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Greek Epirus Army Surrenders

Twenty Fast Torpedo Boats To Britain

Craft May Be En Route At Present

Secretary Knox Discloses Transfer of "Mosquito" Boats to England Under Lease-Lend Program; Others Are Building.

Washington, April 23.—(AP)—Secretary Knox said today that about 20 fast naval motor torpedo boats were ready for delivery to Great Britain as part of the lend-lease program and possibly were on the way now.

Knox said the boats, capable of speeds of more than a mile a minute, were to be shipped across rather than undertaking the trans-Atlantic trip under their own power.

The Navy had 28 available, Knox said, and the British were supplied from these. Other "mosquito" craft, mostly of a type 70 feet long and able to speed 70 or more miles an hour, are under construction.

Knox told his press conference also that the Navy was negotiating with Canada for construction in Canada of a number of warships, probably of the new British Corvette type such as are used to escort convoys.

Any combat ships Canada would build for the U. S. Navy, Knox said, might be turned over to Great Britain under the lend-lease system. The decision, he said, would be made when they neared completion.

Aside from providing Canada with needed dollar exchange, Knox said, the arrangement would tend to reinforce United States construction.

He said the arrangement was projected as a part of the cooperative program worked out last week-end between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada.

BRITISH TROOPS REPORTED TO HAVE BEGUN EMBARKING

Rome, April 23.—(AP)—The Greek front correspondent of Il Giornale d'Italia reported today that British troops had begun to embark at Patras and other Greek ports as the Germans approached within 35 miles of Athens.

Another Rome newspaper said that "British which were cut off were surrendering while the remainder of the expeditionary force was fleeing toward embarkation ports."

ABC LOBBYING.

Raleigh, April 23.—(AP)—Vance county ABC board filed a statement with Secretary of State Thad Eure today showing that J. P. Zollieffer of Henderson received \$150 for lobbying for it before the 1941 General Assembly.

Roosevelt Urges Long View Of War

Washington, April 23.—(AP)—In President Roosevelt's judgment Americans should take a long view of the fighting abroad and resolve to maintain England as the main defense of democracy.

In measured tones he told his press conference yesterday that the war would not be won by one sea fight or by one defeat in Greece or even in the whole Mediterranean.

The people of the United States, he said, should view the struggle in the light of history and not allow themselves to be lifted to a pinnacle one day because of a British victory in the Mediterranean only to sink to the depths later on word of German successes.

The war can only be won, he asserted, by keeping the main defense of democracy going. That defense he said is Britain.

He answered with an emphatic affirmative when questioned whether it was confident that the defense of England would be kept going. War supplies will be kept moving to Great Britain in undiminished quantities, he declared.

After Deadly German Air Attack on Belfast



Salvage workers move through the wreckage of homes in Belfast, Northern Ireland, following a savage German air attack in which at least 500 persons were killed, according to a London announcement. Symbolic of Britain's ability to take it, a British flag still flies from building at left. This picture was flashed by radio from London to New York.

U. S. Planes Delivered

Lord Beaverbrook Reports Nearly 1,000 Aircraft Have Reached Britain Safely.

London, April 23.—(AP)—Lord Beaverbrook, British minister of aircraft production, told the house of Lords today that "nearly 1,000 assembled American and Canadian aircraft" had been delivered in Britain.

Beaverbrook said that "up to this moment we have only lost one aircraft on the ferry services between America and this country."

Beaverbrook said the British admiralty had received "within the last few days 95 aircraft by sea, 355 tons of airplane parts and engines."

"The flow of aircraft from America is increasing rapidly," he added. "I am prepared to say with authority that they are fine machines and that they are ready to fly and fight."

"Of five principal operational types we have reserves now in storehouses scattered far and near—a reserve total equal to the total operational strength. That is, 100 percent reserve."

British "fighter and bomber air planes are being sent to America," Beaverbrook said.

"Practically all operational types are being sent out, some by sea and some by air. Very shortly Americans will be in possession of every British type and will have available several types of engines."

GREECE BREAKS WITH BULGARIA

Sofia, April 23.—(AP)—Greece formally broke off diplomatic relations with Bulgaria today, following the occupation of Thrace by Bulgarian troops.

A note announcing the break was handed to the Bulgarian foreign minister.

London Says Positions Still Intact

London, April 23.—(AP)—Authoritative sources said today that positions of British and Greek troops in Greece still were intact, but acknowledged that some Greek forces in the center of the line were cut off from supply bases.

The forces so left, this source said, were cut off by German troops who crossed the main communication line and they probably were unable to withdraw further as an organized body.

The main body of the Greek army is established in new positions and fighting bravely beside British forces, these sources said, adding that this

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Opposition Forms Against Tax Plan

Coal Dispute To Congress

Washington, April 23.—(AP)—The Senate defense investigating committee asked John L. Lewis and representatives of north and south operators of soft coal mines today to appear before it on Friday unless mine operations have been resumed by then.

Chairman Truman Demarest, Missouri, made the request in telegrams to Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, L. T. Putnam of the southern operators wage conference, and Charles O'Neil of the northern operators.

The telegrams said that the committee had been informed that "unless supplies of coal are replenished at once through the resumption of mining operations, steel mills, ship yards and other key industries vital to production for defense will have to be shut down with a consequent dislocation of the entire program for which the American people are making so many sacrifices and on which the future of the nation may depend."

PRESSURE EASED

London, April 23.—(AP)—Reuters, British news agency, said in a dispatch from Cairo tonight it was reliably reported that temporary easing of German pressure in Greece had enabled the British to consolidate their new positions.

King Peter In Middle East

London, April 23.—(AP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told parliament today that 17-year-old King Peter of Yugoslavia and his government had "established themselves in the middle east" and would continue the struggle as allies of Britain.

(There have been unverified reports that Peter and his ministers arrived at Jerusalem after German armies had criss-crossed their nation.)

Eden said the Yugoslavs could count on "the fullest measure of help" from Britain, whose firm intention is "fully to maintain the independence of Yugoslavia."

The foreign secretary said "kid glove" tactics hitherto would not be used wherever Britain has "power and authority to take action."

Asked about "increasing permeation of Germans to Iraq" where the British landed troops last week ostensibly to protect oil fields—Eden replied that he was "well aware of the potential menace to our interests."

WEATHER
FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Scattered showers tonight and Thursday, slightly warmer tonight.

Conquest Of Greece Near Completion

German Spokesman Declares "What Remains of the Greek Action is the Energetic Pursuit of the British."

Berlin, April 23.—(AP)—Claiming total domination of all Greece north of Thermopylae, a German spokesman declared tonight that "the conquest of all Greece is practically effected."

Earlier authorized sources declared that the German army had crushed the British rear guard at Ialio Thermopylae and that at least 250,000 Greek troops surrendered to Axis forces in the Peloponnese and Macedonia sectors.

The military spokesman called the control of northern Greece the "last act" of the intensive military campaign.

"What remains of the Greek action is the energetic pursuit of the British who are desperately trying to escape," the military informant said.

He asserted that British losses already were approaching those of the retreat from the Flanders plains at Dunkerque, France, eleven months ago.

"Another Dunkerque situation is in full swing," he said.

Germans estimated that 150,000 tons of British shipping had already been sunk off harbors of Greece, including transports carrying retreating troops as the Germans said.

German planes, it was said, had dive bombed many to the bottom.

In addition, they said that 37 ships had been extensively damaged and many left in sinking condition.

Tripoli Set Aflame By British Guns

By LARRY ALLEN
With the British Battle Fleet Bombarding Tripoli, Libya—Monday, April 22.—(AP)—The red hot guns of British Mediterranean battle fleet set Tripoli harbor aflame today in what officers said was the biggest and most spectacular bombardment of naval history.

They pumped in more than a thousand tons of high explosives into the Barbary coast base of the Germans and Italians.

Fifteen-inch, sixteen and 45-inch projectiles from the battleships rumbled over the high walls of Mussolini's last big African stronghold, starting great fires, eroding enemy bases like eggshells and terrorizing the population.

The guns scorching firing continued steadily for 42 minutes from 5 a. m. repeatedly scoring direct hits.

I was aboard the most powerful

(Continued on Page Two)

CRUISER SUNK.

London, April 23.—(AP)—The armored merchant cruiser H. M. S. Corchugan has been torpedoed and sunk, the British admiralty announced this evening.

ARMS HUNTED.

Berlin, April 23.—(AP)—French Chief of State Marshal Petain's mobile guards were reported by travellers from France today to be conducting an organized search for arms and munitions in what some sources believed to be a move to counter any possible coup by partisans of Pierre Laval to restore the former vix premier to power.

Mrs. Blair Heads P. T. A.

Asheville, April 23.—(AP)—Mrs. J. S. Blair of Elizabethtown was installed as president of the North Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers here today.

Mrs. Blair succeeds Mrs. Doyle D. Alley of Waynesville. She was named in a mail ballot, the result of which was announced at the congress' 22nd annual convention here today.

King George Flees To Crete; British Transports Bombed

Named to Senate



Andrew Jackson Houston

Andrew Jackson Houston, 87-year-old son of General Sam Houston, who led the Texas Army to victory against Mexico in 1836, has been named to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas. Houston will be required to serve only until June 28, when a special election will be held.

Germany Gains Little

Informed Sources In Washington Say Balkan Conquest Doesn't Help Situation.

Washington, April 23.—(AP)—Germany's conquest of Yugoslavia and the overwhelming prospects of a complete victory in Greece will add little or nothing to improve the Nazi economic position, informed experts here said today.

On the contrary, these authorities declared, the latest triumphs of German arms may prove economically costly. The devastation wrought by the Balkan blitzkrieg is likely to cause a serious curtailment in the flow of supplies which the third reich was receiving before the Balkan invasion.

Even discounting war damage, it was said, German economic gains would be negligible.

Neither Yugoslavia nor Greece produced any of the iron, major war materials, or wheat there are existing or potential shortages in Germany.

While those countries produce some supplies which can be utilized by Germany, it was estimated that the Germans long ago have been securing everything of value Yugoslavia has been supplying chiefly foodstuffs and minerals while Greece has been furnishing the Nazis with olive oil, some minerals and fruit.

Commerce department figures show that more than 80 percent of Yugoslavia's foreign trade in recent years has been with the Axis powers and since the start of the war that percentage increased greatly.

CHURCHILL MAKES REPORT TO KING

Price Fixing Ruled Against

Raleigh, April 23.—(AP)—After a letter written by Assistant Attorney General T. Wade Bruston the opinion was expressed that the ABC board could fix prices of wine sold in ABC stores but not of wines sold elsewhere.

The 1941 General Assembly in a law which limited the sale of fortified wines to ABC stores allowed the sale of sweet wines in hotels, "A" grade restaurants, drug stores and groceries in wet counties.

Battle of Balkans Seems All But Ended After 18 Days of Violent Assault; Greek Troops Capitulate Unconditionally.

(By The Associated Press)

Greece's army of 600,000 troops surrendered today, King George II fled Athens with his government to the island of Crete, and Berlin reported that Adolf Hitler's blitzkrieg armies had "annihilated the British rear guard at Thermopylae and swept on through the pass."

Thus in 18 days of violent assault the battle of the Balkans appeared to have all but ended in an allied debacle.

At least 250,000 Greek troops capitulated unconditionally after being caught in an axis trap in their retreat from Albania.

The Germans said Nazi panzer columns plunging through historic Thermopylae Pass 100 miles from Athens were relentlessly pursuing the British Expeditionary Force in retreat toward the Greek capital.

With German dive bombers reported to have destroyed seven ships totaling 37,000 tons and damaging twelve others in Greek waters within the past 24 hours, Berlin spokesmen expressed doubt that few British soldiers in Greece would ever see home again.

"The ships attacked were chiefly transports which had aboard units of British troops fleeing from Greece," Hitler's high command said.

"Only God and the weather" can save the British, a Nazi official asserted.

Despite the reported Nazi breakthrough at Thermopylae and the collapse of Greek armies, the London radio declared that British-Greek forces were still fighting stubbornly and holding their lines unbroken in "new positions."

Premier Mussolini's high command announced that the Greek armies in Epirus and western Macedonia had down their arms at 9:04 p. m. (2:04 p. m. e. s. t.) last night in unconditional surrender.

In Athens, King George II declared bitterly that the Greek troops had "signed an armistice without our knowing it" and that the surrender "in no way binds the free will of the nation."

On Britain's home front the port city of Plymouth was blasted for the second successive night in a five-hour bombing attack.

The royal air force struck again overnight at the German naval base at Brest in the French coast.

BRITISH RAIDERS LAND NEAR BARDIA

London, April 23.—(AP)—The British announced today they had landed a raiding party near Bardia, Libya, Saturday night and destroyed an important supply depot, fired an axis shore dump, and put four coast defense guns out of commission.

The Italians reported earlier this week that German and Italian troops had frustrated an attempted landing by the British on the Libyan coast, capturing a number of prisoners.

CHURCHILL MAKES REPORT TO KING

London, April 23.—(AP)—King George received Prime Minister Churchill in audience today at Buckingham Palace and it was understood Churchill gave the king a detailed report on the latest developments of the increasingly critical war situation.

Tenth Draft Call Issued

Raleigh, April 23.—(AP)—Selective service headquarters announced today that 651 young men would be drafted into the Army for a year of military service between May 12 and May 19 in the state's tenth draft call. A total of 320 Negroes and 331 whites are to be drafted in the tenth call.

(No requirement for the Vance county board was included in the statewide call.)