

Henderson Daily Dispatch

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HENDERSON, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 20, 1940

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY.

FIVE CENTS COPY

British Ships Invade Adriatic

Carolinas Becoming Great Military Center

Vital Port Of Valona Is Shelled

Other British Naval Units Sweep Adriatic Without Encountering "Enemy Shipping"; Heavy Artillery Fire at Bardia.

Government Spends Vast Sums Here

Army Expects to Have 138,500 Soldiers on Carolina Soil Within Few Months; \$55,000,000 To Be Spent in Two States.

Washington, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The Carolinas are becoming the scene of the greatest concentrations of military equipment in the United States, and Uncle Sam is spending millions of dollars to care for them.

Fort Bragg in North Carolina and Fort Jackson in South Carolina are being replaced by a replacement center at Spartanburg, S. C., an anti-aircraft range at Holly Ridge, and an airplane depot at Charlotte, N. C.

The army expects to have approximately 138,500 soldiers on Carolina soil within a few months.

North Carolina also is bidding for a huge flying range and the Navy is planning air bases in that state for larger than at scouting base.

The Navy already have a large contingent of personnel at Paris Island, S. C., and is being expanded and the Charleston, S. C., navy yard is live with work.

Officials estimate that eventually \$55,000,000 will be spent on installations in the two states. Millions in contracts already have been awarded.

How the lineup of anticipated expenditures will house Uncle Sam's growing army.

Fort Bragg, \$18,000,000 for barracks and other facilities to take 40,000 men.

Fort Bragg, \$18,000,000 to enlarge the camp for a personnel of 60,000 by next July.

Holly Ridge, \$9,000,000 for 20,000 men; Spartanburg, \$2,000,000 for 16,000 men; and Charlotte, \$2,000,000 for 20,000 men.

Robeson Man Must Die

Supreme Court Upholds Death Sentence Imposed for First Degree Burglary.

Raleigh, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The State supreme court upheld today a death sentence imposed in Robeson county on George A. Johnson, convicted of first degree burglary.

The court also upheld a five to seven year prison term imposed on Fred E. Dale, alias Jimmy Dale, in Robeson county upon his conviction of defrauding Rufus Bryant Simpson county.

Twenty-five cases were decided.

The decision in the Johnson case was on a four-to-three vote, with Associate Justice Heriot Clark writing the majority opinion. Vigorous arguments were filed by Chief Justice W. P. Stacy and Associate Justices N. V. Barnhill and J. Wallace Wint.

In two Guilford county cases the court ruled on the question of taxing church and hospital property. It was held that a lot owned by the First Baptist church of Greensboro, to be used as a site for a new church, was tax exempt.

It was held that the real property of the Piedmont Memorial Hospital, (Continued on Page Three)

Willkie Egger Fined



Charles Mulrain (that to face) is fined \$20 for assault and battery and \$5 for disorderly conduct in Chicago court for throwing an egg at Wendell L. Willkie. Mulrain, 53, scored a direct hit on the G.O.P. candidate when he appeared in Chicago during the presidential campaign. Mulrain lost his job as a result of the incident. (Central Press)

No Decision On Revising Commission

President Tells Press Conference Nothing Has Been Decided About Revising Setup of Defense Group; Plans Studied.

Washington, Dec. 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt told a press conference today that nothing had been decided about revising the setup of the defense commission.

As for reports that some rearrangement to put a three-man group in charge, the President characterized them as newspaper stories. It was disclosed yesterday that consideration was being given to the establishment of a "high command" for the defense program, to be composed of Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Knox and William S. Knudsen, production chief of the Defense Commission.

Mr. Roosevelt said that was one of four or five setups and combinations under consideration and nothing had been decided on yet.

He was informed that some persons had said his new tentative plan for a "lease and lend" system of supplying Britain with arms would require repeal of the Johnson act which forbids loans to nations in default on their World War debts.

The Chief Executive repeated what he had said last Tuesday—that Congressional action would be needed, but that he did not believe repeal of the Johnson law would be necessary.

The inter-related questions of arms production speedup and British aid were discussed at length yesterday in a specially called three-hour cabinet meeting. It was understood, but not officially said afterward, however, that an announcement might be forthcoming soon, at least on some method of concentrating in fewer hands the powers "now spread all over town," as he put it.

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Imports May Be Controlled For Defense

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The first guarded hint that any such idea was under consideration, came from Colonel Russell L. Maxwell, administrator of export control, during a review of the work done by his six-months old agency in preventing vital defense materials from being

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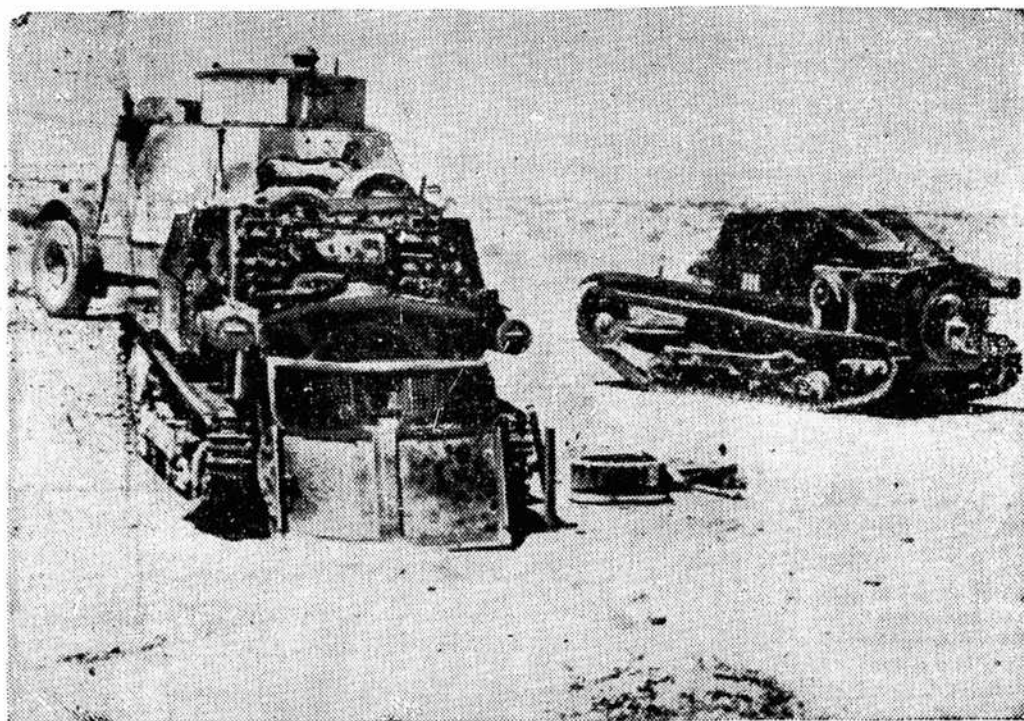
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Italian Tanks Seized by British in Egypt



A captured Italian tank is towed to rest beside another tank captured by the British in their counter-offensive against the Mussolini legions in Egypt. Two Italian divisions and thousands of Fascist blackshirt militiamen have been bottled up at Bardia, ten miles inside the Libyan coast, according to London reports. (Central Press)

Britain Wants Ships

New England Feels Quake

Thousands of Persons Thrown Into Panic By Temblor Doing Slight Damage.

Boston, Dec. 20.—(AP)—An earthquake centering in New England and felt from southern New Jersey to Montreal, Canada, early today shook heavy buildings, caused slight damage and threw thousands of persons into panic.

Professor L. Don Lee of the Harvard University Observatory said it appeared to be strongest just south of Lake Ossipee, N. H., and that it lasted 30 seconds.

Awakened by the rumbling as their homes swayed, men, women and children in cities as far west as Rochester and Syracuse, N. Y., arose in alarm.

Some New Englanders dashed reportedly clad to the streets. Many reported that they thought there had been an explosion. Virtually whole communities were roused in some instances.

Available reports of damage in New England indicated it was confined largely to cracked plaster and broken windows.

Washington, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The French cabinet shakeup of last Saturday, known here as "the putsch of Vichy," has taught the German government one great lesson, men in the know here say.

That lesson, they assert, is that there is an influential group at work within the French government to scotch all possible attempts at French-German collaboration such as planned between Hitler and the French former vice premier, Laval.

German government circles, they reported, long had suspected that not all who were giving lip service to

Santa Rosa, Cal., Dec. 20.—(AP)—The wealthy, socially prominent parents of three-year old Marc de Tristan, Jr.,—recently victims of a sensational kidnapping for ransom—have been singled out again by an extortionist seeking money as the price of safety for their child.

It was learned on reliable authority today that FBI agents working secretly had frustrated the scheme barely missed capturing the extortionist in a trap set in a cabbage patch near Santa Rosa.

The suspect, described as an elusive little man in a black overcoat, was reported to have shown up at the cabbage patch rendezvous late Wednesday night, snatched up a cigar box which he thought was filled with money, and vanished into the darkness before agents could apprehend him.

Charlotte, Dec. 20.—(AP)—National defense orders are pumping new life into the long ailing textile industry in the Carolinas and other lines of business are feeling the quickening effects of the revival.

Operations have reached a peak in the Carolinas, announced a few days ago a \$3,000,000 addition to a steam electric plant already under construction at a cost of \$9,000,000.

Other factors which enter the North Carolina picture are federal expenditures in developing Fort Bragg into one of the largest military establishments in the country, the construction of an anti-aircraft base and other facilities at Holly Ridge, and probably other projects.

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Federal Debt Now Over 45 Billions

Washington, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The Treasury disclosed today its debt has passed \$45,000,000,000, the former statutory limit which many persons thought would be a permanent ceiling.

The defense program, however, caused the administration recently to get an additional \$4,000,000,000 borrowing power from Congress and Secretary Morgenthau now is urging that the ceiling be up to \$50,000,000,000 or \$65,000,000,000.

It was a special \$530,000,000 issue of new defense notes, in fact, that pushed the debt over the \$45,000,000,000 mark this week. At its new peak, the Federal debt represented an average of approximately \$340 per person in the United States.

Vichy Putsch Teaches Nazis Great Lesson

Nazis To Issue Important News

FBI Foils Extortion Attempt

Textile Industry Given New Life By U. S. Orders

Membership Lists Will Be Examined to Learn if Members Recently Naturalized.

Weather FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Scott Stresses Marketing Program As Chief Need Of North Carolina Farmers

Auto Plants Get "Education Orders" in Plan to Mobilize Industry For Defense.

Plane Parts Ordered

W. P. A. APPROVES SUM FOR AIRPORT

Records Of Bund Seized

London, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Britain's minister of shipping today cast what he called a "covetous eye" on "a certain number of enemy ships in the United States" and declared that assignment of the United States ships to the British service "are the only ways I can see for replenishment of any consequence."

The minister, Ronald Cross, declared that Britain's "real struggle" with Germany would come in 1941. The statement came in an interview with the American press.

He pictured the submarine menace as still the greatest threat to British lifelines and said it could be overcome only by increasing numbers of destroyers and by new shipping

Washington, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The Works Progress Administration notified Representative Barden, Democrat, North Carolina, today that President Roosevelt had approved allotment of \$168,811 to construct an airport at Goldsboro, N. C.

The money will supplement \$50,000 raised locally.

The project had the approval of the War Department, which held an airport at Goldsboro was necessary to national defense.

Berlin, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Authorized sources disclosed that today or tomorrow an important news release would be issued presenting an "interesting prospect of further developments of cooperation between nations united in the three power pact."

Officials were silent concerning the contents of the release but one general conjecture was that it might contain a rejoinder to President Roosevelt's plan for aiding Britain.

Washington, Dec. 20.—(AP)—An informed source said today records seized at Chicago headquarters of the German-American Bund yesterday will be examined by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to see whether the membership includes any recently naturalized Americans.

It was said that Attorney General Jackson had ordered the membership checked as a possible basis for denaturalization proceedings.

The bund has restricted its membership to American citizens. If naturalization of an alien was followed immediately by affiliation with the bund, the Justice department might take the position that naturalization had been a preliminary to bund membership. In such a case the Justice department could ask revocation of the citizenship.

The material found at Chicago is being studied by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents. The FBI here has declined to comment on its part in the case.

Among the records seized, an investigator for the state's attorney's office said, was a loose leaf book indicating that 1,500 to 2,000 members were in the Army, Navy, air force or Marines.

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