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At Least 31 Men Are Killed As

THREE SWEDISH DESTROYERS BLOW UP

Reds Gain Ground In Smolensk Area

Oil for East Burns



C. P. Phonephoto

Ten cars of crude oil, 100,000 gallons, intended for the eastern seaboard, got up in billowing clouds of smoke on the outskirts of Columbus, Ohio, after derailment of a 61-car train. Sparks apparently ignited the cargo.

Nazi Forces Suffer High Casualties

More Than Ten Thousand Germans Killed and Wounded, Vast Quantities of Arms and Ammunition Seized, Russians Claim.

Moscow, Sept. 17.—(AP)—The Red army, in a smashing counter attack only 30 miles northeast of Smolensk, has thrown German forces back westward in an eight-day battle in which more than 10,000 Germans were killed and wounded, Russian dispatches from the front said today.

The battle occurred in the direction of Yartovo, which is on the main highway between Smolensk and Moscow. Vast quantities of arms and ammunition were seized, according to the army newspaper, Red Star.

Another dispatch reported the recapture by Leningrad's army defenders of a strategically important crossroads village lying on one of the approaches to the city—a maneuver declared by the Russians to have wrecked German plans for a new thrust against Leningrad itself.

Another Russian success claimed was the recapture of the Lake Ladoga island of Tahmassari from the Finns. The Soviet information bureau said about 800 Finnish soldiers and officers were killed and four launches and two motor boats sunk in the battles for the island.

The Yartovo battle was an extension of the Russian counter attack of last week in which the town of Yelnya, 40 miles east of Smolensk was recaptured. This in turn was part of a two-weeks battle in the vicinity of Bryansk, 150 miles south.

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'Dark Horse' May Enter Senate Race

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

Raleigh, Sept. 17.—Senator Josiah W. Bailey is not likely to turn pale with fear if and when it occurs, but there is a "dark horse" senatorial candidacy announcement brewing right here in Raleigh, within less than two blocks of the Sir Walter, where so many political eggs have been hatched or scrambled.

Prospective s-bled-hunt equine is seed man C. P. Dickson, who has never been a candidate for any political office, but who admits—perhaps "proclaims" is a better word—that he has been tremendously effective in the campaigns of numerous

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LaGuardia Nominated

New York, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Mayor F. H. LaGuardia emerged from an apathetic primary as the Republican mayoral nominee today as virtually complete returns from yesterday's balloting gave him 61,766 votes to 48,569 for John R. Davis, former president of the National Republican club.

The mayor will be opposed in his bid for a third term by District Attorney William O'Dwyer of Brooklyn, Tammany Hall selection who was opposed for the Democratic nomination.

Supported by Wendell L. Willkie, whom he opposed in the 1940 presidential campaign, and by District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, whom he opposed in an unsuccessful race against Governor Herbert H. Lehman, LaGuardia carried three of the city's five boroughs.

Renewed Activity On North African Front Is Expected

In a "Free Country"



Charles Davila

Charles Davila, Rumanian minister to the U. S. from 1929 to 1938, arrives at Jersey City aboard the Exeter from Lisbon. He explained that "I wanted to get back to a free country."

Britain's Army of the Nile, Reinforced by American-Made Planes and Tanks, Believed Laying Groundwork For Offensive.

London, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Signs of increasing activity on the North African war front stirred belief here today that Britain's army of the Nile, reinforced by American-made planes and tanks, may be laying the groundwork for a new offensive aimed at driving axis forces out of Libya.

Dispatches from Cairo during the past few days have told of repeated skirmishes along the Egyptian-Libya frontier, which indicated to observers that the British and axis forces were cautiously feeling each other out as a preliminary to possible action on a larger scale.

Official circles declined to speculate on possible developments, but one source declared there seemed every reason to believe the situation in the North African desert would be "boiling" by early October.

Weather conditions in the desert will be ideal by then for military operations.

How many men the British have available for a push into Libya is a military secret, but it is believed here that General Sir Claude J. E. Auchinleck, new commander in the Middle East, has 750,000 at his disposal.

The Middle East air command is reported now to boast almost as many planes as there were in Britain at the outbreak of the war.

Speculation that the army of the Nile might strike by night when the regular campaign from Cairo headquarters was delayed unaccountably. When finally received, however, it merely reported that two German columns which had penetrated 35 miles into Egypt during the week-end had retreated to the point from where they started.

This German reconnaissance move was viewed here as an attempt by the Nazis to gauge the British intentions. German radio broadcasts heard in London have suggested that a British push was quite possible.

Cairo, Sept. 17.—(AP)—The Egyptian government has protested to Berlin and Rome, sources here said today, over the axis bombing of the Cairo area.

Cairo, headquarters of the British Middle East command as well as the capital of Egypt, which is a non-belligerent ally of Britain, was bombed for the first time early Tuesday by axis warplanes and 39 persons were said to have been killed and 93 wounded.

(The bombing of a British theater April 18 of retaliation against Rome in the event that either Cairo or Athens were bombed.)

In all the fighting incident to the axis conquest of Greece, Athens itself was not attacked by air raiders.

(The German high command announced today that German combat planes had raided the airport of Heliopolis near Cairo Monday night, causing big fires and explosions in hangars and munitions dumps.)

Four million inhabitants of this largest Muslim city in the world were asking when Britain would retaliate, as threatened, by bombing Rome. The raid was Cairo's first, the city was threatened by having shelled by an as yet unconfirmed German intention not to bomb the city. The attack came early in the morning, a bright sun outlining the city for the raiding planes.

Karlsruhe is in the Rhineland about 20 miles south of afternoon Frankfurt.

On the home front, only a small number of German aircraft crossed the coast today, mostly over parts of eastern England, but neither casualties nor damage resulted from bombings, the government said. One of the invading bombers was reported destroyed.

London, Sept. 17.—(AP)—A German railway ship carrying 15,500 population, was said by authoritative sources to have been a major target in British bombing of objectives in western Germany overnight.

RAF Bombs Karlsruhe

London, Sept. 17.—(AP)—A German railway ship carrying 15,500 population, was said by authoritative sources to have been a major target in British bombing of objectives in western Germany overnight.

What will happen is that the \$1-700 monthly allocated for maintenance of the Washington office will be spent by the state advertising division on some other activity, nobody yet knows what.

In fairness to the officials con-

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Leaves Spitzbergen



This Norwegian girl guide was one of the 1,000 refugees who voluntarily left Spitzbergen for England after British, Canadian and Free-Norwegian forces raided the Spitzbergen Islands recently to prevent rich coal resources from being used by Nazis. She will aid in Britain's war efforts.

Allies Enter Teheran

Iranian Troops Stand Guard to Prevent Disorders; No Trouble Anticipated.

Teheran, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Russian and British staff officers entered Teheran today as their mechanized forces surrounded the capital.

The Russian forces had come down from the northwest, the British from the southwest, leaving their previous zones of occupation to take over the capital in the wake of yesterday's abdication of the ruler, Reza Shah Pahlavi, and his succession by his 21-year old son.

Soviet mechanized troops had pitched camp on the northwestern desert at the edge of Teheran after the British military attaché, Colonel W. A. K. Fraser, yesterday had urgently suggested a halt until a brigade of motorized British lieutenants could arrive from Scotland.

The Iran government, meanwhile, at the insistence of the British, sent a note to the Japanese legation demanding the surrender of the grand (prince) of Iran, the dissident Arab leader in the Dehliistan revolt, of years back.

The grand ally died in Teheran when Iran was occupied by the British a few months ago. He was reported to have been in contact with the Japanese when their invasion began late in August.

Teheran, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Iranian troops stood guard in the streets of Teheran as a precaution against disorders as British and Russian forces approached the capital from opposite directions, the intention of occupying it sometime today.

It was expected that the Russians, whose motorized advance guards were less than 20 miles north of the city yesterday, would be the first to enter.

(AP) authorities, British source

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Hemisphere Is United, Daniels Says

Milwaukee, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Continental solidarity to uphold democracy and resist totalitarianism is the desire of all American republics, Josephus Daniels, U. S. ambassador to Mexico, told the national convention of the American Legion today.

Daniels, who was secretary of the navy during the first World War, declared that full cooperation of all the people of the new world in mutual defense was a type of armament that strengthened them beyond any material weapons.

Daniels traced the trend toward hemispheric solidarity from the time of Bolivar, "the liberator," quoting from speeches and statements of President Roosevelt and leaders of Latin-American nations to show that the Americas "were banded together in one mighty purpose."

Explosions In Harbor Are Mystery

Full Extent of Disaster Unknown, As Flaming Oil Hampers Rescue; All Three Vessels Comparatively New Swedish-Built.

Stockholm, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Three Swedish destroyers blew up mysteriously and sank today while at anchor in an east coast Swedish port and first reports said at least 31 men were killed.

Casualties were feared to be high, but the full extent of the disaster was not known because of flaming oil hampering desperate rescue efforts.

It was established, however, that one officer, ex-motorist and officers and 24 crewmen were killed, besides eleven others injured in the explosion.

Swedish authorities said they could not account for the blast which apparently, started on one ship and sank all three, one after the other.

The explosions occurred in Haarfsaerden harbor, a fjord on the Baltic seacoast south of Stockholm used by Sweden's rapidly expanding navy as a proving ground.

All three destroyers were relatively new and Swedish-built. The 1,040-ton Göteborg, completed in 1936, was said to have blown up and sunk first. Explosions followed on the sister vessels Klas Horn and Klas Uggla, each of 1,020 tons.

The Klas Horn sank quickly and the crippled Klas Uggla went down later.

Details of the series of blasts still were obscure, however, as every available coastal boat put out to rescue survivors and recover the bodies of the dead from the burning water.

(A dispatch from Stockholm to the Swedish-American News Exchange said a boiler explosion aboard the Göteborg was the cause of the disaster. This would indicate that ammunition may have been set off and hit the other ships.)

FINNISH NEWSPAPER PROTESTS PUBLICITY IN SWEDISH PRESS

Helsinki, Sept. 17.—(AP)—The conservative newspaper Uusi Suomi declared today that certain newspapers in Sweden through blind antagonism toward Nazi Germany had lost sight of their own interests and were playing into the hands of Soviet Russia.

The Swedish papers, it was said, have painted a picture invidious to the Finns' cause and many others, who suspected a propaganda campaign the ultimate purpose of which it is to help Russia.

Executions To Increase

German Occupation Authorities Warn French of Further Reprisals For Assaults.

Paris, German-occupied France, Sept. 17.—(AP)—German authorities announced today that shooting of hostages in reprisal for attacks on Germans in Germany would be extended to include not only communists but "all classes of the Paris population."

The announcement came as a German non-commissioned officer died of bullet wounds inflicted Monday by an unidentified assailant in defiance of the execution for previous attacks on members of the army of occupation.

The new policy, announced in all Paris papers and posted on walls throughout the city, read:

"If attacks continue, the occupation authorities will shoot increasing numbers of hostages, and these hostages no longer will be taken exclusively from among communists, but from all classes of the Paris population."

The soldier was the second reported slain in Paris within a few weeks,

TAX MEASURE TO PRESIDENT

RALEIGH MAY VOTE ON WIDER LIMITS

Raleigh, Sept. 17.—(AP)—The State supreme court paved the way today for the extension of Raleigh laws to take in swamping residential sections.

The court upheld, with one change, a law passed by the last legislature authorizing a vote on the extensions.

Living Cost Is Rising

Henderson Tells House Committee Foodstuffs Have Advanced 8 Per Cent in Month.

Washington, Sept. 17.—(AP)—Leon Henderson, price control administrator, testified today that since a congressional hearing on price control legislation received a month ago, prices of basic foodstuffs had increased eight per cent.

Remaining his testimony before the House banking committee on a bill to empower the President to establish ceilings for prices, Henderson declared that since the hearings revealed "there was no question that wholesale prices everywhere are continuing to increase" and that retail prices also were "beginning to move up in earnest."

He exhibited a specially prepared daily index showing that 25 basic commodities had increased from 100 on August 16 to 147 on September 13 and on that date were still trending upward. In the period from August 16 to September 6, he said, the bureau of labor statistics all-commodity index, based on the 1926

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GREETINGS

Milwaukee, Sept. 17.—(AP)—A message of greeting from Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain, expressing thanks to the American Legion for "the help you are bringing to our common cause" was read to the Legion's national convention today by Commander Milo J. Warner.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Fair to slightly cloudy tonight and Thursday; little change in temperature.