more than double the budgeted rate for the first five months of the year.

Revenues for the first five months were \$2,184,337, compared with a deficit of \$1,803,058 for the same period last year.

Costs were higher, the deficit for the first five months of the year was \$1,803,058.

To make up for the deficit, the public debt was increased by \$44,272,000.

It is estimated that Congress will check up on the program before the end of the year.

House Democrats, Virginia, have urged action in the new session to set up a national inquiry committee.

The committee would be composed of representatives from the House, Senate, military and naval departments.

Greensboro Gets Piedmont League Baseball Outfit

Dec. 3.—(AP)—Officers of the Greensboro League will be made up of the following: Greensboro, Tennock, director of the league; J. H. Fox, farm system; and J. H. Fox, farm system.

The league will be organized in the near future.

As Camacho Took Office



General Manuel Avila Camacho is shown (top) making his inaugural address as President of Mexico. He placed his republic beside the U. S. and all other American nations in the common cause of hemisphere defense. Pictured (lower) listening to the speech are (left to right) U. S. Vice President-elect Henry A. Wallace, U. S. Ambassador to Mexico Josephus Daniels and Don Francisco Castillo Najera, Mexico's ambassador to Washington.

Britain Orders 60 Ships Built In U. S.

“Everything Possible Being Done To Get Ships” to Meet Menace of Axis Raids on Shipping, Cross Tells Commons.

London, Dec. 3.—(AP)—Shipping Minister Ronald H. Cross informed the House of Commons today that Britain had placed orders for construction of 60 cargo vessels in the United States and in addition would continue to purchase serviceable American ships.

“Cross assured the House that ‘everything possible is being done to get ships’ to meet the menace of Axis raids on shipping—Britain’s most urgent problem at the moment.

Old but serviceable United States vessels, including vessels belonging to the maritime commission, have been and will continue to be purchased for the British flag as opportunity offers, Cross said.

Deputy Leader Clement Attlee, answering a question, said he was not aware of any proposal for either definite or implied union with

North Carolina's Gas Tax Collections In November Reach Record For All Time

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By HENRY AVERILL

Raleigh, Dec. 3.—In November the State of North Carolina for the first time collected as much as two and a half million dollars in gasoline taxes.

The exact figure was \$2,569,605.01. It was an all-time high for a month's collections; and the existing high has been sent even higher.

The September collections of \$2,358,982.66 were the best ever up to that time. The October receipts went to \$2,463,605.01 and now November has topped them all.

Roosevelt To Embark At Miami

Official Secrecy Shrouds Details of Trip for Rest, Fish, and Information on Defenses of Panama Canal and Coasts.

Miami, Dec. 3.—(AP)—President Roosevelt boarded the cruiser Tuscaloosa today and embarked into the Caribbean with little idea, he said, where the voyage might take him.

He did not confirm or deny that he might inspect sites for naval and air bases acquired from England or that he might show up at an exercise of units of the Atlantic patrol squadron and marines near Puerto Rico.

Aboard Roosevelt Train En Route to Miami, Dec. 3.—(AP)—President Roosevelt rode down the Atlantic seaboard toward Miami today to sail into the Caribbean in search of rest, fish and information on defenses vital to the protection of the Panama Canal and segments of the North and South American coasts.

The cruiser Tuscaloosa waited at Miami with two escort destroyers to take him on a trip whose details still were an official secret.

There was little expectation that the President would make a systematic checkup on all the South Atlantic and Caribbean sites for naval and air bases acquired from Great Britain. But it was understood he might inspect some of them.

Gun crews on the Tuscaloosa and the destroyers will maintain a constant watch with the guns loaded with live munitions.

Depth charges will be ready to roll off the “fantails” of the destroyers. And at night spot lights will play on the United States flags on all three ships.

U. S. Pilots Fly Planes To Britain

Baltimore, Dec. 3.—(AP)—Forty American pilots are making regular mass deliveries of American bombers to England without molestation from German nazis, one of them disclosed today, and are taking the ships across the icy North Atlantic at high altitude in approximately ten hours.

George R. Hutchinson asserted that regular deliveries had been made since early November and that none of the pilots had encountered German opposition.

Seven high speed Lockheed-Hudson bombers were delivered in the first flight last month, he said. His

Saved as U. S. Ship Hit Mine



Overjoyed to be safe ashore again, these sailors of the American freighter City of Rouille are pictured in San Francisco. Their ship, first U. S. vessel to be sunk in the war, struck a mine off Australia. One man of the crew of 38 was lost.

Airlines Release Engines To Army

Governor Studies Murderers' Cases

Raleigh, Dec. 3.—(AP)—Governor Hoke studied the cases today of Zedekiel Smith and Noah Cureton, Negroes who were sentenced to be executed Friday for murders.

Smith was convicted in Sampson county and Cureton in Mecklenburg county. Cureton was convicted of killing John William Henken last July and Smith was sentenced in the slaying of William Daniel.

Cold Wave Sets Record

At Least Three Deaths Attributed to Freezing Air Mass Moving Eastward.

(By The Associated Press.) A cold wave sped through the middle west today, leaving in its wake at least three dead, creating hazards on highways and city streets, and driving the mercury down to all time low readings for the date in several communities.

The freezing air mass penetrated swiftly eastward and distressing consequences already have been reported in Pennsylvania, New York state and New England.

The north central states bore the brunt of the severe weather-assault.

North Carolina Among States Gaining In House

Washington, Dec. 3.—(AP)—Repeating a continued “westward movement” of population matched by heavy gains in the South, the census bureau advised President Roosevelt today that, on the basis of the 1940 census, California was entitled to three additional seats in the House of Representatives and seven other states to one more each.

Ten states, most of them in the Mississippi valley area, each would lose one of their House memberships.

All the calculations were based on existing apportionment laws and final tabulation of returns from last April's census which showed a total population of 131,669,275. This figure was slightly higher than a “tentative” count released some weeks ago by the census bureau. The 1930 census counted 122,775,946.

Nazis Claim 18 Merchant Ships Sunk

Suggestion of Christmas Truce Turned Down By Churchill Last Week; Other War News Includes Report of Greek Drive.

(By The Associated Press.) Avoid German claims of inflicting the greatest wholesale destruction of British shipping in the war—18 vessels torpedoed by Nazi U-boats yesterday—London officials said today.

The London ministry of information said 327,157 tons of shipping was sunk during the four weeks ending November 24 and compared this with the 881,000 tons sunk during April, 1917, when Kaiser Wilhelm's unrestricted U-boat attacks reached their peak.

It was in that month that Britain was reported to have only a six weeks food supply left.

Pope Pius XII urged the warring nations today to observe a Christmas truce to keep “the clash of arms from drowning out the angel chorus of peace.”

Even as his appeal went out, the Germans announced that Nazi U-boats yesterday sank 18 ships totaling 148,247 tons and probably two others totaling 16,000 tons in slashing inroads on Britain's vital seaborne commerce.

The pope asked the belligerents to call a Christmas truce “spontaneously or by mutual accord” so that “new bloodshed may not disturb or miserably extinguish the heavenly joy of that hour.”

Only last week Winston Churchill rejected a suggestion in the British house of commons that an attempt be made to arrange a Christmas truce.

British Admit Sinkings. The London admiralty acknowledged that 22 merchant ships totaling 87,975 tons were sunk by enemy action in the week ending November 24—or 21,000 tons above the weekly average since the start of the war.

“It is a serious menace,” a British naval spokesman admitted, “but as a nation we can take knocks.”

Greeks Pass Porto Edda

Advance on Left Wing Paces New Gains All Along Albanian Battlefield.

Athens, Dec. 3.—(AP)—The Greek left wing reported to have smashed past Porto Edda, was said today to be pacing wide new gains all along the battlefield and threatening to engulf the last Italian fighting force in southern Albania.

The high command reported Greek shock troops won new mountain heights north of Premet in a thrust into central Albania and north of Pogonetz in a drive down the road toward Elbasan, near the Albanian capital on the right wing, but a government spokesman termed the left wing advance the “most important.”

There, the spokesman said, “the enemy retreated to the heights around Delchino and has past in depth, South Quaranta.”

That is the port the Italians renamed Porto Edda for Premier Mussolini's daughter.

The Greeks apparently had not broken Italian resistance in the section immediately around the port but indicated fascist troops there might be cut off. The high command declared the road linking the port with Argirocastro, 15 miles northeast, had been placed under Greek fire.

18 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT
TO BUY CANDY FOR ANNE
BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS