

# Henderson Daily Dispatch

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## Air-Borne Nazis Invade Crete

### FDR Is Silent On Convoys

#### No Message To Congress Scheduled

Roosevelt Questions Whether Senator Barkley Asserted That War Materials Are Reaching Britain Satisfactorily.

Washington, May 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt said today he had no news on the issue of conveying supplies to Great Britain, and further declared there was nothing to the report that he would submit a special message to Congress soon.

Mr. Roosevelt touched only lightly at his press conference on the argument whether American warships should escort the supplies, but did question whether Senator Barkley, Democrat, Kentucky, had asserted that war materials were reaching Britain satisfactorily.

Told of this, Barkley said he had not known that reporters would quote him when he said that American war equipment seemed to be reaching Britain satisfactorily.

"Of course," he said "I have no extra opinion. I was just talking casually and I was making my statements on figures by Admiral Land (Chairman Emory S. Land of the maritime commission) and added that of course it would be necessary for us to take some action if Germany sought to establish herself on Martinique or other French possessions in this hemisphere."

### Three Negroes To Die Friday

Raleigh, May 20.—(AP)—Unless Governor Broughton intervenes, three Negroes will die Friday in the gas chamber in central prison, all for the crime of murder.

### French Make Protest

Ambassador Protests Placing of French Vessels Under Protective Surveillance.

Washington, May 20.—(AP)—Gaston Henry-Haye, the French ambassador, today protested to Secretary Hull against what he termed "an unfriendly gesture" by the United States in placing French vessels in American ports under protective surveillance.



750,000 Pledge Allegiance at Record New York Rally

Millions of Americans gathered in public places throughout the nation to participate in a gigantic celebration of "I Am an American Day." Biggest gathering of the day and one of the greatest in the history of the country was in New York's Central Park, where an estimated 750,000 assembled. Some of the vast throng are shown as they recited the oath of allegiance, read by Federal Judge John C. Knox.

## Strike Showdown Near

### West Coast Plants Open

Another Walkout Holds Up Work on Submarine Net Tenders at Lorain, Ohio.

A showdown appeared imminent today in the west coast shipyard strike, while another walkout held up work of six submarine net tenders being built at Lorain, Ohio.

John Frey, president of the American Federation of Labor, 3001 Trades Department, indicated that two of the eleven struck shipyards in the San Francisco Bay area might be reopened today and the other nine tomorrow.

The Ohio shipyard walkout occurred at the Lorain yard, of the American Ship building company, which has a \$7,000,000 order for Navy mine sweepers as well as for six net tenders.

The Lorain strikers were reported to have asked an increase of 12 cents an hour.

Hard coal miners ended a brief strike by signing a contract with mine owners providing for a 7 1/2 per cent increase in contract and day rates until October 1, with an advance of 10 percent at that time.

### No Statement On Hess Case

London, May 20.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the house of commons today he was not in a position to make any statement on the Hess case and he was "not at all sure when I will be."

Thus he left the public and members of parliament as well to their guessing on the reasons for the May 10 flight of Scotland of Rudolf Hess, No. 3 Nazi.

Vivyan Adams, conservative, had entered the questions of whether it was known if the Hess coming was "planned with the connivance and support of the German government" and whether the government would bear in mind the possibility that "the whole stunt may be the common or garden variety of plant."

### Gliders Drop Troops On Island

Fierce Battle Reported Still Raging on Grecian Island, Now Seat of Greek Government; Empire Troops Aid in Defense.

(By The Associated Press.) German glider-borne paratroopers and plane-dropped shock troops today invaded the Grecian island of Crete, government seat of King George II.

A fierce battle was reported still raging and some German troop-carrying planes were said to have found landing fields on the mountainous island.

In London, Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the house of commons that the Germans had attacked Crete "in great strength" and that "a serious battle has begun and is developing."

Churchill said British, New Zealand and Greek troops were defending the island. He reported that 1,500 Germans disguised in New Zealand battle dress had landed in the initial assault.

A British communiqué said "a number" of the Nazi aerial invaders had already been "accounted for."

London military quarters said the assault appeared to be the forerunner of an attempt to gain control of the sea lane to Syria—Germany's latest theatre of action in her march to the east—and to complete the western encirclement of Turkey.

Previously it had been said that when the Germans attempted to take Crete by air it might be in the nature of a feint to draw off British troops from the British Isles.

On the Iraq war front, British troops striking from Habbaniyah airbase were reported to have advanced 15 miles toward ancient Baghdad, the capital, in a march into the heart of the Middle East oil kingdom.

The British said imperial forces had crossed the Euphrates river and captured the village of Fallujah, 40 miles from Baghdad.

Iraq's high command said a series of British attacks on the western Iraq front had been repulsed with "considerable losses."

### Ship Pool Near Goal

Maritime Commission Has 1,500,000 Tons of 2,000,000 Tons Requested by FDR.

Washington, May 20.—(AP)—The goal was reported in sight today for President Roosevelt's hurried up request that 2,000,000 tons of shipping be assembled for the national defense and British aid programs.

In the three weeks since the President's request was made, the maritime commission has lined up approximately 1,500,000 tons for the shipping pool and informed sources said that the remainder would be found very shortly.

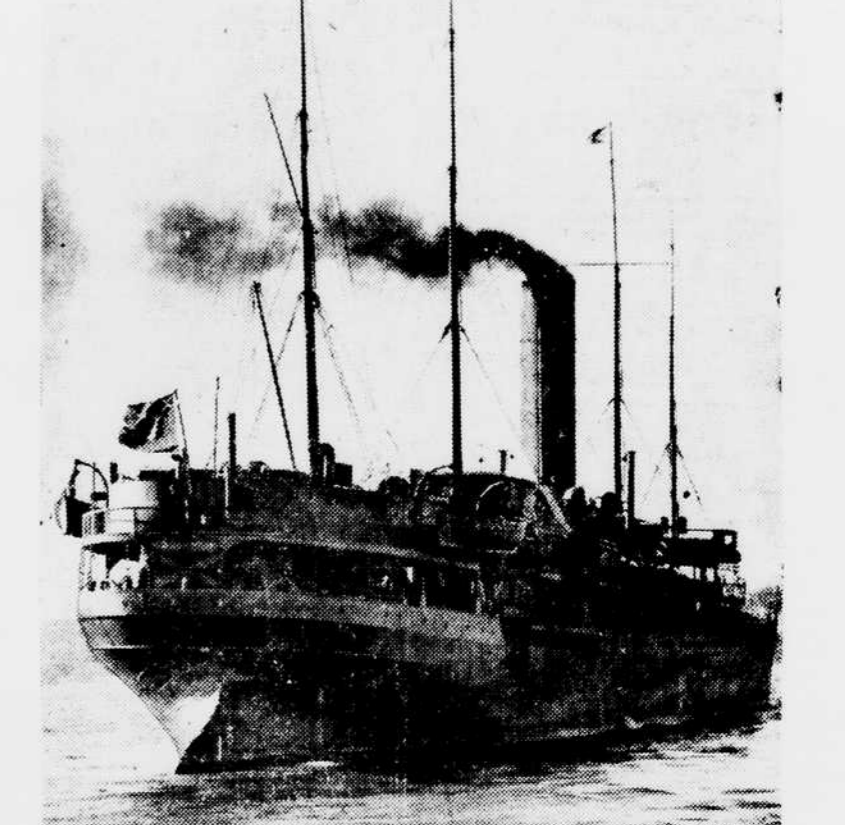
The tentative total includes approximately 400,000 tons of refugee foreign ships now tied up in American ports. Mr. Roosevelt is expected to sign the bill for the acquisition of these vessels in the next few days.

The disposition of one of the ships, the 33,000-ton French super liner Normandie—aroused considerable interest and there was some speculation that it was destined for the role of a troop transport.

### WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Fair, little change in temperature tonight and Wednesday.

### Zamzam Sails To Her Doom



The 8,229-ton passenger liner Zamzam is seen as she steamed away from Jersey City, N. J., bound for Alexandria, Egypt, only to meet with disaster. Authorized Germans reported today that the vessel has been sunk—they did not say when or where—because she carried contraband, and the 322 passengers and crewmen, including 138 Americans, are safe in German-occupied territory.

## Zamzam Passengers Reported To Be Safe In Nazi Territory

### U. S. Asks Full Details From Nazis

Washington, May 20.—(AP)—The United States asked for full details from the German government today about the 138 Americans reported at Berlin to have been saved from the Egyptian liner Zamzam.

The State department, lacking official information about the sinking of the ship and the passengers and crewmen were safe in German-occupied territory, called the American embassy in Berlin to obtain the information.

The American government's chief interest in the case now was in the welfare and return of the American nationals.

### Allies Hold Crete Bases

So Far, the Defense Force Has the Situation "In Hand", Churchill Declares.

London, May 20.—(AP)—A German air-borne army which includes 1,500 troops disguised in Anzac battle dress has invaded Crete by troop plane, glider and parachute, Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced today, and British imperial and Greek troops are engaging them in a stern battle.

So far, the defense force has the situation "in hand," the prime minister told the house of commons; the Germans have failed in an attempt to capture a British airbase and the British and Greeks have recaptured a military hospital which for a time had been in the hands of the paratroopers.

A fairly strong attacking group on the Canea-Maleni road has not yet "been mopped up," Churchill went on, "but other parties have been accounted for."

The Germans flew approximately 100 miles from the Greek mainland in great strength to invade the big island of Crete, last Greek territory.

### 'Thankful' For News

Raleigh, May 20.—(AP)—Mary Hester Powell, a student at Meredith College here, whose mother was a passenger aboard the Egyptian steamer Zamzam, was "thankful" today on hearing a German announcement that although the ship had been sunk the passengers were safe.

"I'm thankful they're not floating around somewhere in a lifeboat," said Miss Powell.

Miss Powell's mother is Mrs. Rosa Hewitt Powell, wife of the Rev. Carlyle Powell, formerly of Warsaw, N. C. Her husband, on leave with Mrs. Powell, left several days prior to the Zamzam's sailing and has been reported safe in West Africa, where he is a Baptist missionary.

### Public Health Problems Discussed

Pinebluff, May 20.—(AP)—Methods of solving many of the state's health problems and a description of the fight against diseases were presented to the North Carolina Medical Society today by its president, Dr. Hubert B. Haywood of Raleigh.

Dr. Haywood said that since 1900 there had been an improvement in education, transportation and agriculture in North Carolina.

"With this increased prosperity," he said, "has come a vast betterment of health conditions in the state, but the low income groups still comprise the majority of our population."

### LaGuardia Heads Board

Roosevelt Creates, By Proclamation, New Office of Civilian Defense.

Washington, May 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt established by executive order today an office of civilian defense to be headed by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York.

The President separated the new civilian defense agency into two general divisions. One will be a board of civilian protection with LaGuardia as chairman and on it will be representatives of the War, Navy and Justice departments, the Federal Security Administration, the Council of State Government, American

(Continued on Page Five)

### Forest Fires Rage In East Part Of State

Raleigh, May 20.—(AP)—W. C. McCormack, assistant state forester, asserted today that some of the forest fires now raging in eastern North Carolina were set by people who "wanted to watch the woods burn."

He said there had been reports of persons riding along the highways and tossing matches from their automobiles into the forest, which are

devoted service he has tendered the Democratic party from way back when it wasn't nearly so profitable as it now is to flout the donkey emblem.

But just as the race isn't always to the swift or the battle to the strong, there isn't any certainty that this walkover for Hoey will develop. There are clear indications that Governor J. Melville Broughton's claim of at least 109 committee votes for Hoey is as exaggerated as a new second lieutenant's strut. On the other hand, it appears from this angle, at least, that the Broughton-backed

(Continued on Page Five)

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### Hard-Headed Politicians Will Support Reynolds

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### THANKSGIVING DAY EXPERIMENT FAILS

Washington, May 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt declared today that the experiment of moving up the date of Thanksgiving day by a week to improve retail business had not worked and that next year Thanksgiving would be on the customary last Thursday in November.

This year, however, it will fall on the next to the last Thursday by Presidential proclamation.