

# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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## Greek Forces Capture Chimara

### Great Fires Started In Manchester Raids

### Many Other Industrial Targets Hit

Attacks Follow Day-Light Assault on Fort William in Northern Scotland by Lone Bomber; British Admit Damage.

London, Dec. 23.—(AP)—German planes started "gigantic conflagrations" in factories and storehouses at Manchester, in the industrial heart of England, last night and attacked industrial military targets in London, Bristol, Liverpool, Southampton, Portsmouth and other English cities, the high command announced today.

The attacks followed a daylight assault yesterday of Fort William in northern Scotland by a lone Nazi dive bomber which was declared to have started explosions in a big aluminum plant.

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### Tunney's in the Navy



Ex-Marine Gene Tunney, former world's champion heavyweight boxer, raises his hand as he is sworn in as a lieutenant commander in the U. S. Naval Reserve. The oath was administered by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, in Washington. (Central Press)

### Murray Has Program For Industry

CIO President Submits Plan Designed to Produce 500 All-Metal Planes Daily by Pooling Resources of Auto Industry.

Washington, Dec. 23.—(AP)—President Philip Murray of the CIO announced today he had submitted to President Roosevelt a plan designed to produce 500 all-metal pursuit planes a day by pooling the entire facilities of the automobile industry.

The plan is based on a survey by Walter Reuther of CIO's United Auto Workers union to determine the possibilities of applying mass production methods to the manufacture of airplanes.

The survey, Murray said, indicated that less than 50 percent of the facilities of the auto industry were now in use.

The Reuther survey advanced the theory that the basic motor production and stamping machinery of the nation's auto plants could be adapted to mass production of airplanes and also held that there was an adequate supply of labor to handle the mass production of both automobiles and complete airplanes. Murray said the 500 a day plane output could be achieved in six months.

The plan contemplates spreading out the production of automobiles over a twelve months period instead of concentrating their production during peak months of the fall, winter and spring.

War between Britain and Italy came about "because of one man" and the people of Italy and Italy's army were never consulted, Churchill said.

"Surely the time has come when the Italian monarchy and the people who guard the sacred center of Christendom should have word to say upon those war inspiring issues," Churchill said.

"Surely the Italian army which has fought so bravely on many occasions past but now evidently has not heart for the job, should take some care of the life and future of Italy."

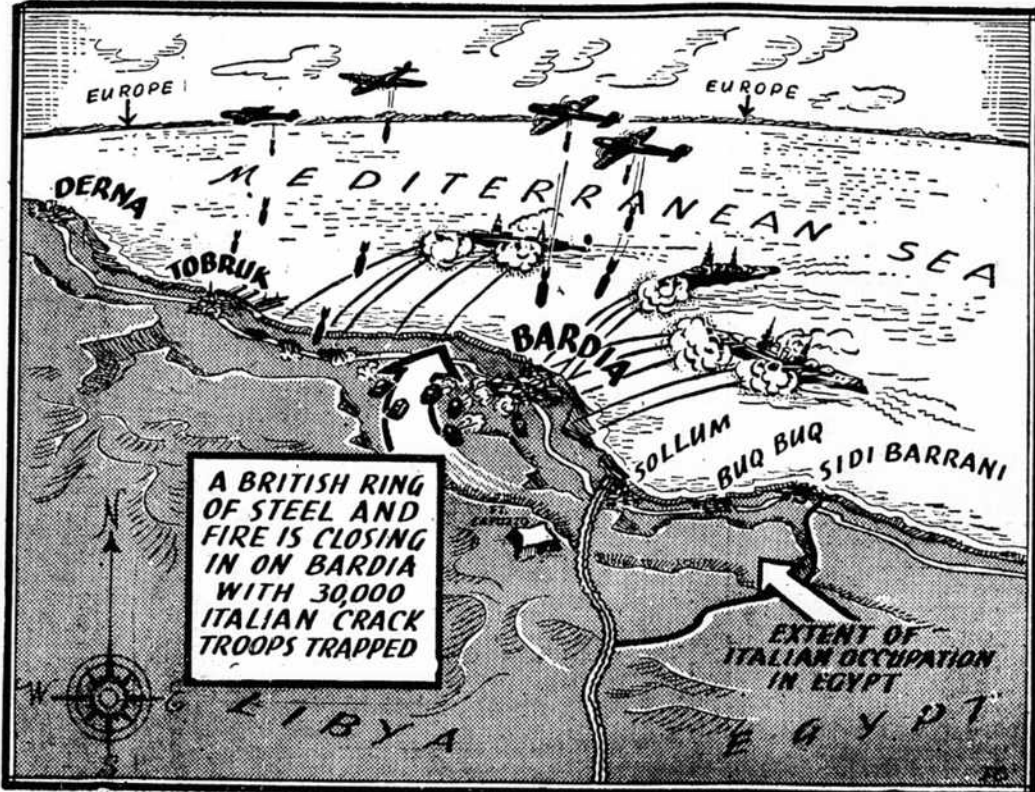
Washington, Dec. 23.—(AP)—The supreme court held unconstitutional today a 1937 North Carolina law imposing a \$250 annual privilege tax on companies other than regular retail merchants in the state which display samples in hotel rooms or rented orders for retail sale.

Justice Reed delivered the unanimous opinion in the case brought by Best & Co. of New York.

R. H. Nye and L. C. Mayers of Lumberton, N. C., today were granted a supreme court review of their conviction on charges of contempt of court.

The contempt charges arose out of alleged efforts of the two men to persuade W. H. Elmore of Conway, S. C., to drop a damage suit for \$30,000 against the B. C. Remedy Co., in connection with the death of Elmore's son.

### The British Trap at Italian Bardia



As many as 30,000 crack Italian troops are reported to have been trapped in Italy's Libyan coastal base of Bardia after being hemmed in by Britain's armored columns. Strategy was to cut the road linking Bardia with Tobruk, farther west in Libya. At the same time, British warships blasted the town with shell fire. (Central Press)

### British Announce 35,959 Italians Taken In Africa

### Retail Business Hits High Level

Sales Tax Receipts Show Business in State Running \$41,000,000 Ahead of 1939 Records, Averill Discloses.

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

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—Retail business in North Carolina during 1940 was up \$41,000,000 over 1939, an analysis of sales tax receipts for the two years indicates.

The breakdown also indicates that placing foods for home consumption on the exempt list will not actually reduce the present sales tax revenue, provided (and of course it's vital proviso) that business continues to increase in the same proportion.

Even if business should remain at its present level, however, sales tax returns for the immediate future would still be as great as the estimates upon which the current biennium's budget was balanced.

Getting around to the figures, a summary of monthly reports from the Department of Revenue (with December, 1940, receipts estimated) shows that 1940's sales tax revenue will almost reach \$12,000,000. The exact figures for eleven months, plus an estimated \$1,300,000 for December, put receipts for this calendar year at \$12,277,213.32 as compared with a total of \$11,216,724.43 for 1939.

Thus the total of retail figures to be \$1,230,079.94 over 1939.

Inasmuch as the sales tax is levied on a three per cent rate, it is only necessary to multiply this \$1,230,079.94 by 33.33 in order to arrive at \$40,998,564.40 as the approximate increase in total retail business subject to the sales tax.

In addition to the taxables sold at retail, there should be added the present list of exempt basic foods in order to arrive at the total retail sales and resulting increase. Taking this into consideration, it is likely that the grand total of retail trade in North Carolina actually increased by at least \$45,000,000.

It is notable that every month of 1940 showed an increase over the corresponding period in the previous year. The smallest increase was the approximately \$30,000 shown in August, while last month soared over November, 1939, by \$150,000 to set the high for monthly increase in revenue.

It is also notable that 1940 shows "million dollar" months and four months under that figure, whereas in 1939 it was exactly the reverse, with only four "million dollar" months against eight which dropped under seven figures.

The January total of \$1,395,435.80 was the highest on record; but if this month shows the increases which the early opening of Christmas shopping makes likely, that figure may

### Eden Assumes Secretaryship

London, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Anthony Eden took over the foreign secretaryship today in a quick change interpreted by some neutral sources as foreshadowing a more aggressive British diplomacy, possibly including improved relations with Soviet Russia.

His predecessor, Lord Halifax, will rest several days in the north of England before leaving for his new post as ambassador to Washington "early in the new year."

In Berlin, official German comment on Eden's appointment was wanting, but authorized sources asserted it was "interesting to note how Churchill managed to rid himself of Halifax."

In Rome, Italian political circles said they looked for "still more intimate collaboration" between the United States and Great Britain with Lord Halifax as the ambassador to Washington.

### Youths Would Become Fliers

Washington, Dec. 23.—(AP)—After encountering difficulties earlier this year, the Army air corps is now signing up an ample number of volunteers for training as fliers.

War department officials reported today that more than twice as many young men as needed had qualified to complete a class of 1,500 fledgling pilots to start training January 2, more than 2,100 others will provide a backlog for another group to enter scattered schools five weeks later.

be topped.

A comparison of the sales tax collections, month by month for 1940 and 1939 follows, the December, 1940 figures being an estimate of the likely returns this month.

Month	1940	1939
Dec.	\$1,300,000.00	\$1,132,505.23
Nov.	1,235,926.11	1,085,768.72
Oct.	1,105,637.83	1,005,918.19
Sept.	985,679.53	919,127.48
Aug.	930,502.18	899,153.35
July	1,034,624.52	926,640.13
June	1,014,981.43	938,744.21
May	1,009,888.55	972,429.27
April	1,068,134.34	926,908.52
March	880,506.78	780,963.74
Feb.	865,896.25	792,160.06
Jan.	1,395,435.80	1,216,724.43
Total	12,277,213.32	11,597,133.32

### "Several Thousand More" Captives Awaiting Transfer From Sidi Barrani.

Cairo, Dec. 23.—(AP)—The British raised their total of Italian captives again today, announcing that 35,959, including 1,704 officers, have been moved up to the rear from the Sidi Barrani area in North Africa and "several thousand more" are still awaiting transfer.

Crossing paths with the Italians moving behind the British lines in the western desert, steady streams of British reinforcements were moving up to the siege line around Bardia, massing for an assault.

The general headquarters communique said that while British artillery still harassed the Italians inside Bardia "our preparations outside are progressing."

Reports from the frontier said that while field and naval guns battered Bardia's defenses from land and sea, fast mechanized units which have spearheaded the British counter invasion struck off to the west once more.

Marshal Graziani, in a report to Premier Mussolini, said 42 British planes had been downed and possibly 20 others. In that report, Graziani laid his army's setback largely to the fact that tank units he expected from Italy early in December never reached Libya.)

### Fireside Chat Next Sunday

Washington, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Stephen Early, White House press secretary, announced today that President Roosevelt tentatively planned to discuss the present emergency in a fireside talk next Sunday night.

A time for the broadcast, which would be carried by all major networks, has not been fixed, but Early said that the President would talk for about half an hour beginning at about 9:30 to 10 o'clock, EST.

KILLED IN FALL. Fayetteville, Dec. 23.—(AP)—S. C. McPhail, 55, local attorney who lived at Wade, was fatally injured today in a fall from a fourth story window of a hospital here where he was being treated for a fractured kneecap.

1 SHOPPING DAY LEFT  
DID YOU FORGET SOMEONE?  
BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS

### Chimara Is Important Italian Base

Battalion of Fascist Militia and Great Quantities of War Material Also Said to Have Been Taken by Greeks.

Athens, Dec. 23.—(AP)—The Greek government announced today the capture of Chimara, a strategically important Italian supply base on the Albanian coast between Valona and Porto Edda.

Announced at the same time was the capture of the 153rd battalion of the fascist militia made up of 800 men and 30 officers.

Great quantities of war materials were said also to have been taken.

The Italians were reported in disorderly flight toward Valona pursued by a Greek motorized column. Greek military sources said possession of Chimara opened the way for the counter invaders to advance swiftly toward the Italian-held port over a good coastal highway.

At the same time the RAF command reported a big air battle Saturday over Argirocastro. Greek-held Albanian stronghold, in which it said the British fliers shot down at least eight Italian planes and lost only two themselves although outnumbered more than eight to one.

The Italian attack by 50 fighters, it said, came after nine RAF fighters had intercepted fighter-escorted Italian bomber formations over the town.

The communique also reported RAF attacks yesterday on oil wells at Kucova in central Albania and said "all bombs fell in the target area despite Italian aerial and ground defense fire."

### Swiss Protest RAF Flights Over Country

Bern, Dec. 23.—(AP)—The Swiss minister to London was instructed today to make a "most energetic protest" against royal air force flights over neutral Switzerland after bombs dropped last night near Zurich injured eleven persons.

A Swiss communique said the planes which dropped the bombs and caused alarms over several Swiss cities had been identified as British.

The minister to London was instructed to demand full damages and reparations.

It was the second formal protest to London within a week. Bombs which killed four women December 6 at Basel also were identified as British and a protest was made the following day.

### BRITISH SHIPPING LOSS IS SMALLER

London, Dec. 23.—(AP)—A total of 41,476 tons of merchant shipping was sunk by "enemy action" during the week ended December 15, the admiralty announced today.

This marked a sharp decrease from the weekly average of 62,867 tons.

### SUICIDE

Fayetteville, Dec. 23.—(AP)—William Bain Williams, 24, Mt. Olive taxi driver, died in a hospital here early today where he was taken after police reported he took poison Tuesday as he reported the theft of a taxi.

### Nazi Troops To Rumania

Lokoshaza, Hungary, On the Rumanian Frontier, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Thousands of German troops with full war gear crossed into Rumania today.

Border reports said they would reinforce the Nazi divisions already patrolling the country and guarding its rich oil wells.

A Rumanian official, however, declared that the additional Nazi troops were only another part of the corps being sent in to instruct the Rumanian army.

Machine guns, field artillery and tanks were transported across the border by freight trains.

The troop movement followed the dispatch of two other German divisions to Rumania two weeks ago.

### Extension Of Army Camps In North Carolina Raises Prohibition Issue Again

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

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—Construction of army camps in North Carolina has raised many questions of material, while garrisoning of these camps with many thousands of volunteers and draftees is placing double emphasis on the "moral" question which has so often been debated and never settled—the matter of intoxicating liquor.

There was almost sure to be some sort of liquor issue in the 1941 General Assembly, but Fort Bragg's garrisoning soldier population and the prospect that other thousands of youngsters will be located at Holly Ridge in Onslow and at other Tar Heel cantonments makes that assurance double sure.

On the surface there seems no such driving force behind the prohibition movement as there was back in 1917, but it should not be forgotten that the first World War brought first a ban on sale of liquor

in the vicinity of camps and, later, national aridity

It's nothing to be proud of, but another thing which makes some sort of liquor battle more likely is the duty of this legislature to re-appointment General Assembly membership among the hundred counties as directed by the Constitution.

The eastern counties which have liquor stores and do not want re-appointment are going to be threatened with a referendum drive by Piedmont and western legislators from counties which have not ABC setups but which want a reshuffle of the legislative deck.

Then the trading will be, with what results nobody can predict with even a moderate chance of accuracy.

A minor angle of the liquor situation is being brought out during the current efforts of four local government units (Wake county, city of Raleigh, Durham county and city of

(Continued on Page Four)

### Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy, slightly cooler in central and extreme north-east portion tonight; Tuesday probably cloudy, showers in south and east portion.